

MEETING NOTES

PROJECT: Antelope Valley IRWM Stakeholder Meeting

MEETING DATE: 1/12/2022

LOCATION: MS Teams Conference Call

ISSUED DATE: 1/12/2022

ATTENDEES: Vanessa De Anda, Peter Thompson, Andree Johnson, Bob Large, Chuck Heffernan, Daniel Bradbury, Jackie Ly, James Chaisson, Holly Jones, Josephine Gutierrez, Josh Uecker, Bruze Katz, Matthew Frary, Matthew Knudson, Ryan Edgley, Sally Johnson, Sami Kabar, Scott Rogers, Stacy Curry, Susan Zahnter, Tom Barnes, Vickie Rausch, Yao Kouwonou, Yvonne Malikowski, Nicole Jones

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

A. Welcome and Introductions (Daniel Bradbury)

- The Antelope Valley (AV) Integrated Regional Management (IRWM) Stakeholder Meeting was opened and led by Daniel Bradbury from the Los Angeles County Public Works (LACPW), Waterworks Division. Topics related to the Proposition (Prop.) 1 Round 1 Implementation Grant update and upcoming funding opportunities were led by Josh Uecker and Vanessa De Anda of Woodard & Curran (W&C). Topics related to the Los Angeles County Water Plan (CWP) were open and lead by Sally Johnson and Andree Johnson (W&C) and Matthew Frary (LACPW).

B. Ongoing Regional Funding (Vanessa De Anda and Josh Uecker)

Prop. 1 Round 1 IRWM Grant Update

- The second reporting deadline to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) will be in March 2021. Woodard & Curran will reach out to the Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency (AVEK), Antelope Valley Resource Conservation District (AVRCD), Palmdale Water District (PWD), and Rosamond Community Services District (RCSD) (collectively the project sponsors) to draft the second reporting packet, which includes the quarterly invoice and progress report.

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

- There is approximately \$5 million available for the Lahontan Funding Area under the Disadvantaged Community Involvement (DACI) program. The funding will be distributed among the six IRWM regions in the Lahontan Funding Area, which includes the Antelope Valley. The exact grant amount is yet to be determined but is expected between \$1 to \$1.5 million. The final proposal solicitation package (PSP) was released October 28, 2021, but will be amended in early 2022 to allow other entities that are not the DACI grantee to apply. The deadline for this application has not been determined. Eligible projects must be completed by March 2026. Stakeholders are invited to submit projects for consideration under this grant opportunity via email to Josh (juecker@woodardcurran.com) or Vanessa (vdeanda@woodardcurran.com).
- The final PSP for the Prop. 1 Round 2 IRWM Implementation Grant program is anticipated to be released by March 2022. There is approximately \$1 million in funding available for the AV IRWM Region. Grant application deadlines are anticipated in spring or fall of 2022, depending on when the AV IRWM Region decides to move forward with the application process. Eligible projects must be completed by the end of 2026. Stakeholders are invited to submit projects for consideration under this grant opportunity via email to Josh (juecker@woodardcurran.com) or Vanessa (vdeanda@woodardcurran.com).

C. Los Angeles County Water Plan

- The Los Angeles County Public Works led a presentation to discuss proposed strategies for the CWP. The proposed strategies were developed to help the region make progress towards the desired outcomes that

were identified by stakeholders through the last round of stakeholder workshops. The proposed strategies were grouped to align with the four major categories of the CWP, which include water supply reliability, groundwater management and quality, watershed health and wildfire resilience, and infrastructure resilience and drinking water equity. Stakeholders were asked to identify which of the proposed strategies are most relevant to the AV IRWM region to achieve regional water resilience. Discussion topics included the following (for more information on the discussion and polling results, please visit <https://lacountywaterplan.com>):

- i. The CWP development efforts are led by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD). Though not all of the Antelope Valley IRWM region is part of LACFCD's jurisdiction (the northernmost region of LA County is a separate legal entity starting on Ave. S), the CWP encompasses the entire LA County as a geography.
- ii. The Edwards Air Force Base (EAFB) has not participated in the outreach and engagement process, but their participation is welcomed if any contacts are identified.
- iii. LACFCD tries to divert as much flow as possible throughout each storm season.
- iv. Strategy to protect watershed health is needed because the watershed feeds the Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin.
- v. The County spreads dirt along roads, which results in the growth of invasives such as tumbleweeds, mustard, ragweed others. These weeds could start a fire if a car were to pull over.
- vi. The draft CWP content will be reviewed during the next stakeholder meeting. There will also be a technical memorandum (TM) with proposed strategies and actions that will be distributed to stakeholders who will then be able to review.
- vii. Enhancing emergency resilience coupled with integration: "Integration" means improving interconnections in case one system has an outage, they can get water from neighboring systems. "Enhancing" refers to infrastructure and redundancies. This strategy is focused on short-term emergency sharing of resources, not long-term.
- viii. Emergency resilience is focused on the short-term emergency support between water systems. There is a lot of untapped water supply potential in the County. Without economies of scale and looking at projects regionally, implementation can be cost-prohibitive. This strategy would enhance collaboration between all agencies to help everyone increase the volume of supply that could be generated.
- ix. Palmdale Water District (PWD) is moving forward with groundwater augmentation, which is a huge investment and provides significant benefits to the region. PWD also maintains Littlerock Watershed in the National Monument, so the federal government is responsible for the watershed. The County should include them in the process as far as coordinating and protecting the watershed.
- x. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife or the United States Fish and Wildlife Service should be included in this outreach and engagement process if they have not already.

D. Action Items

Next Stakeholder Workshop: March 16, 2022

Responsible Party	Task	Due Date
Woodard & Curran	- Prepare and submit second reporting packet for Prop 1 Rd 1 IRWM Grant to DWR	3/22
Agencies	- Identify potential projects for upcoming funding pursuits	ASAP

