

San Diego IRWM Program RAC Meeting #93

October 6, 2021

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Agenda

- Meeting Logistics
- Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, and Introductions
- San Diego County Farm Bureau – Agriculture Presentation
- Project Completion Report
- Statewide IRWM Update
- Implementation of JEDI Recommendations
- Grant Administration
- Public Comments
- Summary and Next Steps

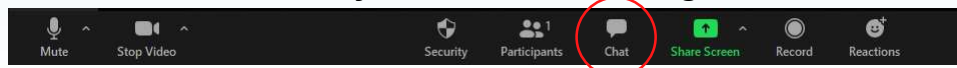
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October 6, 2021

All attendees: Please enter your full name and organization into the **chat**



For any technical difficulties, contact: Arthella Vallarta, 213-223-9463

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Virtual Meeting Process

- Please remain on mute until called on – do not put meeting on hold
- Use the chat feature to ask questions or notify moderator if you want to speak



- To unmute when called on, click on the microphone icon



- To unmute if you're on the phone, press *6
- If you can't find the chat feature, email questions or comments to sdirwm@woodardcurran.com

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Land Acknowledgement

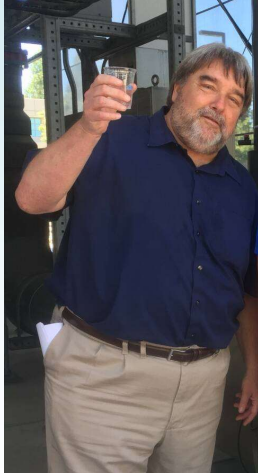
We acknowledge that this virtual meeting of the San Diego IRWM Program Regional Advisory Committee is taking place in the traditional lands of the Kumeyaay and Luiseño people. As we begin this meeting, we acknowledge and honor the original inhabitants of our region. A land acknowledgement is a critical step towards working with native communities to secure meaningful partnership and inclusion in the stewardship and protection of their cultural resources and homelands. We honor these ancestral grounds where we are collectively gathered and support the resilience and strength that Indigenous people have shown worldwide.

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Thank you, Mark!



Mark,

Congratulations on your retirement and remarkable achievements throughout your long stand-out career! I am grateful to have worked alongside an intellectual, kind, dedicated, and supportive colleague and friend for over a decade. Thank you for the years of wisdom and knowledge you shared. Your legacy of achievements and strong commitment to your work and the success of the team will be remembered. There are many things to miss about you, but the memories of the many long car rides together, telling funny jokes, and stories during site visits will always be cherished.

Cheers to your good health, loads of exciting new adventures, and many fun times ahead with Kim and the kids. We will sorely miss you and your native wit!

...

From Lisa Borton

Mark,

Congratulations on your retirement! Well done and well deserved. Best wishes on your new chapter in life and all the best to you.

Cheers!

Tad

...

From Tad Brierley

Mark, Congratulations on your retirement! I wish you well on your next chapter and it is filled with many adventures, lots of relaxation, and much happiness!

Cheers,

Neena Kuzmich

...

From Neena Kuzmich

We will miss you!

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San Diego County Farm Bureau – Agriculture Presentation

Hannah Gbeh, San Diego County Farm Bureau

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Storm Water Quality for Grape Day Park DACs

Ann Van Leer, The Escondido Creek Conservancy

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Drought Funding Update

- \$500M was authorized for DWR by the California Legislature to provide drought relief financial assistance
- Breakdown of funds:
 - \$200M for Small Community Drought Relief – *Open now*
 - \$100M for Urban Community Drought Relief – *Draft PSP available*
 - \$200M for Multibenefit Projects – *Draft PSP available*

SB 170 expanded eligibility for drought relief funds to the entire state, rather than limiting them to counties in the Governor's drought emergency proclamation.

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DWR Small Community Drought Relief

- Provide immediate and near-term financial and technical support to help small communities survive the current and future droughts
- Small communities are not supplied by an urban water supplier
 - Urban water suppliers serve >3,000 connections or >3,000 AFY
- Applications will be processed until funds are exhausted or until December 29, 2023, whichever comes first
- Details available here: <https://water.ca.gov/Water-Basics/Drought/Small-Community-Drought-Relief>

See the Small Community Drought Relief Guidelines for more information on eligibility

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DWR Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Program

- **\$190M available this solicitation, \$95M available Summer 2022**
 - No match requirement
 - 25% Advanced Payment may be available based on cash flow
- Applications submitted on a rolling basis

Eligible Project Purpose:

Address immediate impacts on human health and safety.	Address immediate impacts on fish and wildlife resources.	Provide water to persons or communities that lose or are threatened with the loss of contamination of water supplies
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SAN DIEGO
Regional
Water Management 15

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DWR Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Program

- Simplified application
- Projects must have **multiple benefits**
- Projects must be completed by **March 2026**
- Funds awarded to highest priority projects:
 - Respond to critical human and/or wildlife emergencies. Especially for emergency projects that address a Human Right to Water Challenge.
 - Readiness to proceed (CEQA, approvals, etc.).
 - Benefitting areas served by urban water suppliers that are meeting 15% voluntary water conservation goal included in Executive Order N-10-21.

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Comments on Draft PSP due October 8!

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Underrepresented Community and Tribal Set-Aside

- \$50M set aside for Underrepresented Communities (URC) and Tribes
 - Up to \$5M per project
- Must be included in Prop 1 DAC Involvement Grant Agreement*
 - RWMG will reach out to eligible applicants (DACI Grant projects) directly to solicit projects
- Must meet purpose of drought grant funding
- May be due to DWR before December 2021

***Based on RWMG's read of the Draft PSP**

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SDIRWM Comments on Draft PSP

- Clarify which projects eligible for URC/Tribal set-aside
- Request that all applicants be eligible for 25% advanced payment
- Clarify the definition of immediate relief and emergency
- Request URCs not be subject to CEQA and other environmental approval timelines
- Request resiliency be added as a prioritization criteria
- Clarify the process of awarding funds equitably

Comments are due to urbandrought@water.ca.gov by October 8

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Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (JEDI) Workgroup Recommendations

Create an Outreach
Workgroup

Include unconscious
bias training for the
Project Selection
Workgroup

Include all qualifying
URC Projects in Tier 1
for scoring

Follow up with project
sponsors regarding any
“fatal flaws” in submitted
project applications

Explore opportunities for
stipends to URCs
participating in the
Project Selection
Workgroup and other
IRWM activities

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Implementation of JEDI Recommendations

- The RAC approved the JEDI Workgroup recommendations in August
- The implementation of recommendations are being evaluated by the RWMG for feasibility



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URC Outreach Workgroup

- Proposed Composition: 12 members
 - 1 from each RWMG (3)
 - 1 for each seat in DAC Caucus (2)
 - 1 for each seat in Tribal Caucus (3)
 - 1 for each remaining Caucus (4)
- Logistics and expectations:
 - Workgroup will form on ad-hoc basis
 - Workgroup will meet twice (~1.5 hrs/each) + engage in community outreach directly, as needed

URC Outreach Workgroup expected to form for Prop 1 Round 2 Implementation Grant!

Caucuses will be asked to nominate Workgroup participants via email this month. Members of the public are eligible to participate, but must be nominated by the appropriate Caucus. Members of the public should notify us at sdirwm@woodardcurran.com by **Friday, 10/8**, if you wish to be considered to sit on the Workgroup.

**Depending on timing of solicitation, URC Outreach may be skipped to expedite the Project Selection Process*

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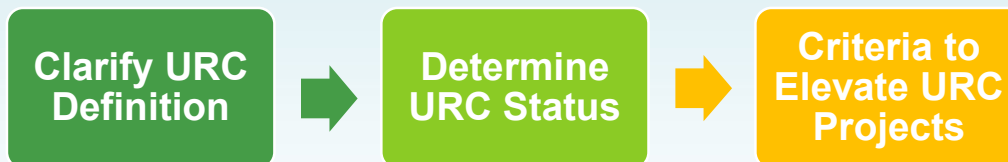
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Unconscious Bias Training for Project Selection Workgroup

- Brief workshop at the beginning of the first Project Selection Workgroup meeting*
- Watch a video that explains unconscious bias followed by a group discussion
- Unconscious bias handout provided in Workgroup materials

**Depending on timing of solicitation, unconscious bias workshop may be skipped to expedite the Project Selection Process*

Project Scoring Recommendation – Include all qualifying URC Projects in Tier 1



URC Definition – 2019 San Diego IRWM Plan Update

DWR does not define URCs but recognizes Native American Tribes as traditionally underrepresented. The San Diego IRWM Program defines URCs as communities that have currently have little or no representation in water policy and/or water resource management projects, or who historically have disproportionality less representation in the public policy or decision-making forums. All Native American Tribes are considered URCs under the State's IRWM Program, regardless of their economic status.

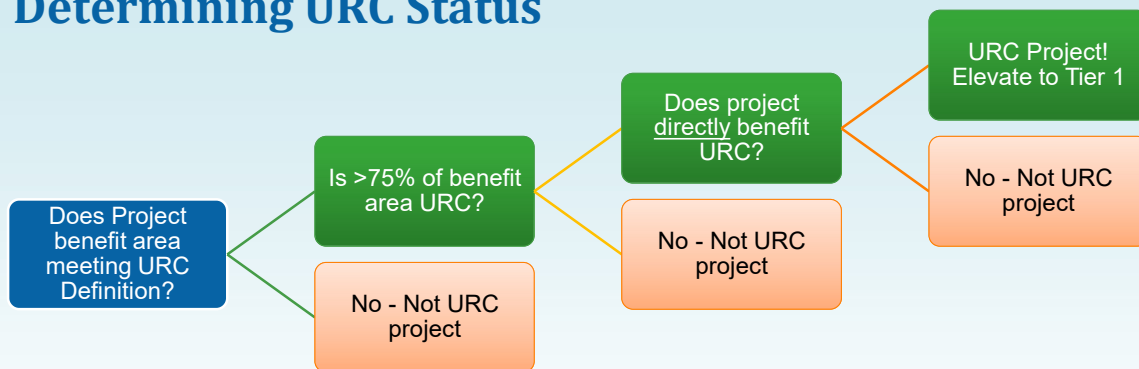
See *handout* for additional mapping resources/tools

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Determining URC Status



- Projects will have opportunity to explain how they meet URC definition
- Direct benefits receive either 2 or 4 points in scoring criteria
- Tier 1 projects are considered in detail by Project Selection Workgroup for funding

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Ongoing Project Selection Process Evaluations

- Follow up with project sponsors regarding any “fatal flaws” in submitted project applications
 - RWMG discussing what constitutes a “fatal flaw” (e.g., amount of grant request, cost estimates, etc.), and include in Call for Projects information
- Explore opportunities for stipends to URCs participating in the Project Selection Workgroup and other IRWM activities
 - RWMG discussing potential for stipends and eligibility requirements

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Grant Administration

Loisa Burton, San Diego County Water Authority

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Public Comments

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Current Funding Opportunities

Project Types	Deadline	Website
DWR: Drought Response Funding	Small Communities Funding opened 8/6, rolling deadline Urban and Multibenefit Drought Funding expected October	Small Community Drought Relief (ca.gov) 2021 Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Funding (ca.gov)
SWRCB: Prop 1 Technical Assistance Funding Program	Open: rolling	https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/proposition1/tech_asst_funding.html
DWR: Water Desalination Grant Program	Open: rolling	https://water.ca.gov/News/Public-Notices/2020/Sept-2020/Water-Desal-Grant-CAP
WaterSMART Grants: Water and Energy Efficiency Grants for Fiscal year 2022	November 3 at 3:00 PM	https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=335103
WaterSMART Environmental Water Resources Projects for Fiscal Year 2022	December 9 at 3:00 PM	https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=335081



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2021 RAC Meeting Schedule

- Next RAC Meeting: December 1, 2021
- 2022 Meeting Schedule:
 - February 2
 - April 6
 - June 1
 - August 3
 - October 5
 - December 7

- Regular Meetings Held First Wednesday of Every Other Month -

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