



**Joint IRWM Plan Update Workshop #1 &
Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting #70**

October 4, 2017

9:00 am – 11:30 pm

San Diego County Water Authority Board Room

4677 Overland Avenue, San Diego, CA 92123

NOTES

Attendance

RAC Members

Lan Wiborg, City of San Diego (chair)

Alex Yescas for Mark Seits, Floodplain Management Association

Ann Van Leer, Escondido Creek Conservancy

Arne Sandvik for Albert Lau, Padre Dam Municipal Water District

Bill Hunter, Santa Fe Irrigation District

Chris Helmer, City of Imperial Beach

Chris Trees for Mike Thornton, San Elijo Joint Powers Authority

Greg Thomas, Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District

Janice DuVall, San Diego County Board of Education

Jennifer Hazard, Rural Community Assistance Corporation

John Flores, San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians

Joseph Randall for Kimberly Thorner, Olivenhain Municipal Water District

Justin Gamble, City of Oceanside

Kelly Craig for Robyn Badger, San Diego Zoo Global

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

Mark Stadler for Bob Yamada, San Diego County Water Authority

Michael Garrod for Ron Mosher, Sweetwater Authority

Michael McSweeney, Building Industry Association

Michelle Berens for Brian Olney, Helix Water District

Phil Pryde, San Diego River Park Foundation

Sandra Jacobson, California Trout

Sarah Pierce, San Diego Association of Governments

Tony Felix, San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board

Yazmin Arellano for Roberto Yano, City of Chula Vista

RWMG Staff and Consultants

Andrew Funk, City of San Diego

Gail Patton, San Diego County Water Authority

Jen Sajor, Woodard & Curran

Loisa Burton, San Diego County Water Authority

Mark Stephens, City of San Diego
Rosalyn Prickett, Woodard & Curran
Sally Johnson, Woodard & Curran
Sarah Brower, City of San Diego
Stephanie Gaines, County of San Diego

Interested Parties to the RAC

Alex Heide, City of Poway
Angela Hengel, Rural Community Assistance Corporation
Catherine Rom, City of San Diego
Carmel Wong, City of San Diego
Diane Elias, Michael Baker International
Jacob Helfman, City of San Diego
Joel San Juan, Antioch University
Lisa Wu, City of San Diego
Luca Zappiello, City of National City
Maria Margarita Broja, City of San Diego
Martha Davis, City of San Diego
Olin Applegate, Larry Walker Associates
Pamela Carreon, City of San Diego
Shelby Gilmartin, City of San Diego

Welcome and Introductions

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

San Diego RWQCB Update

Mr. Tony Felix, San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), presented the San Diego RWQCB update on behalf of Ms. Laurie Walsh, San Diego RWQCB, who was unable to attend the RAC meeting.

- The San Diego RWQCB plans to review a revised Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) for an MS4 permit in December 2017. The San Diego RWQCB is also working with the City and County of San Diego to update best management practices (BMPs) for sanitation practices for street cleaning.
- The San Diego RWQCB and Santa Margarita Water District co-hosted the Water Reliability Summit in Mission Viejo on August 15, 2017. The summit focused on achieving a reliable, sustainable water supply, including direct potable reuse of recycled water and desalination.
- The San Diego RWQCB is in the process of permitting the Claude “Bud” Lewis Carlsbad Desalination Plant for a new intake structure. It is working on analyzing any environmental impacts and is working with the California Coastal Commission to draft the plant’s National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

- A developer in Santee has been fined \$19,000 for failing to implement BMPs and a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).
- Finally, for those interested in staying informed about the Tijuana Valley sewage spill efforts, please visit the San Diego RWQCB website at: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/>.

IRWM Program Updates

Mr. Mark Stadler, San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA), Ms. Sarah Brower, City of San Diego (City), and Ms. Stephanie Gaines, County of San Diego (County), presented IRWM Program updates.

Statewide IRWM Update

Mr. Stadler presented statewide IRWM Program updates. A Roundtable of Regions (RoR) meeting was held in September, during which the Department of Water Resources (DWR) updated the IRWM Regions about on-going efforts to revamp the existing IRWM program. Mr. Stadler explained that the RoR is a voluntary group of representatives from each IRWM region in the state. The San Diego IRWM Region is part of the steering committee and helps to guide discussions. DWR has done well to solicit and incorporate feedback from the Regions prior to releasing any formal decisions regarding the statewide IRWM Program.

Mr. Stadler also outlined the Proposition 1 Grant Program schedule. He noted that the current dates are tentative and are subject to change. The Draft Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) for Round 1 implementation grant is anticipated in Spring 2018 with the Final PSP anticipated to be released in Summer 2018. Consultations between DWR and the Regions are expected in Fall 2018 and final applications will be due Winter 2018. The Proposition 1 - Round 2 implementation grant is anticipated in 2020. DWR has allocated the San Diego Funding Area a total of \$34 million over the two grant cycles.

There is concern among the Regions regarding the lack of IRWM funding in proposed bills and initiatives. The California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018 (Senate Bill 5), passed on September 15 and approved \$4 billion dollars to the Department of Parks and Recreation for O&M projects. Approximately \$290 million of the total funds may not be formally allocated, so Mr. Stadler is working with the state legislature to try to redirect those funds to the IRWM program.

Proposition 1 DAC Planning Grant

Mr. Stadler updated the RAC on the status of the Proposition 1 DAC Planning Grant. The DAC Needs Assessment, which is being funded under this grant, is scheduled to have a RAC Kickoff in December 2017. The development of definitions and mapping for DACs, economically distressed areas (EDAs), underrepresented communities (URCs), and environmental justice (EJ) communities will take place from November 2017 through March 2018. DACs and some EDAs are defined by DWR. Currently, DWR has only stated that tribes are considered URCs. It is up to the Region to define EDAs, URCs, and EJ communities. DAC outreach and presentations are scheduled over the course of six months, from March to September 2018. The Draft Regional DAC Needs Assessment is expected in the October-December 2018 timeframe.

The San Diego IRWM Program is looking for non-profit and academic partners to support the consulting team in the development of the DAC Needs Assessment. The team is looking for entities and individuals who have experience working with DACs/EDA/URCs/EJ communities, specifically those communities who have not been involved in the IRWM program in the past. Entities or individuals selected will assist in identifying DAC organizations and outreaching to targeted DACs/EDA/URCs/EJ communities. The DAC Needs Assessment Request for Qualifications (RFQ) will be released later this month and responses will be due in November 2017. Mr. Stadler presented a list of DAC organizations that the San Diego IRWM Program has already worked with and asked for suggestions of other organizations that should be added to the outreach list.

San Diego Basin Study

Ms. Brower presented an update on the status of the San Diego Basin Study (Study). Three of the five tasks have been completed and published online. The City is now focused on *Task 2.4* and *Task 2.5*. The objective of *Task 2.4 Structural and Operations Concepts* was to identify and analyze structural and non-structural concepts that can alleviate the impacts of increasing demands and climate change. The goal of *Task 2.5 Trade-off Analysis and Recommendations* is to evaluate the trade-offs between portfolios developed in *Task 2.4*. *Task 2.5* was addressed at the last joint RAC Meeting & Basin Study Workshop, in which the RAC gave feedback on identifying evaluation objectives and their associated performance measures. The City finalized the Study's evaluation objectives, which included additional objectives recommended by the RAC (environmental justice and water quality and watersheds). Ms. Brower reminded the RAC of the presentation given by Mr. Steve Piper, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), about performing a trade-off analysis using weighted scores and ranks associated with the evaluation objectives. A survey will be sent out soon to help finalize the ranking process. The survey will also be asking for relevant sources for objective rankings. The evaluation objectives' weighted scores and preliminary results will be shared at the December and February RAC meetings.

Stormwater Capture & Use Feasibility Study

Ms. Gaines provided an update on the Stormwater Capture & Use Feasibility Study (SWCFS). *Task 1* was completed and a *Task 1* technical memorandum (TM) is published on the Clean Water Project website. Ms. Gaines encouraged the RAC to submit public comments on the TM by October 10 at close of business. The County is moving forward with *Task 2*. A Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting is scheduled for November 1, 2017 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. All interested parties are invited to join.

Questions/Comments:

- Does the IRWM Plan cover the entire region?
 - Yes. The Plan actually covers the entire funding area, which includes the South Orange County and Upper Santa Margarita IRWM Regions.
- Do any of the DAC organizations you listed have a primary mission of addressing homelessness?
 - Good question, homelessness has been a discussion topic in many regions and it is very timely. We are not sure if anyone on the list primarily serves the homeless.
 - The City may have the opportunity to coordinate. The City will reach out to the Mayor's office regarding outreach to the homeless population.
- You should include the County of San Diego Health and Human Services.

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- Great, thanks.

San Diego IRWM Plan Update

Mr. Stadler and Ms. Rosalyn Prickett, Woodard & Curran, presented and moderated the San Diego IRWM Plan Update Kickoff. Mr. Stadler explained that the plan update would take place in two phases. The phasing reflects the need to complete certain elements of the IRWM Plan within a specific timeframe to stay eligible for implementation grants. The IRWM Plan Update – Phase 1 is currently underway and will be completed by September 2018. This update will focus on 2016 IRWM Guideline requirements, particularly focusing on incorporating climate change components. The IRWM Plan Update – Phase 2 will incorporate the SWCFS and the DAC Needs Assessment into the IRWM Plan. Phase 2 is expected to be complete by July 2019. From now until the completion of the IRWM Plan Update, RAC meetings will be used to garner input on various sections of the Plan update. Mr. Stadler presented a tentative schedule of RAC input topics.

Ms. Prickett began by describing the six required plan update elements. In order to achieve compliance, the updated IRWM plan must include more focused discussions regarding:

- Climate change (Water Code §79742),
- Stormwater (SB 985),
- Groundwater management (SGMA),
- Water quality (AB 1249),
- DAC/EDA/URC/EJ updates, and
- Updated planning documents

In addition, four “technical development areas” were identified to guide the plan update development. These four areas were a result of a comprehensive review and synthesis of IRWM-funded project benefits, the 2016 IRWM Summit, the IRWM Strategic Plan, and the Implementation Actions and Plan Objectives from the 2013 IRWM Plan. The 2016 IRWM Summit resulted in six focus areas including water reuse and stormwater. The IRWM Strategic Plan described eight benefits of IRWM such as reduced costs and avoided conflict. There were 11 Plan Objectives and 40 Implementation Actions outlined in the 2013 IRWM Plan. Upon review of the 56 IRWM-funded projects (DAC Planning Grant projects not included), 39% claimed water supply benefits, 33% claimed water quality benefits, 21% were watersheds and natural resources projects, and 6% identified sustainable integrated resource management as a benefit. Of the 44 water supply projects there was an even distribution of conservation-, potable-, and non-potable-type projects that claimed water supply as a primary benefit. Projects that claimed a water quality benefit were about evenly distributed between stormwater and drinking water projects. DWR has directed the Regions to focus on two things for Proposition 1: response to climate change and improving regional water security. A discussion on how the San Diego IRWM Plan will address these two items will be held for a later RAC meeting. Twenty-seven Implementation Actions are completed or are underway, five are partially completed through other efforts, two were attempted but abandoned, and six have not yet begun. Ms. Prickett suggested dropping the two abandoned Implementation Actions from the new IRWM Plan update if no one is willing to spearhead the efforts.

Questions/Comments:

- Was the same [project benefits] analysis done for all IRWM regions? If so, how do we compare?
 - That's a really good question. I suspect DWR is looking into this type of analysis already. Carmel Brown, the new director of IRWM, is focused on demonstrating the value of IRWM to the legislature. I will follow up with her.

Prioritization Exercise

As a result of the review and synthesis process, the RWMG, in conjunction with its managing authorities (the G3), identified four technical development areas (see handout for more detail):

1. Sustainable Water Development
2. Value Stormwater as a Resource
3. Invest in DAC-EDA-URC-EJ Water Systems
4. Optimize Regional Infrastructure

These areas, along with the six 2016 IRWM Guidelines elements, will help to guide the plan update. Ms. Prickett explained the prioritization exercise/discussion exercise. Attendees were asked to identify the technical development area topics and 2016 IRWM guideline elements they would like to see prioritized in the 2019 IRWM Plan. Ms. Prickett also asked the RAC to suggest any topics they felt were missing. After the prioritization exercise, the group debriefed and discussed case studies and key contacts relevant for each topic identified as a high priority.

The following changes and additions were recommended by the RAC before the prioritization exercise began:

Technical Development Area: Sustainable Water Development

- “Reduce, reuse, recycled water” was revised to “conserve, reuse, recycle water”
- “Integrated surface water-groundwater modeling for water quality” was added as a new topic

Technical Development Area: Invest in DAC-EDA-URC-EJ Water Systems

- “Invest in training” was added as a new topic, and technical, managerial, financial capacity subtopic was added
- “Invest in consolidating small systems” was added as a new topic

Technical Development Area: Optimize Regional Infrastructure

- “Include natural system infrastructure” was added as a new subtopic under “Utilize existing infrastructure to improve water quality and supply”
- “Infrastructure safety and security” was added as a new topic
- “Hazard risk assessment based on sea level rise” was added as a new topic

Questions/Comments:

- The “reduce, reuse, and recycled water” topic under Technical Development Area #1 is confusing.
 - We can change it to “conserve, reuse, and recycle water.”
- The second bullet of the stormwater technical development area [#2] doesn't make sense to me. We don't have a groundwater basins to store stormwater.

- That's a good point. We are hoping that with the completion of the SWCFS, we will be able to identify regional stormwater capture opportunities.
- The second bullet of the DAC technical development area [#3] only addresses construction projects. I think that investing in training for voluntary workers in these areas will be key to addressing a lot of water quality issues.
 - OK, we can create a third bullet. We can put TMF [technical, managerial, financial] and operations as a sub-bullet as well.
- What are the colors [colored stickers] for?
 - Green stickers indicate your high priority topics that you have readily available information on (i.e. case studies, projects, data). Yellow stickers indicate important topics that you may or may not have readily available information on. Red stickers indicate topics you believe are not priorities for the update because they have already been sufficiently addressed in the 2013 IRWM Plan.
- Future plans say that there will be more water available from Imperial Irrigation District [IID]. What is the source of IID water and will there be more in the future?
 - The source of IID water is the Colorado River. IID transfers water they aren't using, due to conservation efforts, to us.
 - Mr. Stadler: I am only speaking for myself – it is always possible to get more from IID water, but it isn't universally popular by the folks in IID. It is a very valuable source of water for us. In terms of water allocations from the Colorado River, IID water is higher on the priority list than Metropolitan Water District.
- I would like to put a green sticker on potable reuse, but as we know, there are no real projects for potable reuse yet. But we have case studies.
 - That's perfectly fine. Case studies are enough. If potable reuse is your number one priority, put your green sticker on it.
- How will you know who to ask about resources if we don't know who put green stickers down?
 - We will discuss this in the debrief.
- I don't see any climate change considerations in the Optimize Regional Infrastructure technical development area [#4]. I think we should add hazard/risk assessment based on sea level rise.
 - OK, we will add that bullet.
- I'd like to add modeling stormwater/groundwater quality as a topic.
 - OK, we will add that to the Sustainable Water Development technical development area [#1].
- Please add invest in consolidating small systems.
 - OK, we will add that to the DAC technical development area [#3]

Prioritization Exercise Debrief

- Desalination is the only item with red dots.
 - I don't think all desalination is bad. Brackish desalination takes less than half the energy of imported water. The Reynolds Desalination Facility uses solar panels, so its carbon footprint during the day is almost zero.
 - I think there needs to be a distinction between brackish desalination and seawater desalination.

- We need to ask whether there is more opportunity to explore brackish groundwater desalination as a regional priority or as a local priority. It could be more specific to agencies' efforts.
 - Let's separate brackish desalination and seawater desalination.
- Let's focus on getting data for topics that had four or more green stickers for each technical development area.
- Technical Development Area: Sustainable Water Development
 - Recycled Water (including potable reuse)
 - The City's PureWater project
 - Encina Potable Reuse
 - Padre Dam Potable Reuse
 - City of Oceanside Potable Reuse
 - Recycled water data – Kimberly O'Connell
 - Brackish groundwater desalination
 - Finalized Feasibility Study from Olivenhain Municipal Water District – Joey Randall
 - Sweetwater Authority - Reynolds Desalination Facility Project (Prop 84 – Round 3)
- Technical Development Area: Value Stormwater as a Resource
 - Consider potential habitat and environmental benefits of stormwater projects
 - Lakeside data – Robin Rierdan
 - City of Oceanside project under the County's Habitat Improvement program – Justin Gamble
 - El Capitan project
 - San Diego River Park Foundation's Upper Basin habitat and invasive removals – Phil Pryde
 - Chollas Creek project
 - Increase public knowledge about the importance of stormwater as a resource and watershed/water quality protection
 - Engagement and educational materials on stormwater; resource guides – Stephanie Gaines and Kimberly O'Connell
 - Emphasize the need for economic feasibility of stormwater projects
 - DAC planning grant projects
- Technical Development Area: Invest in DAC-EDA-URC-EJ Water Systems
 - Invest in Training
 - RCAC case studies – Jennifer Hazard
 - Indian Health Services – Sean Bush
 - The City's Chollas Creek project
- Technical Development Area: Optimize Regional Infrastructure
 - Focus on asset management to support use of existing infrastructure
 - San Diego River Park Foundation has water quality data on reservoirs – Phil Pryde
 - City records on all reservoirs
 - Hodges Reservoir projects
 - Hazard risk assessment based on sea level rise

- San Diego Basin Study will have sea level rise maps in the tradeoff analysis. Maps from the state came out recently look at probability and feet increases – Sarah Brower
- State reports – determined probabilities that can be used with available mapping tools
- San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative has done lots of work on adaptation – Laura Engeman
- FEMA’s CCAMP analyzed sea level rise and tidal surges across California. This is an on-going study used for flood insurance assessments.

Grant Administration

Ms. Loisa Burton, SDCWA, presented on updates on grant administration. The IRWM Program has now funded 67 projects for a total of \$96.4 million. Currently \$51.8 million has been billed to DWR. About 79%, 63%, 72%, and 7% of Proposition 84-Round 1, Proposition 84-Round 2, Proposition 84-Round 3, and Proposition 84-Round 4 funding has been billed, respectively. Half of the projects from Proposition 84-Round 1 are complete. Ms. Burton presented highlights from the DWR Project Evaluation Site Visit that happened in August. Representatives from DWR toured various San Diego IRWM project sites including the San Diego Safari Park projects and the Hodges Reservoir projects. Ms. Burton presented significant milestones and next steps from each grant program.

The DWR approved the Proposition 1 planning grant funding agreement. The program completion date is July 17, 2019 and the first reporting and invoicing is expected in November 2017. Grant agreement conditional requirements were submitted in August for Proposition 1 DAC Involvement (planning grant) funding. The approved grant agreement and Local Project Sponsor (LPS) agreements are expected for Winter 2018.

Public Comments

None.

Summary and Next Steps

Ms. Prickett presented current funding opportunities in the Region. There are four funding opportunities open now. Please visit each respective grant program’s website (listed below) for the most current information.

Project Types	Website
DWR Sustainable Groundwater Planning (SGWP) Grant Program	
<u>Category 1:</u> Groundwater sustainability for Severe DACs <u>Category 2:</u> GSP planning and development	http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/grants/sgwp/index.cfm
Prop 1 California Coastal Conservancy Grants	

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Project Types	Website
Projects consistent with the Conservancy's Strategic Plan and address one or more of the Conservancy's four priorities.	http://scc.ca.gov/grants/proposition-1-grants/
Title XVI Water Recycling and Reclamation Program	
Planning, design, and construction of water recycling and reuse projects	https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/title/
Hazard Mitigation Assistance for Flood Mitigation Project	
Projects and planning that reduces or eliminates long-term risk of flood damage to structures insured under the Nat'l Flood Insurance Program	https://www.fema.gov/flood-mitigation-assistance-grant-program

Next RAC Meeting:

- December 6, 2017 – 9:00-11:30 am