

San Diego IRWM Program RAC Meeting #107

November 6, 2024

1

Agenda

- Meeting Logistics
- Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, and Introductions
- Climate Change and Community Resiliency Panel
- Project Completion Report
- State and IRWM Updates
- Grant Administration
- State and Federal Funding Opportunities
- Public Comments
- Summary and Next Steps

2

2

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In-person attendees: Please check in at the front desk and get a name tag from reception and sign in on the sheet in the room

Virtual attendees: Please enter your full name and organization into the **chat**. Please update your name to include your organization by clicking on **participants**, hover over your name, click **more**, and click **rename**.

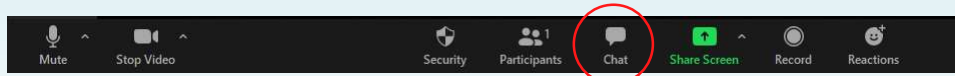


For any technical difficulties, contact: Arthella Vallarta, 213-223-9463

3

Hybrid Meeting Process – Virtual Attendees

- 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

4



4

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5



5

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that this hybrid 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.

6



6

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7



7

Climate and Community Resiliency Panel

Sloane Viola, California Natural Resources Agency

Chris Helmer, City of Imperial Beach

8



8

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9



9

Lower Santa Margarita River IPR Project Project Completion Report

Aaron Cook, Fallbrook Public Utility District

10



10

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11



11

State and IRWM Updates

WEEG
Grant

Proposition
4

Future of
SDIRWM

12



12

WEEG Grant – Landscape Efficiency and Direct Installation Project



Project Components

- Irrigation controllers
- Drip irrigation
- Flow sensors
- High-efficiency sprinkler nozzles
- LG rotary nozzles
- Master valves
- Turf
- Disadvantaged community toilets

- On behalf of SDIRWM, San Diego County Water Authority is submitting a regional project for Reclamation's *Water and Energy Efficiency Grants Program*
- Requested Funding: \$3,073,750
- Application Due: November 13, 2024

13

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State Updates

Proposition 4

Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024

Priority is to finance projects for safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience, wildfire and forest resilience, coastal resilience, extreme heat mitigation, biodiversity and nature-based climate solutions, climate-smart, sustainable, and resilient farms, ranches, and working lands, park creation and outdoor access, and clean air programs.

IRWM is allotted \$100 million. DWR shall update and revise the guides for IRWM Program to address impacts associated with climate risk

On the ballot for the November 5 General Election

14

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Summary of Water-Related Components

Funding Categories	Example Project Types	Administering Agencies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Supply and Water Quality • Flood Risk Reduction and Stormwater • Protection and Restoration of Rivers, Lakes, and Streams, and Improvement of Watershed Resilience • Wildfire and Forest Resilience • Coastal Resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drinking water projects • Water quality monitoring • Groundwater storage and management • Groundwater banking • Recycled water projects • Flood prevention • Habitat restoration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Water Resources Control Board • Department of Water Resources • Department of Conservation • California Natural Resources Agency • State Coastal Conservancy

15



15

Future of San Diego IRWM – Triggers for Change



Designated IRWM Funding

- State funding may not be available in the future
- If Prop 4 passes, limited funding is available and likely for only one round



IRWM Plan Compliance

- No longer always required for state eligibility for non-IRWM grants
- Prop 4 may require an IRWM Plan Update



State Priorities

- Shifting towards to a watershed scope approach
- California Water Plan update does not state any IRWM specifics

16



16

Goals of the San Diego IRWM Evolution

Continue to serve as a valuable regional initiative

Align with changing priorities at a State and regional level

Retain and build on existing strengths: collaboration, regional forum, education/outreach, depth of knowledge base

Retire old processes that no longer serve their original intent

Address known needs and priorities of the SDIRWM program participants

17



17

Future of San Diego IRWM

- Evolve the SDIRWM Program to align with RWMG and regional needs, continuing to provide value and laying a clear path forward for the program



18



18

San Diego IRWM Strategic Roadmap

- The San Diego IRWM Strategic Roadmap identifies Focus Areas and goals to guide the next phase of the program
- RWMG developed proposed actions for each focus area and evaluated them for feasibility



19

19

San Diego IRWM Strategic Roadmap

- Discussion for RAC:
 - RWMG membership
 - RAC structure and membership
 - Grant processes



20

20

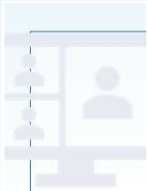
RWMG – Open Membership



Responsibilities

- Day to day management of the program
- Management of RAC meetings and Workgroups
- Overseeing grant applications and conducting grant administration
- Coordinating with DWR

Would you be interested in joining the RWMG, knowing the RWMG's responsibilities and commitments?



Commitment

- Providing financial support for program management
- Allocating staff time for program management

If you would like to know more about the RWMG, please contact Elizabeth Lovsted by mid-November at elovsted@sdewa.org.

21

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The RAC



Responsibilities

- Advise the RWMG on SDIRWM activities, priorities
- Form workgroups to address SDIRWM initiatives
- Approve proposed changes to SDIRWM Program
- Represent perspectives on water management in the region and share information



Existing Commitment

- 4-year terms for members
- Meet quarterly
- Required attendance at ~80% of RAC meetings

22

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RAC Evolution



- Retain advisory role to the RWMG and SDIRWM Program
- Continue to meet quarterly, focusing on fostering collaboration and information sharing on cross-cutting water management issues
- Shift to informal membership structure, removing formal designated RAC seats and broadening participation, eliminating the need for RAC member terms
- Simplify the caucus structure and allow participants to self-select their caucus
- Workgroups continue on ad-hoc basis, open to volunteers

23



23

RAC Membership Term Turnover



- The 2021-2024 RAC term is ending, necessitating a membership turnover, unless the RAC structure changes
- RWMG is still finalizing details to implement the proposed actions
- RWMG proposes to extend expiring terms for up to one year to ensure smooth transition, update processes, and revise policies

24



24

Grants Evolution

Grant Application	Grant Administration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streamlined project selection process Project sponsors will share costs for development of regional application SDIRWM will explore non-IRWM funding sources and regional project or application opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant administration services will continue to be provided for IRWM-related grants Grant administration will be paid for by grants and local project sponsors (if grant admin costs exceed available grant-funded budget)

What specific aspects of the grant application process are you willing to financially support, and what elements would be dealbreakers?

25

25

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26

26

Grant Administration

Loisa Burton, San Diego County Water Authority

27



27

IRWM GAP Updates –Program Financial Summary

Funding Source	Grant Award	Projects Funded	Projects Completed	Grant Billed to DWR
Proposition 50	\$25.0M	18	18	\$25.0M
Proposition 84, Plan Update	\$1.0M	1	1	\$1.0M
Proposition 84, Round 1	\$7.9M	11	11	\$7.9M
Proposition 1, Plan Update	\$250K	1	1	\$250K
Proposition 84, Round 2	\$10.5M	7	7	\$10.5M
Proposition 84, Round 3	\$15.1M	7	7	\$15.1M
Proposition 1, DACI	\$5.6M	9	9	\$5.5M
Proposition 84, Round 4	\$31.1M	13	10	\$29.7M
Proposition 1, Round 1	\$15.3M	7	1	\$8.7M
Drought Relief	\$5.0M	4	1	\$1.3M
Proposition 1, Round 2	\$16.0M	6	0	\$619K
Total	\$132.8M	84	66	\$105.4M

* Completed grant programs are highlighted in gray.

* As of November 1, 2024



28



28

IRWM GAP Updates –2021 Drought Relief Grant

IRWM Region	Project Sponsor	Title	Total Grant Amount
SD	San Pasqual Band of Indians	San Pasqual Duro Community Waterline Project	\$1,000,000
	Lake Morena Oak Shores Mutual Water Company (LMOSMWC)	Ballard Well Connection and Transmission Pipeline	\$1,730,000
	Ramona Municipal Water District	The Acres Water Consolidation Project – Phase 1	\$1,326,332
SOC	El Toro Water District	R-2 Reservoir Rehabilitation Project	\$617,668
	Grant Administration		\$326,000
	TOTAL		\$5,000,000

29



29

Summary of Projects

San Pasqual Duro Community Waterline Project

- Construct a new water transmission pipeline that will connect Valley Center Municipal Water District's distribution pipeline to San Pasqual's existing distribution system
- Provide 6 AFY of safe water supply to the Duro Community

Ballard Well Connection and Transmission Pipeline

- Acquire and connect a recently drilled and equipped well (Ballard Well) to LMOSMWC's water system through 5,000 feet of pipeline
- Provide 4.6 AFY of safe water supply to Lake Morena residents

The Acres Water Consolidation Project – Phase 1

- Construct 5,000 feet of 8-inch water main
- Provide approximately 44 AFY of safe water supply to the residents of the Acres community

R-2 Reservoir Rehabilitation Project

- Rehabilitate the existing R-2 potable water reservoir
- Provide approximately 878 AFY of safe water supply to El Toro District's disadvantaged communities

COMPLETED

30



30

Project Challenges

LMOSMWC halted work on the Ballard Well Connection and Transmission Pipeline Project due to difficulties in acquiring the Ballard well and surrounding project land

- Original grant award: \$1,730,000 (with advance funding)
- No viable alternate scopes of work identified
- Amount available for reallocation: estimated \$1,680,749
- Amendment request to DWR due December 2024
- SDIRWM Reallocation Policy has been triggered to reallocate unused grant funds

31



31

IRWM Funding Reallocation Policy

- **Funding Reallocation:** when projects withdraw, are incomplete or change substantially
- **Submission Requirements:** Eligible project sponsors submit work proposals with funding justification and budget requests
- **Evaluation Process:** Project Selection Workgroup (PSW) reconvenes to assess scope feasibility, benefits and reallocation amounts, and makes final recommendations to RWMG
- **DWR Guidelines:** Reallocated funds must support open projects in the same grant agreement, and must provide similar benefit type as withdrawn project
- **Current Opportunity:** Two active projects have been invited to request, and one request from Ramona MWD was received

32



32

Proposed Next Steps:

- Background: 2021 Drought Grant Project Selection Workgroup -
 - San Diego County Water Authority
 - County of San Diego
 - City of San Diego
 - Tribal Caucus
 - DAC/Environmental Justice Caucus
- To ensure timely amendment process and fund usage, RWMG is to reallocate funds after RAC meeting
- Final RWMG recommendation will be emailed to the RAC

33



33

Grant Administration Updates –2021 Drought Relief Grant



RAC Vote
RWMG to reallocate funds and notify RAC via email of Funding
Reallocation Process outcome

*Reminder: Only RAC members (or alternates if RAC member
is not present) should vote*

34



34

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35



35

Current Funding Opportunities

Project Types	Timing	Website
USBR: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grants	Third round due: January 14, 2025	https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/350845
USBR: Small Storage Program	Second round due: April 30, 2025	https://www.usbr.gov/smallstorage/index.html
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

36



36

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

■ Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects

- Purpose: Fund small-scale-on-the-ground projects that seek to conserve, better manage, or otherwise make more efficient use of water supplies.
- Funding: \$120 million
 - ❖ \$100,000 per applicant
- Cost share: 50%
- Status:
 - ❖ Round 3 Due: January 14, 2025
 - ❖ Round 4 Due: July 8, 2025

For more information please visit: <https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/350845>

37

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37

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RECLAMATION

■ Small Storage Program

- Purpose: Fund small storage projects that seek to enhance water storage opportunities for future generations.
- Funding: \$43.5 million
 - ❖ Cost share: 25%
- Status:
 - ❖ Round 3 Due: April 30, 2025

For more information please visit:
<https://www.usbr.gov/smallstorage/index.html>

38

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38

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- State and Federal Funding Opportunities
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39



39

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40



40

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41



41

2025 RAC Meeting Schedule

- 2025 Meeting Schedule:
 - February 5
 - May 7
 - August 6
 - November 5

In-person attendees: Sign out at the front desk and return your name tag before you leave!

42



42

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