

**GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGION
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT
LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY
APRIL 26, 2017**

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE, ALHAMBRA, CA**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gary Hildebrand for Mark Pestrella (Los Angeles County Flood Control District)
Chair, Leadership Committee

Grace Kast for Chris Cash (Gateway Water Management Authority)
Chair, Lower San Gabriel River and Lower Los Angeles River Subregion

Esther Rojas for Robb Whitaker (Water Replenishment District)
Vice-Chair, Lower San Gabriel River and Lower Los Angeles River Subregion

Jennifer Brown (City of Malibu)
Co-Chair, North Santa Monica Bay Subregion

Rich Nagel, (West Basin Municipal Water District)
Chair, South Bay Subregion

David Pettijohn for Martin Adams (City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power)
Chair, Upper Los Angeles River Subregion

Randy Schoellerman (San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority)
Vice-Chair, Upper San Gabriel River and Rio Hondo River Subregion

Guangyu Wang for Tom Ford (Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission)
Open Space, Water Management Area

Sharon Green for Grace Hyde (County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County)
Sanitation, Water Management Area

Sharam Kharaghani for Enrique Zaldivar (City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation, Watershed Protection Division); Stormwater, Water Management Area

Grace Chan for Jeff Kightlinger (Metropolitan Water District of Southern California)
Surface Water, Water Management Area

OTHERS PRESENT:

Diana Mahmud, South Pasadena Councilmember, San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

Russ Bryden, Los Angeles County Flood Control District

Matt Frary, Los Angeles County Flood Control District

Virginia Maloles-Fowler, Los Angeles County Flood Control District

Amanda Guzman-Perez, Los Angeles County Flood Control District

Serineh Minasmasihi, Los Angeles County Flood Control District

Daniel Bradbury, Los Angeles County Flood Control District

Mary Zauner, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

Leighanne Kirk, West Basin Municipal Water District

Edward Caldwell, West Basin Municipal Water District

Jan Dougall, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

Rafael Villegas, City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

Tammy Hierling, Central Basin Municipal Water District

Wendy La, LASER, LLC/Puente Basin Water Authority

Greg Jaquez, MNS Engineers

Persephene St. Charles, RMC Water and Environment, a Woodard & Curran company

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 9:45 a.m. by Gary Hildebrand.

1. Introductions

Leadership Committee members, staff, and public present introduced themselves.

2. Approval of February 22, 2017 Meeting Notes

Motion to approve the meeting notes for February 22, 2017 was made by Esther Rojas and seconded by Rich Nagel. Meeting notes were approved unanimously.

3. Old Business

- A. Incorporation of E/WMPs/SWRPs into IRWM Plan: Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) reminded the committee of the State Water Resources Control Board's new requirement to develop a Stormwater Resource Plan (SWRP) as a condition of receiving Proposition 1 IRWM funding for stormwater and dry weather capture projects. The LA region's existing IRWM plan was expanded to meet the State's requirement for a SWRP by incorporating the Enhanced Watershed Management Programs (EWMPs), Watershed Management Programs (WMPs), and/or local SWRPs. LACFCD reported that only 2 EWMPs/SWRPs were still pending incorporation into IRWM. Of those 2, the Upper San Gabriel Enhanced Watershed Management Program (USGEWMP) Plan has now been reviewed and approved by the Upper San Gabriel Sub-region. The East San Gabriel Valley Watershed Management SWRP is still outstanding.

Motion to approve the incorporation of the USGEWMP Plan was made by Randy Schoellerman and seconded by Grace Kast. Motion was approved unanimously.

- B. Prop 50, Prop 84, and Prop 1 Grants Summary

LACFCD staff introduced the latest materials being provided to the Subregional Steering Committees each month which includes the summary of the grant programs.

Existing Grants: LACFCD staff reported that Prop 50 Grant final documents and reports are in progress. Since previously reporting that all grant funds had been fully expended, it was discovered that approximately \$49K remains due to a contractor's double billing for Las Virgenes Municipal Water District's Malibu Creek Water Conservation Project and options to fully expend this amount before completing close out are being investigated.

Prop 84 Grant rounds are on track. The amendment to reallocate remaining funds under Round 1 is in progress, and a minor amendment to modify the budget for Central Basin Municipal Water District Southeast Water Efficiency Program (2015 Round) is being prepared for submittal to DWR.

Proposition 1 IRWM Program:

i. IRWM Plan Update:

LACFCD staff reported that the Planning Committee met twice and determined which section of the IRWM Plan will be amended to comply with the 2016 Grant Program Guidelines. The Committee is scheduled to complete this process and have the request to amend the Plan submitted to DWR by December 2017. Sharon Green requested staff to provide a schedule to complete this process. A member of the public asked about efforts to update the Open Space, Habitat and Recreation Technical Memorandum (OSHARTM). Staff reported that this was not included in the list of additional requirements listed in the Guidelines and may be revisited in the future when planning grant funding is made available.

ii. DACIP:

Grace Kast reported that the Final Draft Proposal was submitted to DWR on March 23, 2017. The DACIP Task Force met on April 19, 2017 with the DAC Consultants to discuss the process to include NGOs and CBOs in their list of subcontractors. The Task Force also discussed advance payment requests and fronting funds for the Area, as well as the Task Force's future role in relation to program managers. The next meeting is scheduled sometime in May to further discuss these items as well as the development and preparation of task orders.

4. New Business

A. Special Presentation on Water Resilience Plan

Gary Hildebrand and Russ Bryden provided an overview of the Water Resilience Plan. The Board of Supervisors passed a motion in April 2016 directing Public Works to develop a plan that enhances local water supply and improves water quality to make better use of the region's water resources to serve the communities of Los Angeles County. The regional water vision incorporates concepts of resilience that encompass long-term reliability and durability of the region's water supply, flood protection, and watershed health. The eventual Plan will be a living document that guides action and evolves with regional thinking and innovative technical approaches. The Plan can be used to comprehensively discuss water and leverage opportunities to build resilience in the region.

In January 2017, Supervisor Kuehl announced her intention to submit a motion for a funding measure in the coming months to support building water resilience in the region, with a focus on multi-benefit approaches. This funding measure is separate from the Water Resilience Plan but could work hand in hand to build resiliency for the region.

5. Standing Committee Reports

A. Steering Committees

- Lower San Gabriel & Lower Los Angeles Rivers – Nothing to report

- North Santa Monica Bay – Did not meet and opted for DAC Option 1 (3 members; adding 1 NGO) with clarification that “NGO participants would need to recuse themselves from voting if they are a subconsultant performing work that gets voted upon.” Stakeholders voted via email. The NGO options were tabled to be discussed later in the agenda.
 - South Bay – Main item of discussion was the NGO participation. Nothing to report.
 - Upper Los Angeles River – Nothing to report.
 - Upper San Gabriel River & Rio Hondo – Nothing to report.
- B. Water Management Area Representatives
- Open Space – Representative announced that Tom Ford is resigning effective July 2017.
 - Sanitation – Nothing to report
 - Stormwater – Representative reported on pursuing a path to watch and monitor the Los Angeles Water Keeper, preparation of the Water Discharge Requirements for MS4 permit, and a lawsuit regarding EPA guidelines use of scientific studies in decision-making.
 - Surface Water – Representative reported that State Water Project allocation was increased to 85 percent and therefore allows Colorado River use to be reduced.
 - Groundwater – No report.
 - Stormwater Capture – Data indicates 142,000 acre feet of stormwater capture since 10/1/16 and that both stormwater capture and rainfall amounts exceed averages to date.
- C. Legislative Committee (West Basin) – Representative reported on AB 272, South East Los Angeles County Water Reliability Act, regarding the struggles mutual water companies often have regarding management, fiscal, and engineering services. There is a focus on the grant portion of the bill to assist with collaborative efforts to unify agencies and have them work together to improve their water systems. The representative also acknowledged other current bills of interest, in particular SB 231 (Hertzberg) to revise the definition of “sewer.”

Ms. Mahmud, Councilwoman for City of South Pasadena and a representative from the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, also reminded the committee of a few other bills of importance – SB 541, SB 589, SB 633, and AB 1180.

D. Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) Committee

- i. NGO Participation: LACFCD summarized the history of the GLAC DAC committee membership considerations and the four options to allow for increased NGO participation, especially as voting members. The four options the Steering Committees were asked to revisit at their subregion meetings were as follows:
 - Option 1: Increase current GLAC DAC Committee from two members to three members to include a NGO representative from each subregion for a total of 15 members.

- Option 2: Open membership to all interested with no limits.
- Option 3: Keep the current DAC Committee membership and set up an NGO Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee will have an active role in the planning and implementation of the Prop 1 Disadvantaged Community Program for the LA-Ventura Funding Area and will have one collective vote towards the DAC Committee voting process. An NGO who may directly benefit on an item that is being voted on will be asked to recuse themselves from the process to create a level playing field for NGOs interested in being subcontractors to eliminate conflict of interest.
- Option 4: Increase current GLAC DAC Committee membership from 2 members to up to 4 members, including 1-2 NGO representatives from each subregion for a total of 15-20 (a total of 16-21 counting the LACFCD representative). NGO representatives in the DAC Committee will be asked to recuse themselves from voting on items that would directly benefit them.

Most of the subregional steering committees recommended Option 1, followed by a discussion.

A motion was made by Grace Kast to approve a modified Option 1 that the GLAC DAC Committee membership include 2-3 members with at least one NGO representative from each subregion for a total of 15. If a subregion is not able to fill the NGO slot from within its subregion, other interested NGO representatives may be considered. NGOs potentially benefitting from an item that is being voted on will be asked to recuse themselves from the process to avoid conflict of interest. The RWMG will revisit the GLAC DAC Committee membership in six months to consider any further changes that may be appropriate. David Pettijohn seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

The messaging for this addition of at least 5 NGO members will be standardized and then promoted by each subregion. Concurrent participation in the subregion steering committee will be encouraged to avoid any disconnect between the GLAC DAC and the subregions.

6. Public Comment – None
7. Future Agenda Items/Announcements/Other Items – None
8. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Next Meeting: **July 26, 9:30 a.m. – Noon**
West Basin Municipal Water District’s Office in Carson
(details for next meeting updated June 2017 to reflect latest schedule)