



**Joint IRWM Plan Update Workshop #7 &
Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting #76**

October 3, 2018

9:00 am – 10:50 am

Proposition 1 Round 1 - Integration Workshop

11:00 am – 12:30 pm

San Diego County Water Authority

Board Room

4677 Overland Ave., San Diego CA 92123

(858) 522-6600

NOTES

Attendance

RAC Members

Lan Wiborg, City of San Diego (chair)

Albert Lau, Padre Dam Municipal Water District

Ann Van Leer, Escondido Creek Conservancy

Bill Hunter, Santa Fe Irrigation District

Michelle Berens for Brian Olney, Helix Water District

Chris Helmer, City of Imperial Beach

Greg Thomas, Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District

Jennifer Hazard, Rural Community Assistance Corporation

John Flores and alternate Rob Roy, San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians

Jonathan Witt, San Diego County Board of Education

Joseph Randall for Kimberly Thorner, Olivenhain Municipal Water District

Josh Brooks, San Diego CoastKeeper

Justin Gamble, City of Oceanside

Kimberly O'Connell, University of California – San Diego Clean Water Utility

Mark Seits, Floodplain Management Association

Mark Stadler for Bob Yamada, San Diego County Water Authority

Phil Pryde and alternate Rob Hutsel, San Diego River Park Foundation

Ron Mosher, Sweetwater Authority

Michael McSweeney, Building Industry Association

Sandra Jacobson, California Trout
Sarah Pierce, San Diego Association of Governments
Stephanie Gaines for Ramin Abidi, County of San Diego

RWMG Staff and Consultants

Dana Friehauf, San Diego County Water Authority
Jen Sajor, Woodard & Curran
Loisa Burton, San Diego County Water Authority
Roselyn Prickett, Woodard & Curran
Ruth de la Rosa, County of San Diego
Sally Johnson, Woodard & Curran
Goldy Herbon, San Diego County Water Authority

Interested Parties to the RAC

Alicia Appel, City of Escondido
Amanda Archenhold, Wood PLC
Anne Bamford, local citizen
Brian Hojnacki, City of San Diego
Carmel Wong, City of San Diego
Efron Lopez, City of San Diego
Jennifer Carroll, City of San Diego
Jonathan Avila, City of San Diego
Katherine Sharp, Wood PLC
Mitchell Beacom, City of Escondido
Tony Moore, City of San Diego
Vic Nguyen, California Department of Water Resources

Welcome and Introductions

Ms. Lan Wiborg, City of San Diego, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made around the room.

Stormwater Capture & Use Feasibility Study Update

Ms. Stephanie Gaines, County of San Diego, provided an update on next steps of Stormwater Capture and Use Feasibility Study (SWCFS). All Technical Memos (TMs) and the Draft Final SWCFS Report are now posted to the Project Clean Water website (<https://www.projectcleanwater.org/>). The report includes an executive summary of findings. Details of the findings are included in the TMs. The final Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting #5 will be held on October 11th from 2 – 5 p.m. at the SDG&E Innovation Center. This meeting will have three components:

1. Review / Comment on the Draft Final Report
2. SWCFS Integration into the 2019 IRWM Plan
3. Workshop for State Grants – IRWM and Stormwater Grant Programs

Comments on any of the SWCFS documents will be accepted online through today (October 3rd) or at the TAC Meeting #5 on October 11th.

Questions/Comments:

1. Is there a specific time for the grant workshop? Is there an agenda for the TAC meeting?
 - o Yes, there is. The workshop will happen about two hours into the meeting. Arrive at the meeting by 4 p.m., to be safe.

RAC Member Solicitation

Mr. Mark Stadler, San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA), announced that the solicitation period for RAC members for the 2019-2022 term is now open. Mr. Stadler explained the existing RAC membership structure in which approximately half of the members are termed out every second year. The purpose of this method is to ensure that new members have the opportunity to serve on the RAC, while keeping a sense of continuity on the RAC. There are currently fifteen (15) open seats for the 2019-2022 term, which includes two additional Tribal seats and one additional seat for a Climate Change expert. In addition, the Urban DAC seat is open due to an unexpected resignation. Because the seat is a 2017-2020 term, the new RAC member will serve for the remaining two years.

Mr. Stadler then described the RAC member selection process. The RWMG must first assemble a RAC Membership Workgroup. The workgroup will be responsible for RAC member recommendations. The nominations process for the RAC Membership Workgroup were scheduled for this RAC meeting. The workgroup will consist of three RWMG representatives and one representative from each of the five voting RAC caucuses, for a total of eight members. The RWMG will be accepting RAC membership applications through November 14th. The RAC Membership Workgroup will convene on December 5th, after the regularly scheduled RAC meeting. New RAC membership will go into effect on January 2019.

Mr. Stadler then presented RAC member desired attributes, general RAC duties, the RAC selection guidelines, and summarized the RAC Conflict of Interest policy. Desired attributes of RAC members include knowledge and experience in water resources management. New RAC members must represent an agency, non-profit organization, tribe, or academia. Lastly, RAC members should be able to objectively articulate the perspective of his/her RAC seat and caucus, while also being able to provide recommendations with the best interests of the entire San Diego IRWM region in mind. RAC general duties include attending bi-monthly RAC meetings and disseminating information about the IRWM Program to his/her contact, as appropriate. Mr. Stadler went over the application form and noted that RAC members are expected to fully recuse themselves from voting on funding packages if there is a conflict of interest.

The RAC broke out into their respective caucuses to discuss RAC Membership Workgroup nominations. RAC membership Workgroup nominations are as follows:

1. Water Supply: Joseph Randall
2. Water Quality: Justin Gamble
3. Natural Resources and Watersheds: Kimberly O'Connell
4. Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) / Environmental Justice: Oscar Romo (*tentative*)
5. Other: Sara Pierce (*tentative*)

Questions/Comments:

- How are you enforcing RAC member attendance? I recommend that RAC members be dismissed after two absentees. I think it is unfair to have members who do not participate, when many others would like to.
 - Yes, we are guilty of not enforcing this rule. We will provide RAC member attendance records to the Workgroup to assist in the decision-making process.
- Should incumbents re-submit and update their applications?
 - Yes.
- Will Oscar be able to participate in the Workgroup? My seat (Jennifer Hazard) is up, so I am not eligible to be on the workgroup and there is no one else in our caucus.
 - Yes, good point. We will ask Oscar if he is able to participate in the Workgroup.
- The application says there are three pages, but there are only two? Is it missing a page?
 - Yes, the last page should be the Conflict of Interest policy. We'll make sure to include this when we send the application out via email.
- Do alternates need to fill out an application?
 - No.

Draft 2019 IRWM Plan – Phase 1

Ms. Gaines presented the work being done to prepare the 2019 IRWM Plan – Phase 1 (Plan). she reminded the group that the Plan Update is being completed in two phases, with the first phase being finalized and adopted in December 2018. The Public Draft 2019 IRWM Plan – Phase 1 was released on August 17th. The Public Comment Period was held from August 17th through September 14th. Comments on the draft will be reviewed at the October RAC meeting (today).

Development of the 2019 IRWM Plan – Phase 1 will allow the San Diego IRWM Region to continue to be eligible for funding as it will be consistent with the 2016 IRWM Guidelines. In addition, the Plan will incorporate updated studies such as the Stormwater Resources Plan, new climate change science, and the 2015 Urban Water Management Plans. The Plan will be updated to reflect current regional priorities, data, and understanding. Major Plan chapter updates were presented to the RAC at previous meetings. The 2019 IRWM Plan – Phase 2 will incorporate the SWCFS and the Water Needs Assessment in 2019.

Ms. Gaines presented a summary of the comments received on the Public Draft 2019 IRWM Plan – Phase 1. The RWMG received three comment letters for a total of 254 comments. The majority of the comments were editorial in nature, and Ms. Gaines focused on presenting major comments. Key comments recommended including new legislation, Assembly Bill 1668 and Senate Bill 606, and adding Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP) information in Chapter 5. The most extensive comments recommended removing discussions of “environmental justice communities” and focusing on DACs, Economically Distressed Areas (EDAs), and Underrepresented Communities (URCs). Ms. Gaines reviewed the comments received on this topic and presented the rationale behind proposed revisions. It was suggested that the inclusion of a call-out box that clarifies terms related to DACs, EDAs, URCS, and environmental justice communities. The RWMG prompted a RAC discussion on the topic. Vic Nguyen, Chief of Southern District Office, introduced himself. He recommended directing IRWM-related questions and comments to Carmel Brown.

Questions/Comments:

- I just want to say that I am in full support of addressing environmental justice issues. Environmental justice affects everyone, regardless of socioeconomic status. My comments were based on a more technical aspect. There is not a definition for an environmental justice community in the [IRWM 2016] guidelines. They are not recognized by the state. The accuracy of the [IRWM] Plan should reflect what the state is doing.
 - We understand your comments. Would you be OK with the proposed revisions we described?
- Yes, I would be willing to review the call-out boxes.
- At the end of the day the Plan is used to gauge projects and programs. Agreed, there are some gray areas. There needs to be a way to better define the impacts of a project on communities.
- Call-out boxes could be a good way to “own up” to the lack of clarity related to these issues.

Water Needs Assessment Update

Ms. Ruth de la Rosa, County of San Diego, presented an update on the Water Needs Assessment. DAC outreach and presentations were held through September 2018 and the Draft Water Needs Assessment is scheduled to be complete in February 2019. The Final Water Needs Assessment is expected to be complete in April 2019. The Tri-County FACC partnered with the Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) and the Climate Science Alliance. Accomplishments of Water Needs Assessment outreach efforts to-date include over 1,000 emails and 50 phone calls, three in-person presentations, and two webinars. A total of 41 people and 32 agencies / organizations attended presentations, and 32 questionnaires were filled out. Organizations can still participate through the end of October. A link to the questionnaire was provided. For questions about participating, contact Nicole Poletto at npoletto@woodardcurran.com or 858-875-7405.

Questions/Comments:

- We are open to giving additional presentations through October. The next presentation will be held at the next Native American Water Master’s Association (NAWMA) meeting on October 24th from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Pechanga Government Center.

Proposition 1 Round 1

Ms. Sarah Brower, City of San Diego, presented a status update on the Draft Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) for the Proposition (Prop) 1-Round 1 Implementation Grant. If the Draft PSP is released next week, as expected, the RWMG will hold a kick-off meeting for Call for Projects on Wednesday, November 7th. The meeting will go over Round 1 requirements, finalize the Project Scoring Criteria, and explain the project submittal process. The San Diego IRWM Region anticipate having their DWR Workshop in May 2019. The final grant application would then be due six to eight weeks after the workshop, with Prop 1-Round 1 Implementation Grant awards in mid-2019. The *tentative* anticipated schedule is as follows:

- Grant Cycle Kick-off Meeting: November 7
- Call for Projects: November 7, 2018 – January 11, 2019
- Technical Workshop: December 5, 2018

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- Scoring Workshop: February 6, 2019
- Project Selection Workgroup: February – March 2019
- Present Project List to RAC: April 3, 2019

The November 7th meeting is an additional RAC meeting. Ms. Brower stated the importance of RAC attendance at this meeting as they will need a quorum of RAC members to finalize the Project Scoring Criteria.

Ms. Brower reviewed local project eligibility. Eligible projects must meet the 2019 IRWM Plan Objectives A and B, as well as meet at least one other 2019 IRWM Plan Objective. A list of eligible project types was presented as well. Anticipated key requirements revolve around CEQA and permitting. All CEQA and permits must be completed within six months of the Final Grant Award. For the San Diego IRWM Region, CEQA and permits are anticipated due in December 2019 per the tentative implementation grant schedule.

Ms. Brower discussed the Project Selection Workgroup (PSW) for Prop 1-Round 1. The PSW members would convene in February / March 2019 to review submitted project database (OPTI) files. The goal of the PSW is to select projects to recommend to the RAC for inclusion in the San Diego IRWM Region's grant application. Ms. Brower described the process for project selection. Nominations for members to the PSW were scheduled to take place at today's meeting. The PSW would include three RWMG representatives and one representative from each of the five voting caucuses for a total of eight. In addition, alternates for each PWS member should also be selected. The PSW nomination process was moved to the December RAC meeting per RAC discussion.

Questions/Comments:

- Can we include CEQA funding as part of the grant?
 - No, CEQA needs to be funded outside of this grant.
- Can you clarify "grant award"?
 - The final grant award is anticipated in September 2019. So CEQA would not be due until Quarter 1 of 2020. However, we would like to keep the December 2019 deadline. We are hoping to get a May 2019 workshop date.
 - We will send out a revised schedule once the Draft PSP is released.
- If CEQA needs to be completed six months after the final award date, are there limits on recovering design costs?
 - Those dates will be in the Draft PSP. We are not sure right now.
- Do we need to have a fully flushed out project at the end of the Call for Project period?
 - Yes. The online OPTI application information will be used by the PSW. However, there will be a second round of data requests once the projects have been selected.
- This is a two-step process, and it can be confusing for those who have not gone through it before.
 - January 11th is the final deadline, and you will need to have a pretty complete application. The schedule is contingent on when DWR releases the Draft PSP.
- This round will be confusing for DACs due to the CEQA requirement. I appreciate the help with filing applications through OPTI. In this round, do you need to provide financial capacity to maintain a project?

- Yes, this has always been considered after the grant award. Tribes and DACs are required to have CEQA completed, just at a later date. We are not sure if CEQA costs will be eligible cost for the Tribes and DACs.
- Is it a little premature to select PSW members now? RAC members still need to be selected.
 - PSW members are not limited to RAC members. Anyone can join, as long as they are endorsed by a RAC caucus.
- Do we need one member from each caucus?
 - One person endorsed by each caucus.
- PSW members should not have grants in play. Also, I second Greg's point about delaying the selection process.
 - We discussed this issue regarding PSW membership. It is hard to get people who can commit to the PSW. Anyone with a project has to recuse themselves when their project is being discussed.
- I think participation in a workgroup should be a requirement of being on the RAC.
- I'd like to commend the project selection process. It is very professional. Who we select for the PSW may be affected by the projects submitted by the caucuses.
- We can push the PSW discussion and nominations to the November RAC meeting?
- We want people to honor their commitment to the RAC. Can we discuss considerations of RAC attendance?
- I am confused. Is the next RAC meeting in November or December?
 - There will be an extra RAC meeting in November.
- What are the implications of pushing topics in the November RAC meeting to the December RAC meeting?
 - It will shorten the Call for Projects to six weeks. Is that OK with everyone?
- Is the PSW selection tied to the Call for Projects?
 - No, it is not.
- What about an extra meeting in January and not in November?
- Is it OK to wait until the RAC Membership Workgroup selects new RAC members before we nominate people to the PSW? We do not want to preclude new RAC members from the PSW.
 - Yes, we can do that. To reiterate, you do not have to be a RAC member to be on the PSW.

Grant Administration

Ms. Loisa Burton, SDCWA, presented brief updates on grant administration. The Region has six open grant programs with 48 projects. Of the open grant programs, we have billed \$56.9 million to DWR. Ms. Burton highlighted the funding status under each grant open grant program. Prop 84-Round 1 billed \$6.9 million. Prop 84-Round 2 has billed \$7.9 million to-date. Prop 84-Round 3 and Round 4 have billed \$11.2 million and \$3 million, respectively. Ms. Burton also presented significant milestones and upcoming activities for the Prop 1 Plan Update grant and the Prop 1 DAC Involvement grant. The milestones for the Plan Update were discussed in earlier presentations of today's RAC meeting. Milestones for the DAC Involvement grant program include continued coordination on the Water Needs Assessment outreach and holding a Targeted Needs Assessment Training.

Public Comments

Phil Pryde was selected as the California Cox Conserves Hero. Congratulations, Phil! You can vote for Phil to win the national award. Rob Hutsel will email out the link.

Summary and Next Steps

Next RAC Meeting:

- November 7, 2018 – 1:30-3:30 pm at SDCWA’s Board Room.

Integration Workshop

Mr. Stadler welcomed everyone and explained the purpose of the workshop. The purpose of the Integration Workshop is to learn about other projects in the Region and to begin exploring integration opportunities. The ideal IRWM project is an integrated, multi-benefit water management project that achieves one or more IRWM Plan goals. The five IRWM Plan goals are 1) optimize water supply reliability, 2) protect and enhance water quality, 3) provide stewardship of our natural resources, 4) enhance resiliency to climate change for local water resources, and 5) coordinate and integrate water resource management. Integration creates better projects by leveraging resources more efficiently, increasing the level of benefits for the Region, and improving competitiveness for IRWM grant funding. Mr. Stadler described the different ways in which project integration can occur, such as by hydrology, by resource management, and by geography. Mr. Stadler specifically defined partnerships in reference to the IRWM Plan Scoring Criteria. An active partnership involves partners that work jointly on a task, work on separate tasks of the same project, or provide financial support for a project. Partners must also be from different entities. Two sub-entities in a single larger entity working together is not considered a partnership under the IRWM Plan Scoring Criteria. In addition, passive support, such as letters of support, are not considered partnerships.

Mr. Stadler presented an overview of the Prop 1-Round 1 Implementation Grant solicitation process. To-date, the San Diego IRWM Region has received \$5.75 million in Prop 1 funding. The majority of this funding was awarded to DAC planning projects that have the potential to be integrated into implementation projects. Approximately \$15.8 million is reserved for Prop 1-Round 1 Implementation Grant funding. A minimum of 10% of this funding is reserved for DAC projects. There is a 50% funding match requirement, which can be waived for DAC projects. Projects claiming DAC benefits must meet certain criteria. The project sponsor must first define the DAC area (i.e. median household income [MHI] of less than 80% of the state’s MHI). Then the project must demonstrate benefits by 1) directly investing in DAC water systems, consolidation, or training, or 2) by showing other direct benefits that improve the overall condition in DACs. In addition, DWR requires that 100% of DAC projects’ benefits go directly to DACs. Mr. Stadler then listed all eligible projects per the 2016 IRWM Guidelines.

Mr. Stadler discussed anticipated key project requirements. CEQA and permitting must be completed within six months of the final grant awards, as previously discussed. Grant agreements will not be executed without CEQA and non-compliant projects will be removed from the funding package. Exceptions can be made for DACs and Tribes. DWR also requires project sponsors to adopt the 2019 San Diego IRWM Plan and meet California Labor Compliance requirements. Mr. Stadler noted SDCWA provides free Labor Compliance consultations for the IRWM projects. Finally, projects must

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be California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM), Groundwater Management Plan, and Urban Water Management Plan compliant, as applicable.

Integration Workshop participants broke out into groups based on watershed region to brainstorm and discuss potential project integration opportunities.

Questions/Comments:

- Is the DAC map updated on OPTI?
 - No, we are waiting for the Draft PSP to be released to do a comprehensive OPTI update.
- The 50% match cannot include other state funds?
 - No, it cannot include state funds. Match can be local or federal.