



...A United Voice for the Santa Ana River Watershed

*Steering
Committee
Members*

REGULAR MEETING OF THE

OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 26, 2017 – 11:00 a.m.
at SAWPA, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, CA 92503

Ronald W. Sullivan
SAWPA

Thomas P. Evans
SAWPA

Shawn Nelson
Orange County

Marion Ashley
Riverside County

Curt Hagman
San Bernardino County

Beth Krom
City of Irvine

Laura Roughton
City of Jurupa Valley

Jon Harrison
City of Redlands

Jim Hessler
Altman Plants

Garry Brown
Orange County
CoastKeeper

Linda Ackerman
Regional Water
Quality Control Board

AGENDA

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Ron Sullivan

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ron Sullivan

Members of the public may address the Committee on items within the jurisdiction of the Committee; however, no action may be taken on an item not appearing on the agenda unless the action is otherwise authorized by Government Code §54954.2(b).

3. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES: October 20, 2016

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

4. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. OWOW Pillar Structure, Chairpersons, Roles (SC#2017.4)

Mike Antos

Recommendation: Approve two new Pillar chairpersons to lead the development of chapters of the OWOW Plan Update 2018 Project Receive and file an update about the OWOW Pillar structure, and approve revised Pillar structure to allow delegation to staff members.

B. DWR Tribal Policy Advisor (SC#2017.5)

Mike Antos

Recommendation: Request SAWPA staff, on the Committee’s behalf, invite the DWR Tribal Policy Advisor to present before the Committee at an upcoming meeting.

5. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Report on IRWM Roundtable of Regions Summit (SC#2017.1)

Mark Norton

Recommendation: Discussion and Direction

B. Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program Update (SC#2017.2)

Mike Antos

Recommendation: Discussion and Direction

C. IRWM Planning Grant Award (SC#2017.3)

Mike Antos

Recommendation: Discussion and Direction

D. Update on 2017 OWOW Conference (May 25 | Ontario Convention Center)

Celeste Cantú

Recommendation: Discussion and Direction



E. [Correspondence from Orange County Stakeholders](#)

6. ADJOURNMENT

Americans with Disabilities Act: Meeting rooms are wheelchair accessible. If you require any special disability related accommodations to participate in this meeting, please contact (951) 354-4230 or kberry@sawpa.org. 48-hour notification prior to the meeting will enable staff to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. Requests should specify the nature of the disability and the type of accommodation requested.

Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Committee after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the SAWPA office, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, and available at www.sawpa.org, subject to staff's ability to post documents prior to the meeting.

Declaration of Posting

I, Kelly Berry, Clerk of the Board of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority declare that on Thursday, January 19, 2017, a copy of this agenda has been uploaded to the SAWPA website at www.sawpa.org and posted in SAWPA's office at 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California.

/s/

Kelly Berry, CMC

2017 OWOW Steering Committee Regular Meetings
Fourth Thursday of Every Other Month
(Note: All meetings begin at 11:00 a.m., unless otherwise noticed, and are held at SAWPA.)

January 1/26/17 Regular Committee Meeting	March 3/23/17 Regular Committee Meeting
May 5/25/17 Regular Committee Meeting	July 7/27/17 Regular Committee Meeting
September 9/28/17 Regular Committee Meeting	November 11/16/17* Regular Committee Meeting*

* Meeting date adjusted due to conflicting holiday.



...A United Voice for the Santa Ana River Watershed

OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 20, 2016

Committee Members	
<u>Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Representatives</u>	
Ronald W. Sullivan, Convener, Eastern Municipal Water District	Present
Thomas P. Evans, Western Municipal Water District	Present
<u>County Supervisor Representatives</u>	
Marion Ashley, Riverside County Board of Supervisors	Present
Shawn Nelson, Orange County Board of Supervisors	Absent
Curt Hagman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors	Present
<u>County Mayor Representatives</u>	
Ron Loveridge, Mayor, City of Riverside	Absent
Beth Krom, Councilmember, City of Irvine	Present
Jon Harrison, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Redlands	Present
<u>Business Committee Representative</u>	
Jim Hessler, Director of West Coast Operations, Altman Plants	Present
<u>Environmental Committee Representative</u>	
Garry Brown, President, Orange County Coastkeeper	Present
<u>Regional Water Quality Control Board Representative</u>	
Linda Ackerman, Vice Chair, Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board	Present
<u>STAFF PRESENT</u>	Celeste Cantú; Larry McKenney; Mark Norton; Dean Unger; Mike Antos; Kelly Berry

The OWOW Steering Committee meeting was called to order at 11:02 a.m. by Ronald W. Sullivan, Convener, at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, 11615 Sterling Ave., Riverside, California.

1. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
There were no public comments.



3. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES – July 7, 2016

MOVED, approve the Consent Calendar.

Result:	Adopted (Passed; 8-0-1)
Motion/Second:	Brown/Harrison
Ayes:	Ackerman, Ashley, Brown, Evans, Harrison, Hessler, Krom, Sullivan
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	Hagman
Absent:	None

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program (SC#2016.14)

Mike Antos provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program. \$510 million was allocated for the IRWM Program within Proposition 1; of that, no less than 10% must be spent ensuring involvement of members of disadvantaged communities in the IRWM process. This results in a \$6.3 million non-competitive grant for the Santa Ana River Watershed for the Program. Grant Guidelines for the program were released by DWR in July 2016.

The OWOW Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program has three program elements: 1) Strengths and Needs Assessment, 2) Education and Engagement, and, 3) Project Development. Tasks within these program elements were drawn from Grant Guidelines or earlier programs completed elsewhere in the state referenced in the Guidelines. Compilation of the proposal included participation of groups with specific expertise applicable to the program and its goals. The proposal before the Steering Committee for consideration was built from previous OWOW reports and research and is the best combination of required and allowable activities.

Committee Member Hessler voiced his desire for more clarity in the definition of deliverables in the community engagement intern program before SAWPA moves forward, and noted that the objectives and deliverables are not clearly and concisely defined. Antos stated the program exists at the California State University (CSU) system and that he would work with them to clarify the objectives and deliverables.

Committee Member Brown noted \$4.8 million of the \$6.3 million will be paid to consultants (the Program Partners), and that he would rather see a campaign to do something on the ground level with measurable results than paying a majority of the funds to consultants. Brown also desired more clarity in the definition of deliverables. The proposal contains a patchwork of good ideas, but is lacking in details as to measurable results and is weighted too heavily toward paid consultants. Antos noted the outcome is to enhance involvement, which is tricky to measure. Perhaps survey documents could be developed to assess pre and post.

Committee Member Evans asked if this could be done in two years, instead of three. Antos expressed the three-year timeframe was more advantageous in building trust within the communities. Evans stated we should not enter these communities directly, but should seek to work with organizations already engaged in these communities that have already established trust. Then when we are gone in three years, they will remain and continue this effort.

Committee Member Krom noted a program like this could be foundational in establishing trust in local elected leaders, a better understanding where their water comes from, and appreciating its value. It will benefit districts as well as communities.



MOVED, approve submittal of a proposal to Department of Water Resources to initiate the Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program in the Santa Ana River Watershed, incorporating modifications specified by the OWOW Steering Committee.

Result: **Adopted (Passed; 7-2-0)**
Motion/Second: Harrison/Krom
Ayes: Ackerman, Ashley, Evans, Hagman, Harrison, Krom, Sullivan
Nays: Brown, Hessler
Abstentions: None
Absent: None

B. New Pillar Chairs (SC#2016.16)

Mike Antos provided a PowerPoint presentation on the OWOW Pillars and their involvement in the OWOW Plan update. Four Pillar Chairs are currently vacant, and three individuals have volunteered to take on these roles:

- Disadvantaged Community/Tribal Pillar – Susan Lien Longville (SBVMWD)
- Natural Resources Stewardship – Jeff Beehler (SBVWCD)
- Stormwater: Resource and Risk Management – Jason Uhley (RCFCWCD)
- Land Use and Water Planning – Vacant; recruiting continues.

Committee Member Evans moved the item, and also suggested that staff seek confirmation from the other Pillar Chairs that they are committed to the schedule and committed to the work.

MOVED, approve three new Pillar chairpersons who have volunteered to assist with the OWOW Plan Update 2018 project.

Result: **Adopted (Unanimously; 9-0)**
Motion/Second: Evans/Brown
Ayes: Ackerman, Ashley, Brown, Evans, Hagman, Harrison, Hessler, Krom, Sullivan
Nays: None
Abstentions: None
Absent: None

C. IRWM Planning Grant Submitted, September 29, 2016 (SC#2016.15)

Mike Antos provided a PowerPoint presentation updating the Committee on the Proposition 1 Planning Grant Proposal submitted by SAWPA on September 29, 2016, which included an overview of the proposed scope of work and budget.

This presentation was for informational purposes only; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.C.

Convener Sullivan recessed the meeting at 12:04 p.m., and convened the meeting at 12:23 p.m.

D. SAWPA Strategic Assessment – One Water One Watershed Business Line (SC#2016.13)

Mark Norton provided a PowerPoint presentation on the One Water One Watershed Business Line. Norton provided a background on the concept of IRWM and the OWOW Plan, and then explained the recent Strategic Assessment facilitation by Paul Brown. The Strategic Assessment was a review by the SAWPA Commission of SAWPA's major functions and activities. Norton reviewed the Purposes and Objectives, Critical Success Factors (CSFs) and associated Processes Activities and Tasks (PATs) developed during the Review. To assist the SAWPA Commission, input from the Committee was requested regarding the Purpose and Objectives and CSFs for the OWOW Business Line.



Distilling and disseminating information throughout the watershed via the SAWPA website was suggested and the benefits discussed.

This presentation was for informational purposes only; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.C.

E. Orange County Stakeholder Activities (SC#2016.17)

Larry McKenney provided an oral report on Orange County stakeholder activities. He noted staff was seeking Committee input on the September 8, 2016 correspondence from the stakeholders, provided in the agenda packet, prior to staff responding to the letter. Representatives of four Orange County agencies have engaged SAWPA staff and commissioners in ongoing discussions advocating reassessment of the OWOW process used to select projects for grant funding. McKenney provided a background of those discussions.

In August 2015, the Orange County Water District (OCWD) Board directed its staff to pursue two approaches: (1) Engage with other stakeholders in discussions with SAWPA about potentially changing the grant funding process; and, (2) During those discussions, begin the process of seeking DWR acceptance of north Orange County as a separate IRWM Region within this same funding region. On July 7, 2016, the Committee was briefed and the specific changes to the Proposition 1 eligibility criteria suggested by the stakeholders were discussed, and staff outlined the changes made through funding rounds to assure IRWM funding is applied to projects that provide watershed-wide benefit and do not cause unreasonable negative impacts elsewhere in the watershed. SAWPA staff believes the changes made in the eligibility criteria have addressed the substantive issues the stakeholders have raised. At the July 2016 meeting, the Committee approved the Proposition 1 OWOW grant eligibility criteria and directed adding a preamble emphasizing the IRWM collaborative effort and goal of watershed-wide benefit. In later correspondence, the Stakeholders have continued to assert the same concerns, and the September 8 letter added new issues. In meetings in Orange County, they have asserted that SAWPA has been unwilling to address their concerns, and they cite that as a reason for continued activity to seek DWR acceptance of a separate IRWM Region within this same funding region. Having multiple IRWMs within the same funding region results in less local control and more State involvement in project selection.

Stakeholders have expressed they do not believe they are receiving their fair share of IRWM grant dollars. Records reflect that projects in Orange County have been allocated twenty-five percent (25%) of the IRWM grant dollars in the Santa Ana funding region that OWOW has allocated. In any event, the physical location of a grant funded project does not fully define where benefits accrue. The OWOW process emphasizes integrated projects with more regional benefits rather than focusing on where the funding is allocated. The IRWM process and funding encourages watershed-wide collaboration.

McKenney noted that the September 8 letter included specific recommended changes in the OWOW Plan. He advised that some of the recommended changes were not appropriate, and that in general amendments to the OWOW Plan should result from the Plan update process with input from stakeholders throughout the region.

Committee Member Krom expressed that the process by which projects are selected and grant funding is allocated should not result in substantively impairing other portions of the watershed, and that is a factor taken into consideration by the Committee. Krom emphasized the importance of staying true to the mission, which is the collaboration, and that she believed the OWOW Steering Committee has been responsive to Orange County's concerns.

Committee Member Krom left the meeting at 1:04 p.m. and did not return.

The Committee outlined input and consideration given the stakeholders, including the July 7, 2016 meeting; there was a discussion regarding the importance of watershed-wide collaboration with the



Committee receiving input from Peer Swan, Chair, Newport Bay Watershed Executive Committee, representing the interests of the stakeholders. He asserted that the project selection process has lacked transparency, and that SAWPA should facilitate a group of experts from within the watershed to identify the projects that are needed. Swan's emphasis was projects should not adversely impact the lower watershed. Committee Member Sullivan noted significant investments in the hundreds of millions made by upstream water districts within the watershed benefiting the stakeholders with no investment from them. Committee Member Evans, who participated in meetings with the stakeholders, understood the concerns had been addressed previously, and that the Steering Committee had agreed that the concerns should be further discussed in the OWOW Plan update process, not by revisiting the eligibility criteria previously addressed by the Committee. Swan expressed the position of the stakeholders is that they want the ability to provide input on the suite of projects when and if they determine it would adversely impact them.

Committee Member Ashley left the meeting at 1:20 p.m., and did not return.

McKenney recommended the Committee direct staff to continue stakeholder discussions and respond in writing to the September 8 correspondence; the Committee should direct whether or not staff should address what we know about the effort to create a separate IRWM Region. Convener Sullivan suggested we ignore the separate IRWM Region issue, since it is their decision to pursue another option; he expressed his willingness to continue the discussions and agree on a reasonable process that makes this work for the watershed. Committee members were invited to participate in ongoing discussions; Committee Member Brown noted he would be happy to engage in ongoing discussions.

The Committee provided direction to staff; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.E.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting came to a close at 1:46 p.m.

APPROVED: January 27, 2017

Ronald W. Sullivan, Convener

Attest:

Kelly Berry, CMC, Clerk of the Board

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OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM NO. 2017.4

DATE: January 26, 2017

TO: OWOW Steering Committee

SUBJECT: OWOW Pillar Structure, Chairpersons, Roles

PREPARED BY: Mike Antos, Ph.D., Watershed Coordinator

RECOMMENDATION

That the OWOW Steering Committee approve two new Pillar chairpersons to lead the development of chapters of the OWOW Plan Update 2018 Project Receive and file an update about the OWOW Pillar structure, and approve revised Pillar structure to allow delegation to staff members.

DISCUSSION

For the purposes of completing the OWOW Plan Update 2018 project, and in light of the 2016 IRWM Plan Standards released by Department of Water Resources last year, the Pillars are being restructured and renamed. This change will facilitate the most effective work by stakeholders and volunteers associated with the Plan Update 2018. The ten Pillars for the coming work are currently constituted in this way:

1. Beneficial Use Assurance Pillar – Mike Markus
2. Land Use and Water Planning Pillar – vacant
3. Natural Resources Stewardship Pillar – Jeff Beehler
4. Integrated Stormwater Management Pillar – Jason Uhley
5. Disadvantaged and Tribal Communities Pillar – Susan Longville
6. Water Recycling Pillar – Paul Jones
7. Water Resource Optimization Pillar – Doug Headrick
8. Climate Change Response Pillar – Jamie Ferro
9. Water Use Efficiency Pillar – John Rossi
10. Data Management & Monitoring Pillar – Joe Grindstaff

One Pillar is currently vacant (Land Use and Water Planning), and Susan Longville stepped down from the Disadvantaged and Tribal Communities Pillar. Two new volunteers have been recruited to assist in those roles; they are below:

- **Land Use and Water Planning Pillar – Ken Gutierrez**
- **Disadvantaged and Tribal Communities Pillar – Gil Navarro**

In preliminary discussions with several of the Pillars, it was explained that the Pillar chair role was transitioning to conduct the more time intensive activities associated with the Pillar workgroups such as holding meetings, coordinating with stakeholders, and engaging in work assignments necessary to prepare written chapters for the OWOW Plan Update 2018. To accommodate this additional work for the next two years particularly among the Pillars who are agency general managers, delegating Pillar activities to an agency staff member was suggested and supported. The Pillars will still remain in their role in coordinating with their delegates and workgroups and providing guidance in meeting on a bi-monthly or

quarterly basis with the Pillar workgroups and designated staff. The Pillar workgroups are anticipated to meet either monthly or bi-monthly depending on the intensity of the required updates.

BACKGROUND

The OWOW Pillars are a key feature of the OWOW planning process. Stakeholders, volunteers, and agency staff with topical expertise in aspects of the plan gather together in the Pillars to craft sections of the plan. The Pillars together hold Integration Meetings, in which the specific items they are working on are considered with a watershed approach, a holistic view of interdependence of the watershed systems.

The Pillars that formed for OWOW 1.0, and then adjusted for OWOW 2.0, were each developed and organized around the planning challenges at the time of the effort. So too, for OWOW Plan Update 2018, the Pillars will be confronting particular challenges and required updates.

The attachment to this memo describes each Pillar's roles in the OWOW Plan Update 2018 process. The tasks as described will, once complete, assure compliance with the 2016 IRWM Plan Standards, and that the OWOW Plan Update 2018 will serve the Santa Ana River Watershed well for the coming years.

Attachments:

1. Pillar Scopes of Work

Beneficial Use Assurance Pillar

Chairperson: Mike Markus

Suggested delegate: Greg Woodside

SAWPA Liaison: Rick Whetsel

Mission of this Pillar during the update:

- Ensure that the OWOW Plan Update 2018 accurately and adequately addresses the current and future efforts to maintain or increase the number of beneficial uses within OWOW planning area.
- Ensure that stakeholders are engaged in the work of this Pillar by conducting open meetings, electronic outreach, and community dialog.
- Work with other Pillars to assure integration of ideas, plans, and data throughout the OWOW Plan Update 2018.

Tasks for this Pillar:

- Complete a review and update of Subchapter 5.5
- Research and write new material as required by AB 1249
 - AB 1249 requires description of nitrate, arsenic, perchlorate and hex chrome in groundwater, and remediation actions or plans
- Review and update related material throughout OWOW Plan Update 2018 to assure compliance with 2016 IRWM Plan Standards.

Disadvantaged and Tribal Communities Pillar

Chairperson: Gil Navarro

Suggested delegate:

SAWPA Liaison: Mike Antos

Mission of this Pillar:

- Ensure that the OWOW Plan Update 2018 is undertaken with input from members of disadvantaged and tribal communities
- Ensure that stakeholders are engaged in the work of this Pillar by conducting open meetings, electronic outreach, and community dialog.
- Work with other Pillars to assure integration of ideas, plans, and data throughout the OWOW Plan Update 2018

Tasks for this Pillar:

- Complete a review and update of Subchapter 5.11
- Review and update related material throughout OWOW Plan Update 2018 to assure compliance with 2016 IRWM Plan Standards.
- Research and write new material as required by the 2016 IRWM Standards:
 - New participatory governance procedures (Chapter 2)
 - Consider benefits to specific needs of Native American tribal communities
 - Include public process for engagement of tribal communities for planning
 - Include public process for engagement of tribal communities for implementation, describe barriers to involvement

Climate Change Response Pillar

Chairperson: Jamie Ferro

Suggested delegate: None

SAWPA Liaison: Mike Antos

Mission of this Pillar:

- Ensure that the OWOW Plan Update 2018 incorporates the many new climate-change response related requirements enumerated by the 2016 IRWM Plan Standards.
- Ensure that stakeholders are engaged in the work of this Pillar by conducting open meetings, electronic outreach, and community dialog.
- Work with other Pillars to assure integration of ideas, plans, and data throughout the OWOW Plan Update 2018

Tasks for this Pillar:

- Complete a review and update of Subchapter 5.13
- Review and update related material throughout OWOW Plan Update 2018 to assure compliance with 2016 IRWM Plan Standards.
- Research and write new material as required by the 2016 IRWM Standards:
 - Update vulnerabilities attributable climate change in regional description
 - Include adaptation needs: change in precipitation patterns, SLR, energy consumption, reduction of GHG, AB 32 Scoping plan strategies, CO2 sequestration
 - Include climate vulnerabilities in Resource Management Strategies (RMS) discussions
 - Include RMS for mitigating climate vulnerabilities
 - Develop framework for considering projects' contribution to adaptation
 - Strengthen tools for considering projects' GHG impacts/benefits, allow GHG to influence project selection
 - Develop policies/procedures that improve OWOW response to climate impacts
 - Draw adaptation/mitigation strategies from "local plans" into OWOW
 - Assure DWR Climate Change Handbook tools are reflected in OWOW
 - Prioritize climate vulnerabilities, including feasibility for OWOW to manage

Land Use and Water Planning Pillar

Chairperson: Ken Gutierrez

Suggested delegate: none

SAWPA Liaison: Ian Achimore

Mission of this Pillar:

- Broaden and deepen links between OWOW and watershed land-use planning authorities and plans through new partnerships.
- Ensure that stakeholders are engaged in the work of this Pillar by conducting open meetings, electronic outreach, and community dialog.
- Work with other Pillars to assure integration of ideas, plans, and data throughout the OWOW Plan Update 2018

Tasks for this Pillar:

- Complete a review and update of Subchapter 5.7
- Review and update related material throughout OWOW Plan Update 2018 to ensure compliance

<p>with 2016 IRWM Plan Standards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and write new material as required by the 2016 IRWM Standards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Demonstrate information sharing and collaboration with regional land use planning
<p>Natural Resources Stewardship Pillar Chairperson: Jeff Beehler Suggested delegate: None SAWPA Liaison: Ian Achimore</p> <p>Mission of this Pillar:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the OWOW Plan Update 2018 documents and describes linkages to ongoing open space and species protection efforts, data and plans throughout the OWOW planning area • Ensure that stakeholders are engaged in the work of this Pillar by conducting open meetings, electronic outreach, and community dialog. • Work with other Pillars to assure integration of ideas, plans, and data throughout the OWOW Plan Update 2018 <p>Tasks for this Pillar:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete a review and update of Subchapter 5.9 • Review and update related material throughout OWOW Plan Update 2018 to ensure compliance with 2016 IRWM Plan Standards. • Develop new or strengthen old partnerships with open space and species protection organizations or agencies.
<p>Integrated Stormwater Management Pillar Chairperson: Jason Uhley Suggested Delegate: Stuart McKibben SAWPA Liaison: Mike Antos</p> <p>Mission of this Pillar:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and document a system for incorporating stormwater resources management planning efforts with the OWOW Plan Update 2018. • Ensure that stakeholders are engaged in the work of this Pillar by conducting open meetings, electronic outreach, and community dialog. • Work with other Pillars to assure integration of ideas, plans, and data throughout the OWOW Plan Update 2018 <p>Tasks for this Pillar:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete a review and update of Subchapter 5.8 • Review and update related material throughout OWOW Plan Update 2018 to assure compliance with 2016 IRWM Plan Standards. • Research and write new material as required by the 2016 IRWM Standards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop system for stormwater resource management planning among three county flood control districts to be incorporated in OWOW ○ Describe governance mechanism for incorporating stormwater resources management plans into OWOW

Water Recycling Pillar

Chairperson: Paul Jones

Suggested Delegate: Kelly Gage

SAWPA Liaison: Rick Whetsel

Mission of this Pillar:

- Incorporate the significant activity since 2013 and planned in the future related to indirect and direct potable use of reclaimed water, brackish surface and groundwater, and ocean desalination in the OWOW Plan Update 2018.
- Ensure that stakeholders are engaged in the work of this Pillar by conducting open meetings, electronic outreach, and community dialog.
- Work with other Pillars to assure integration of ideas, plans, and data throughout the OWOW Plan Update 2018

Tasks for this Pillar:

- Working with Water Optimization Pillar, extract information from Subchapter 5.4 regarding the OWOW Plan Update 2018.
- Repurpose old and create new content to complete a subchapter for OWOW Plan Update 2018 that includes current and future planning for Water Reclamation efforts.
- Review and update related material throughout OWOW Plan Update 2018 to ensure compliance with 2016 IRWM Plan Standards.

Water Resource Optimization Pillar

Chairperson: Doug Headrick

Suggested delegate: Bob Tincher

SAWPA Liaison: Ian Achimore

Mission of this Pillar:

- To ensure that OWOW Plan Update 2018 includes the innovations of SARCCUP as example for regional partnerships and operational efficiencies.
- Ensure that stakeholders are engaged in the work of this Pillar by conducting open meetings, electronic outreach, and community dialog.
- Work with other Pillars to assure integration of ideas, plans, and data throughout the OWOW Plan Update 2018

Tasks for this Pillar:

- Working from Water Resource Optimization Subchapter 5.4, update demands and supplies for OWOW Plan Update 2018.
- Repurpose old and create new content to complete a subchapter for OWOW Plan Update 2018 that includes current and future planning for conjunctive use including SARCCUP implementation efforts.
- Review and update related material throughout OWOW Plan Update 2018 to ensure compliance with 2016 IRWM Plan Standards.

Water Use Efficiency Pillar

Chairperson: John Rossi

Invited delegate: Tim Barr

SAWPA Liaison: Ian Achimore

Mission of this Pillar:

- To ensure that OWOW Plan Update 2018 incorporates the innovations and changes driven by drought response since 2013.
- Ensure that stakeholders are engaged in the work of this Pillar by conducting open meetings, electronic outreach, and community dialog.
- Work with other Pillars to assure integration of ideas, plans, and data throughout the OWOW Plan Update 2018

Tasks for this Pillar:

- Update Water Use Efficiency Pillar Chapter 5.6 for OWOW Plan Update 2018.
- Repurpose old and create new content to include current and future planning for Water Use Efficiency efforts.
- Review and update related material throughout OWOW Plan Update 2018 to ensure compliance with 2016 IRWM Plan Standards.
- Research and write new material as required by the 2016 IRWM Standards:
 - Description of plans to reduce dependency on the Delta Supply (see PRC § 29700-29716)

Data Management & Monitoring Pillar

Chairperson: Joe Grindstaff

Suggested delegate: Liz Hurst

SAWPA Liaison: Rick Whetsel

Mission of this Pillar:

- To further develop and strengthen the OWOW Plan Update 2018 approach to data management and monitoring.
- Ensure that stakeholders are engaged in the work of this Pillar by conducting open meetings, electronic outreach, and community dialog.
- Work with other Pillars to assure integration of ideas, plans, and data throughout the OWOW Plan Update 2018.

Tasks for this Pillar:

- Update previous OWOW Plan Chapter 9 to incorporate the significant activity related to data management and plan/project monitoring underway.
- Review and update related material throughout OWOW Plan Update 2018 to ensure compliance with 2016 IRWM Plan Standards.
- Update performance monitoring tools and systems reflective of recent GIS and data management efforts

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OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM NO. 2017.5

DATE: January 26, 2017
TO: OWOW Steering Committee
SUBJECT: DWR Tribal Policy Advisor
PREPARED BY: Mike Antos, Ph.D., Watershed Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That the OWOW Steering Committee request SAWPA staff, on the Committee's behalf, invite the DWR Tribal Policy Advisor to present before the Committee at an upcoming meeting.

DISCUSSION

The 2016 IRWM Plan Standards, released earlier in 2016 by Department of Water Resources, includes multiple items related to Tribal Communities. The OWOW 2.0 Plan, with assistance from the US Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation, provided strong guidance and assessment of the Tribal Communities in the Santa Ana River Watershed. The OWOW Plan Update 2018 project will seek to build upon that earlier work, and to assure that the new Standards are met.

The DWR Tribal Policy Advisor, Anecita Agustinez, during public outreach meetings related to the IRWM Planning Grant and the DACI Grant programs, made her office available to assist regions. Per the DWR website, "*[t]he main purpose of the Tribal Policy Advisor is to ensure and facilitate effective Government-to-Government consultation between Department of Water Resources and California's Native American Tribes and Tribal communities.*" In this role the Advisor's office is a clearinghouse of best practices, available resources, and community contacts.

Because the OWOW Plan Update 2018 must meet many new standards related to the Native American Tribes and Tribal communities within and near the Santa Ana River Watershed, an informational presentation by the Policy Advisor, hosted by the OWOW Steering Committee, for the OWOW Pillars, watershed stakeholders, and other interested parties that about best practices and state resources would productively augment the OWOW process.

Attachments:

1. Draft letter to the DWR Tribal Policy Advisor



Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

OVER 45 YEARS OF INNOVATION, VISION, AND WATERSHED LEADERSHIP



One Water One Watershed

AWRA INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AWARD
HARVARD KENNEDY SCHOOL'S TOP 25 INNOVATIONS IN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

January 19, 2017

Susan Lien Longville
Commission
Chair

Ancenita Agustinez
Tribal Policy Advisor
Department of Water Resources
PO Box 942836

Celeste Cantú
General
Manager

Sacramento, CA 94236-0001
Delivered via email: tribalpolicyadvisor@water.ca.gov

Dear Advisor Agustinez:

Orange
County
Water
District

On behalf of SAWPA's One Water One Watershed Steering Committee, I invite you to join us at an upcoming meeting in Riverside. The OWOW Steering Committee, made up of eleven leaders from the Santa Ana River Watershed, is the governing body of the One Water One Watershed Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.

Western
Municipal
Water District

The OWOW 2.0 Plan was adopted in 2014, and included work completed by watershed stakeholders, with critical support from the United States Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation, that describe best practices for Tribal Engagement and Participation. With the 2016 IRWM Plan Standards, released by DWR last summer, the OWOW Steering Committee recognizes our region has a very strong foundation to move forward with humility and shared purpose to engage with the sovereign tribes, those with land in the watershed, and those without. Given the many new Standards and Resources Management Strategies, we seek your engagement, advice and support as we pursue the OWOW Plan Update 2018.

Eastern
Municipal
Water
District

San
Bernardino
Valley
Municipal
Water
District

Our Committee meets every-other-month, and hope that you can work with SAWPA staff to plan attending one of our meetings, where you can share advice, state resources, and any connections that might strengthen our efforts to update our comprehensive watershed plan, and to assure all communities are present in decision-making.

Inland
Empire
Utilities
Agency

Do not hesitate to contact my lead staff member, Mike Antos (mantos@sawpa.org, 951-354-4238), or myself, if you have questions. Mike will follow up this letter with a phone call in the coming week.

Sincerely,

Celeste Cantú
General Manager



OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM NO. 2017.1

DATE: January 26, 2017

TO: OWOW Steering Committee

SUBJECT: Report on IRWM Roundtable of Regions Summit

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the OWOW Steering Committee receive a report on the IRWM Roundtable of Regions Summit held in Sacramento on January 12, 2017, and provide discussion and direction.

BACKGROUND

The Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Roundtable of Regions is an all-volunteer forum for IRWM “regions” engaged in preparing and implementing IRWM Plans to network, share ideas, and provide feedback to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) on the IRWM program. The organization has been active in conducting a survey among the Regions about how well the California IRWM Program is working for them, and whether or not it is living up to its promise of increasing local water supply reliability, improving management of water resources on a regional level, enhancing watershed health, and increasing collaboration and regional self-reliance.

To share the results of the survey and obtain updates from DWR staff on recent Prop 1 IRWM grant programs, a Summit was planned and held on Jan. 12, 2017 in Sacramento. The event included discussion of the following topics:

- IRWM Survey Results
- Future of IRWM and Relationship with Other Programs – Art Hinojosa, Div. Chief, DWR IRWM
- DAC Involvement and DAC Involvement Grant Program
- IRWM Baseline Funding
- 2016 IRWM Plan Updates or Amendments

The highlight of the event was the presentation by Mr. Hinojosa who discussed the upcoming release of the DWR’s Strategic Plan: Managing for Regional Sustainability. This document will be released in March 2017 and will describe how DWR will prioritize and organize its work to support sustainable water resources management at a regional scale in California. The Strategic Plan builds upon the previous DWR IRWM strategic planning work conducted by DWR with consultation with a panel of six IRWM Region representatives, including Mark Norton of SAWPA. Under this previous work, a draft report had been prepared and released in May 2015 entitled “Strategies for the Future of Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) in California”. The stated focus of that document was to build on the current and past successes of IRWM; further enable, empower, and support regional water management groups; better align state and federal programs to support

IRWM; develop a shared vision for funding priorities and financing mechanisms and inform and influence future water management policies and investments for California. The document will be released as stakeholder IRWM recommendations as a separate stand-alone document in conjunction with the new DWR Strategic Plan this March.

One of the most positive developments shared about the upcoming March 2017 Strategic Plan will be the focus and support for a “river basin” approach. The following excerpt was shared in a briefing document about the Strategic Plan:

“The Plan boldly proposes a gradual evolution towards “river basin” hydrologically-based boundaries to become the new primary point of interface between State and local agencies for governance, financing and regulatory reform. These areas would not necessarily replace existing smaller-scale IRWM or other institutional boundaries, but would evolve from and encompass them and provide a more effective means of State-to-local interaction over time.”

This mindset for the Strategic Plan follows in lock step with the OWOW focus of supporting watershed planning and implementation based on a “watershed based or hydrologic system approach”. Further DWR has recognized that reliance on general obligation bonds for IRWM planning and implementation is unsustainable, so a new approach focusing on the new river basin areas would help achieve the desired outcomes of IRWM.

Attachment:

1. Update: Strategic Planning to Achieve Sustainable Water Resources Management in California’s Regions



UPDATE: Strategic Planning to Achieve Sustainable Water Resources Management in California's Regions

January 2017

Managing for Regional Sustainability: DWR's Strategic Plan – March 2017

What is the Strategic Plan and who does it benefit?

DWR is putting the finishing touches on a plan to describe how DWR will prioritize and organize its work to support sustainable water resources management at a regional scale in California. In this Strategic Plan, DWR frames the challenges and intended outcomes to address the challenges, and outlines strategies and actions it will take to help regional stakeholders work cooperatively towards responsible use of water.

Although the plan is primarily written for DWR managers to guide program development and implementation, it also is intended to inform regional stakeholders, including IRWM partners, groundwater sustainability and flood management agencies, water and land use managers and the public, as to how DWR plans to prioritize and direct its regional assistance efforts.

How does this Strategic Plan relate to the 2013-2015 IRWM strategic planning process?

DWR began the process to develop a "strategic plan" for the future of IRWM in 2013. With guidance and input from a representative focus group and countless stakeholders throughout the state who voluntarily participated in workshops and interviews, recommendations were formulated for federal, state and local action. However, in the midst of that process, the Governor released the California Water Action Plan and the Legislature passed the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), creating new responsibilities for DWR and other State agencies and requiring the agencies to rethink the way they conduct some of their work. This led to the need for a more comprehensive strategic plan for regional sustainability.

The stakeholders' IRWM recommendations, which greatly informed DWR's strategies, will be published as a stand-alone document in conjunction with the new Strategic Plan this March.

The Strategic Plan acknowledges the public investments and successes achieved to date with the IRWM program and calls for a continuing evolution towards greater regional cooperation. The Plan also recognizes that the incentive-based approach has not been enough to attain a sustainably managed system. Also, continued reliance on general obligation bonds is unsustainable, and a new approach is needed. The passage of SGMA clearly indicated the need to further improve the way water resources are managed regionally and statewide.

What does the Strategic Plan say and how will it be used?

In the Strategic Plan, consistent with the 2018 update of the California Water Plan, the term “sustainable water resources management” is defined as managing all aspects of water (e.g., water supply, water quality, flood management) and related resources (e.g., land, habitat, fish and wildlife) in a way that contributes to the well-being of current residents and the environment without jeopardizing the well-being of future residents and the environment. To be sustainable in the way California manages water and related resources, DWR is striving for a dynamic balance of four societal goals:

- Provide Reasonable Public Health and Safety
- Support a Stable Economy
- Sustain Vital Ecosystems
- Provide Opportunities for Enriching Experiences (e.g., recreation, aesthetics, and cultural amenities)

The Strategic Plan outlines strategies and actions to address today’s realities, including outdated and inefficient governance structures; lack of sufficient and stable funding; and burdensome and non-integrated regulatory and environmental compliance processes; all of which are hampering our progress in achieving sustainable water resources management and ecosystem vitality.

The Plan boldly proposes a gradual evolution towards “river basin” hydrologically-based boundaries to become the new primary point of interface between State and local agencies for governance, financing and regulatory reform. These areas would not necessarily replace existing smaller-scale IRWM or other institutional boundaries, but would evolve from and encompass them and provide a more effective means of State-to-local interaction over time.

The Plan goes on to identify key intended outcomes and actions to achieve those outcomes. These actions range from the broad, such as recommending legislative changes, to the specific such as developing a California regional water atlas.

DWR believes that implementing this Strategic Plan will help California endure future droughts, floods and other natural disasters in a more resilient way. Where DWR has the authority and resources to do so, and in conjunction with the California Water Plan process, it is already working on some of the strategies and plans to update and develop needed programs to implement key actions.

Join us for a Water Summit: Building Capacity for Regional Sustainability in California - April 12, 2017

DWR and the Water Education Foundation are hosting a water summit on April 12 in Sacramento focused on the plans and actions required to achieve regional sustainability. The target audience is regional stakeholders. The summit will feature practical case studies from stakeholders on IRWM, groundwater and flood management, and water use efficiency, as well as a tools pavilion where state agencies will showcase tools and resources available to assist regional stakeholders and how to access/use them. Stay tuned for more details.

OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM NO. 2017.2

DATE: January 26, 2017
TO: OWOW Steering Committee
SUBJECT: Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program Update
PREPARED BY: Mike Antos, Ph.D., Watershed Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That the OWOW Steering Committee receive an update about the Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program, and provide discussion and direction.

DISCUSSION

The Proposition 1 Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program, funded via non-competitive grants awarded by Department of Water Resources to the IRWM Funding Regions, is kicking off in the Santa Ana River Watershed the afternoon of January 26, 2017 with a team meeting.

The OWOW DACI Program Grant, submitted in November, received comments from DWR on the final workday of December. Those comments have been addressed and resubmitted to DWR on January 23, 2017. It is our expectation that approval of the submittal and work on the agreement will begin shortly.

Earlier in 2016 SAWPA requested and was provided a letter from DWR authorizing pre-award expenses, up-to \$100,000, that will be reimbursed by the grant once awarded. This allowed us to bring on-board the two CivicSpark Water Fellows whom most of you have met, and to have our project partners begin meeting with SAWPA and to conduct initial steps of their scope of work.

The grant, once awarded, will be for \$6,300,000. The work to be completed is described in the attached original grant proposal. The updated proposal was not completed in-time to be added to this meeting packet. The effort, now started, will last three years.

Attachments:

1. OWOW DACI Grant Submittal.pdf

A. Applicant

Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA)
11615 Sterling Ave. Riverside, CA 92503
www.sawpa.org
951-354-4220

The Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) serves the Santa Ana River Watershed as the approved Regional Water Management Group. Through the *ongoing* One Water One Watershed process (OWOW), SAWPA convenes a broad stakeholder collaboration that confers, creates, and conducts the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) program for the Santa Ana Funding Region. Over the past six months SAWPA planning staff has developed the Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program working with the OWOW Steering Committee, the OWOW Pillars, and the SAWPA Commission. Further, over twenty in-person meetings were conducted with agencies, community groups, elected leaders, and academic institutions about the program. In the role of RWMG, SAWPA now submits this proposal on behalf of the watershed.

SAWPA, a joint powers authority whose members are: Eastern Municipal Water District, Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Orange County Water District, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District and Western Municipal Water District, works with planners, water experts, design and construction engineers, community members and groups, as well as other government agencies to identify water management issues and innovative solutions. With guidance from the OWOW Steering Committee, SAWPA leads the region towards integrated water management to assure all communities have sustainable water resources.

B. Disadvantaged Communities Background:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency Draft 2020 Action Agenda¹ holds the following Vision:

By 2020, we envision an EPA that integrates environmental justice into everything we do, cultivates strong partnerships to improve on-the-ground results, and charts a path forward for achieving better environmental outcomes and reducing disparities in the nation's most overburdened communities. Achieving this vision will help to make our vulnerable, environmentally burdened, and economically disadvantaged communities healthier, cleaner, and more sustainable places in which to live, work, play and learn.

SAWPA, on behalf of the OWOW Steering Committee, the hundreds of active stakeholders, and the millions of watershed community members, asserts that the principles of this vision are soundly part of the One Water One Watershed 2.0 Plan (OWOW Plan, OWOW 2.0, Plan). Pursuit of integrated water

¹ https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-05/documents/052216_ej_2020_strategic_plan_final_0.pdf

management that equitably and effectively benefits the members of all communities in the watershed is fundamental to the work of the OWOW process.

OWOW is the plan, the collaborative effort, and the philosophy in the Santa Ana Funding Region. Governed by a Steering Committee of eleven leaders (**Error! Reference source not found.**) from across the watershed, and the SAWPA Commission, the planning effort has included hundreds of participants in plan development, conferences, workshops, project development, and implementation. The OWOW 2.0 Plan includes contributions of stakeholders who have taken part in brainstorming, goal-setting, and the actual writing of the plan. OWOW has focused on economically disadvantaged and overburdened communities in each planning effort.

In the first One Water One Watershed Plan (2010), topical workgroups called “Pillars” formed to craft sections of the report. A chapter on Environmental Justice highlighted the economic and water-related challenges of the rapidly growing communities of the watershed. In the OWOW 2.0 Plan, the Pillar was renamed “Disadvantaged

OWOW Steering Committee Member	Association
Shawn Nelson	Orange County Supervisors Representative
Marion Ashley	Riverside County Supervisors Representative
Curt Hagman	San Bernardino County Supervisors Representative
Beth Krom	Mayor of Irvine (Orange County)
Ron Loveridge	Emeritus Mayor of Riverside (Riverside County)
Jon Harrison	Mayor of Redlands (San Bernardino County)
Ron Sullivan	SAWPA Commission Representative
Thomas Evans	SAWPA Commission Representative
Jim Hessler	Business Community member (Altman Plants)
Garry Brown	Environmental Community member (OC Coast Keeper)
Linda Ackerman	Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board

Table 1 - OWOW Steering Committee

Communities / Tribal Pillar”, and benefitted from US Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation support. OWOW 2.0 pursued additional community engagement, and developed a best-practices tool to support engagement with members of disadvantaged communities, and with sovereign tribal governments. Throughout the multiple funding rounds to-date, eleven projects were funded via OWOW that directly benefit members of disadvantaged communities in the watershed. That said, the density, diversity, and distribution of communities across the watershed (see maps, beginning on page 6) suggests that almost all work undertaken to make water resources management more sustainable indirectly benefits all communities in the watershed.

KNOWN WATER MANAGEMENT NEEDS

The Santa Ana River Watershed presents many challenges to effective engagement between communities and integrated water management. Of the six million diverse residents (Table 2) of the watershed, about 28%² reside in census tracts considered by California policy to be “disadvantaged”. For these 1.7 million residents, the economic and environmental burdens are similarly diverse. These census tracts are found throughout the watershed, within both dense urban communities (e.g.,

² Calculated from 2010 Census data

Anaheim, Santa Ana, or Garden Grove) and within small rural or mountain communities (e.g., Enchanted Heights, Quail Valley, or Big Bear Valley). Across the watershed, 69% of the cities and unincorporated county communities have census tracts considered disadvantaged. This suggests two things. First, it means that effective engagement strategies must be adopted throughout the region, not just in cases where specific communities are involved. Second, it means that the linkage between community need and beneficial projects is widespread, as regional and local projects will undoubtedly accrue benefits to nearby overburdened community members.

	Total	White	Black	Native American	Asian	Pacific Islander	Mixed	Other	Ethnically Hispanic*
Population of the Watershed	5,998,188	3,656,735	299,098	39,730	822,593	20,135	237,781	922,116	2,678,481
% Total Pop.		60.96%	4.99%	0.66%	13.71%	0.34%	3.96%	15.37%	44.65%
Pop. in Disadvantaged Census Tracts	1,700,222	977,089	101,335	15,281	144,849	5,395	57,578	398,695	1,060,245
% Pop. in Disadvantaged Tracts		57.47%	5.96%	0.90%	8.52%	0.32%	3.39%	23.45%	62.36%
<i>* The US Census Bureau has changed how Hispanics are classified in the data, and therefore are not included in the total population statistic, rather, the Ethnically Hispanic counts are distributed amongst the other categories.</i>									

Table 2 - Demographic Statistics for Santa Ana River Watershed

The watershed is home to a small area of sovereign tribal land (about 15 square miles), some of which qualifies as disadvantaged according to the DWR Disadvantaged Communities Mapping Tool. Additional tribal land is adjacent to the east and south, and currently not covered by an IRWM Regional Water Management Group. Significant tribal consultation has occurred within the OWOW process, and here will be continued and improved.

A competent and complex network of retail water agencies, municipal city departments, private companies, special districts, county authorities and the US Army Corps of Engineers Water manage resources in the region. For many community members, the most direct link between water and their wellbeing is drinking water and sanitation. In the near future, however, the need for investment in stormwater quality management will join in this topmost tier. Directly, yet out-of-view for most communities, flood risk management provides both safety and a local water supply. Indirectly, the management of developed and undeveloped open space provides physical and mental health benefits and vital ecosystem processes.

In past efforts, OWOW identified general water management needs within the disadvantaged communities of the watershed, as well as specific needs in some individual communities. Generally, disadvantaged communities in the watershed cannot afford to invest in the infrastructure or maintenance necessary to meet or sustain their water needs, highlighted in the OWOW 2.0 Plan as the largest challenge. Other broad water management needs in the watershed include climate impacts on water supplies, legacy groundwater and local stormwater pollution, increased water demand through growth, and inadequate or limited understanding between water managers and community members.

Many of the middle- and upper-watershed disadvantaged communities have septic system challenges, where the cost of upgrading is unaffordable but the age of septic systems and population growth are resulting in unhealthful pollution. The economies of scale that often allow septic-to-sewer transitions do not exist for many of the rural communities with these challenges. Some communities have engaged and been supported by the IRWM program, and are improving. An example is Quail Valley where, through the leadership of Eastern Municipal Water District, a focused septic system improvement project is underway, with an initial phase submitted and funded through the IRWM program.

Many smaller water management agencies do not have the in-house expertise or capacity to apply for grants to help make positive change possible, or to achieve effective long-term planning for capital improvement and investment. In particular, there are a number of mutual water companies, often surrounded by larger water districts, which need assistance responding to infrastructure degradation, climate change, regulatory changes, and growth.

EXISTING STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS NEEDS

Throughout the years, the OWOW planning process ensured that the needs of disadvantaged communities were present in the plan and in the proposed implementation projects. A self-selected group of stakeholders and agency representatives, gathered in the Disadvantaged Community / Tribal Pillar, carried out this work.

OWOW 2.0 developed a best-practices guide for engagement with members of disadvantaged communities. It includes recommendations about selecting the correct outreach method for particular communities, assuring translation services are available, and the value of multiple communication pathways to assure all community members are reached. This tool will be updated and strengthened during the Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program.

LEVELS OF INVOLVEMENT

Below is provided a description of how members of disadvantaged communities have been involved and engaged in the development and preparation of the OWOW 2.0 Plan, and how these engagements will be sustained during the OWOW Plan Update 2018 project and the Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program. In the nine months preceding this grant submittal, meetings of the OWOW Pillars, OWOW Steering Committee, and SAWPA Commission have considered the scope of work for the Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program. That Program's draft scope of work includes the application and improvement of engagement strategies previously developed in OWOW Plan 2.0. Further, a SAWPA watershed manager conducted over twenty meetings throughout the watershed with specific stakeholders who serve, live or work within overburdened communities. These meetings have drawn new participants into the OWOW process, and strengthened the proposed scope of work for the Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program.

OWOW 1.0 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PILLAR

As part of the first OWOW process, an Environmental Justice Pillar worked to identify disadvantaged communities throughout the watershed by conducting meetings with the California Department of Public Health and the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board. Once a disadvantaged community was identified, meetings with local public agencies helped gain detailed knowledge about the unique characteristics of each community. Meetings with the residents of these communities also helped gather an understanding of their water quality and supply concerns.

OWOW 2.0 DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY AND TRIBAL PILLAR

For the OWOW 2.0 Plan update, SAWPA received a cost-sharing agreement with US Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) to pursue additional outreach to specific communities in the watershed. Consultants and other OWOW participants identified thirty-two communities and engaged directly with twelve at the agency, municipality and community level.

MAPS

Four maps follow, depicting census tracts that qualify as disadvantaged communities or economically distressed areas, and sovereign tribal lands. Because the communities of the watershed are so diverse and distributed, and most of the watershed has local governments and water agencies that in-part serve overburdened communities, the scale of the program will be watershed-wide, and inclusive of sovereign tribal land that straddles the watershed boundary.

One of the first tasks of the Strengths and Needs Assessment, described below, will be to revisit the technique of identifying community boundaries, allowing for more sophistication than census tracts allow. This effort will set the boundaries of further work of the program.

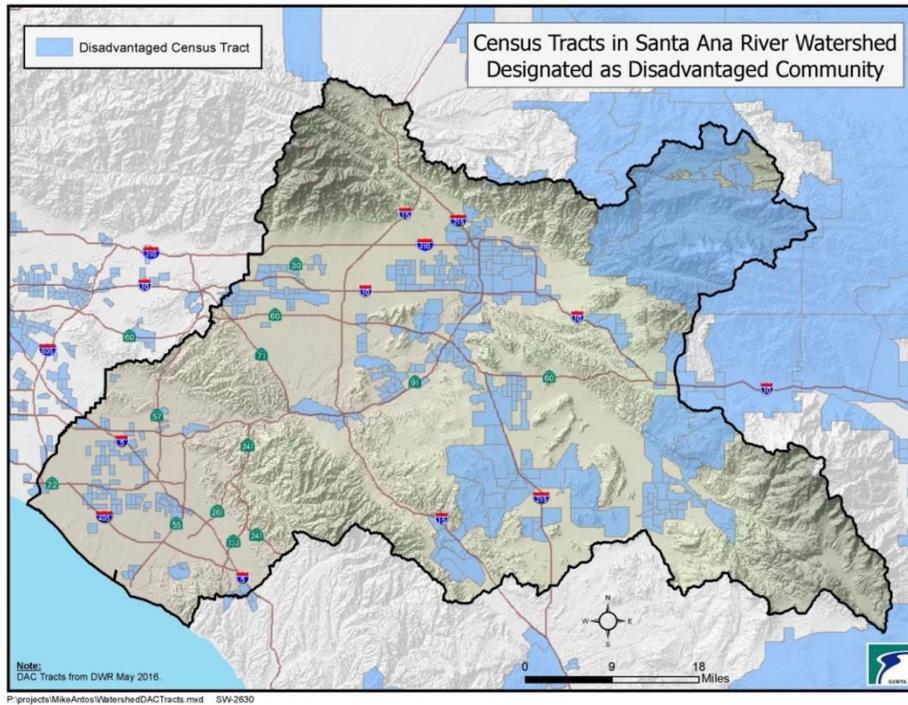


Figure 1 - Disadvantaged Community Census Tracts

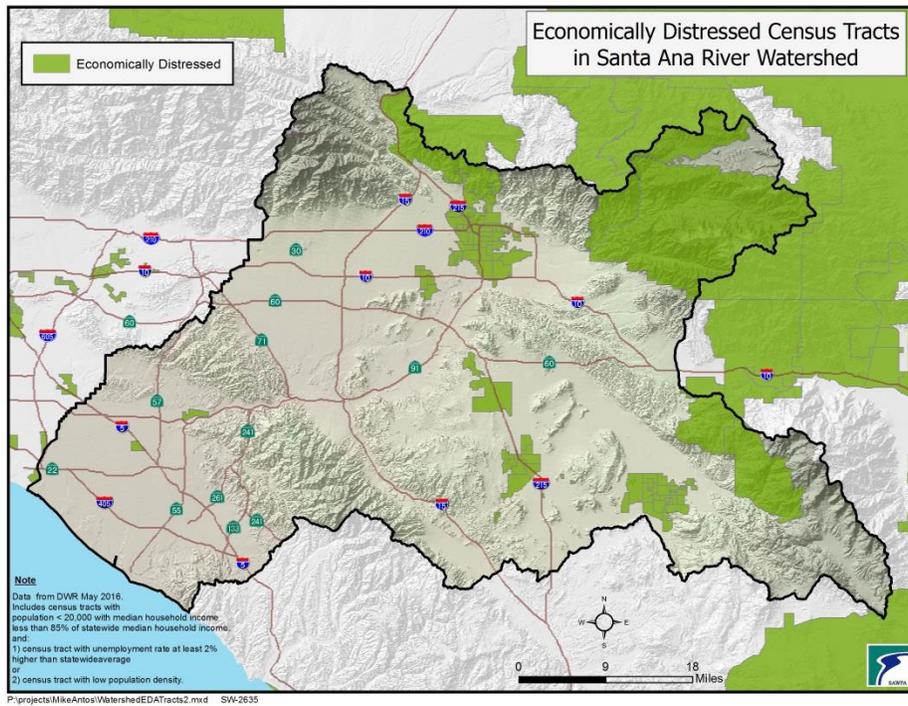


Figure 2 - Economically Distressed Area Census Tracts

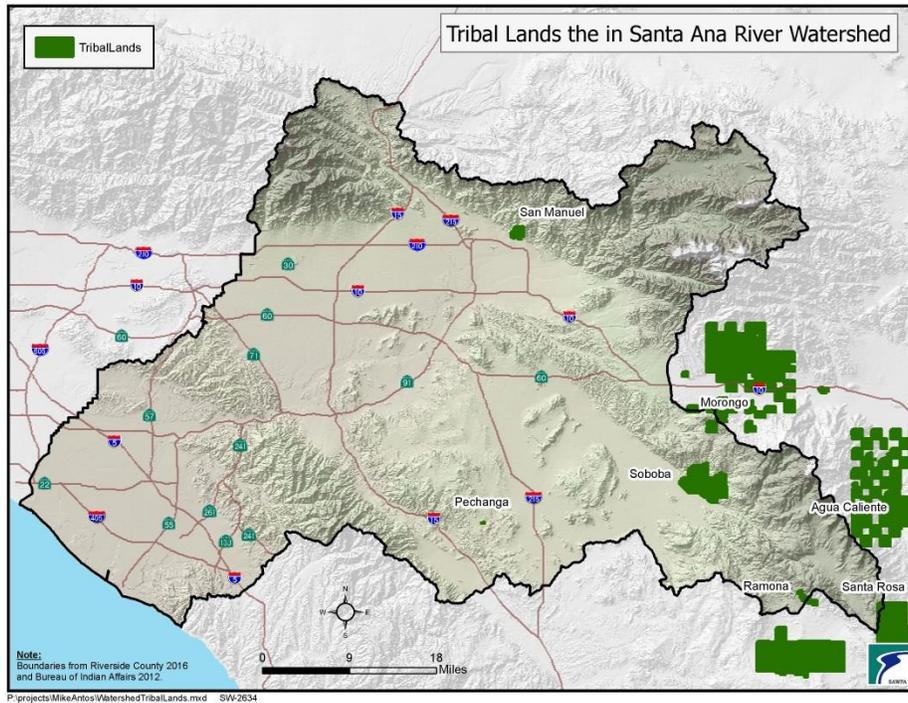


Figure 3 - Sovereign Tribal Lands

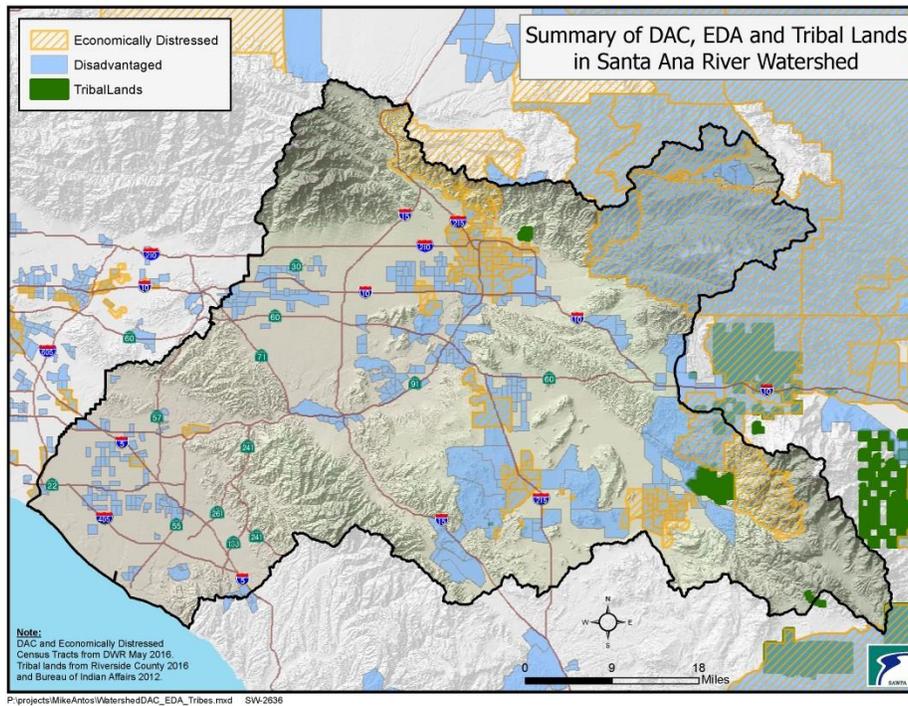


Figure 4 - Summary Map

APPROACH FOR ENGAGING UNDERREPRESENTED COMMUNITIES

For the Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program (DACI Program) in the Santa Ana River Watershed, at least two different communities will be included using the “underrepresented community” framework: sovereign tribal communities, and people who are homeless. We hold out the possibility that during the Strengths and Needs Assessment other underrepresented communities become visible, which will then be incorporated into the program.

SOVEREIGN TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

In previous OWOW planning work the US Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation led the development of an insightful report, through a conferral process, about the needs of the tribal communities in and near the Santa Ana River. The resulting appendix of the OWOW 2.0 Plan describes the best-practices of conferring with sovereign tribal governments. Following these ideas and with proposed assistance from the DWR Tribal Policy Advisor, the DACI Program Team will again confer with tribal communities about their water management strengths and needs, and invite them to contribute to the OWOW Plan Update 2018 process, inclusive of both engagement topics and the other governance, climate and water quality changes driven by the 2016 IRWM Plan Standards.

HOMELESSNESS

Homelessness is a human tragedy impacting far too many people of the Santa Ana River Watershed. Data does not exist at the watershed boundary, however it can be estimated that there are roughly 7,000 homeless people within the watershed.^{3 4 5} While writing this proposal no references considering the linkages between homelessness and integrated water management could be found. Further, conceptually within natural resources management, people who are homeless are rarely considered a “community” unto themselves. It is our proposal to conduct a symposium to initiate a conversation

Santa Ana River Watershed County	Estimate no. of homeless persons
Orange	3,800
Riverside	2,100
San Bernardino	1,100
<i>Total:</i>	<i>7,000</i>

Table 3 - Homeless People in Watershed

between those who specialize in homelessness and the water management community. The symposium will produce a next steps report that considers what role the water management sector can play in mitigating homelessness, or how the water management sector can compassionately engage with people who are homeless to meet their needs while also mitigating impacts people who are homeless may have on water resources.

³ Schatz, Megan; Tracy Bennett; Genevieve Heidenreich; and Katharine Gale. Orange County Homeless Count & Survey Report. Rep. County of Orange California, July 2015. Web. 23 Aug. 2016.

⁴ Henry, Meghan; Azim Shivji; Tanya De Sousa; and Rebecca Cohen. The 2015 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress. Rep. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Nov. 2015. Web. 23 Aug. 2016.

⁵ Colletti, Joe; Sofia Herrera; Joshua Tan; and Thelma Herrera. San Bernardino County 2015 Homeless Count and Subpopulation Survey: Final Report. Rep. San Bernardino County, 2015. Web. 23 Aug. 2016.

One example of how this work is topical and necessary comes from the ongoing Middle Santa Ana River Bacterial TMDL Task Force administered by SAWPA. A data analysis report from the TMDL Task Force includes work by University of California Davis which suggests bacteroides samples of the stream show exceedances of water quality objectives, and that source analysis suggests human fecal contamination downstream of known encampments of homeless people⁶.

This water quality challenge is embedded in a much more complex social challenge, and pursuing a water quality improvement disconnected from the larger challenge might, at best, fail, and at worst, exacerbate the challenges faced by people who are homeless.

C. Activity Descriptions:

This proposed Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program is supported by the strong foundation of knowledge and outreach developed throughout earlier OWOW planning efforts. The scope of work, detailed below, will 1) explore the **strengths and needs** of overburdened communities in the watershed, 2) through **engagement and education**, uncover and share the needs and capacities within the water agencies and communities, and 3) assure integrated water management **projects that are supported by communities** are made ready for implementation and prioritized in the OWOW Plan Update 2018.

The program team will collaborate on all program elements. Described below are three Program Elements with proposed activities, lead partners, and the expected deliverables.

1. STRENGTHS & NEEDS ASSESSMENT PROGRAM ELEMENT

OUTCOMES OF THIS PROGRAM ELEMENT

The combined activities of this program element will produce several outcomes. First and foremost, building on earlier work, participants in the OWOW process, and the OWOW Plan Update 2018, will achieve a better understanding of the water management needs of overburdened and underrepresented communities so that resources and funding can be more effectively directed to meet those needs. Second, this program element will acknowledge and document the strengths of overburdened and underrepresented communities so that as programs are developed to meet their needs the communities will have agency and be appropriately engaged in those efforts. Lastly, this program element will, through its assessment process, create new networks of familiarity between local elected or community leaders and water management leaders.

A summary report will be co-written by the project partners that provides the conclusions of the Strengths & Needs Assessment.

⁶ Gardiner, Nancy E. "Winter 2009-10 Results of Middle Santa Ana River Pathogen TMDL Agricultural Source Evaluation Plan Monitoring." Letter to Ms. Pat Boldt. 9 Mar. 2010. SAWPA. Brown and Caldwell, Feb. 2015. Web. 23 Aug. 2016.

ACTIVITY TITLE: DACI TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Activity Categories: *Engagement in IRWM Efforts*

Description: The DACI Technical Advisory Committee will include a representative from each of the program partners and the Disadvantaged Community and Tribal Pillar Chair, and will recruit other members from overburdened communities in the watershed. This group will meet regularly (at least quarterly, but on a schedule developed by the Committee) to advise the DACI program efforts, and will assist developing community connections.

Deliverables: Roster of TAC members, Notice of meetings

ACTIVITY TITLE: DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY / TRIBAL PILLAR

Activity Categories: *Education, Facilitation*

Description: SAWPA will assist the Pillar to convene for workshops approximately five times per year (every other month, minus year-end). These workshops will provide opportunities to learn and consider relevant topics, including issues of homelessness. The Pillar group, through conversation and deliberation, will develop the OWOW Plan Update 2018 chapter about overburdened and underrepresented communities.

Deliverables: Notice of meetings, OWOW Plan Update 2018 Chapter

ACTIVITY TITLE: ENGAGE LOCAL ELECTED LEADERS

Activity Categories: *Community Outreach, Needs Assessment, Enhancement of DAC aspects in IRWM Plans*

Description: The Local Government Commission will lead efforts to interview and/or survey local elected leaders who serve overburdened communities. This will introduce leaders to IRWM and OWOW, and gather a baseline idea of the water management needs and civic strengths of the communities they serve.

Deliverables: Summary report that compiles survey/interview results from at least 20 elected leaders.

ACTIVITY TITLE: ENGAGE MUTUAL WATER COMPANIES

Activity Categories: *Needs Assessments, Community Outreach, Engagement in IRWM Efforts, Enhancement of DAC aspects in IRWM plans, Technical Assistance*

Description: The California Rural Water Association will engage with mutual water companies throughout the watershed to learn about the strengths and needs of these organizations.

Deliverables: Report about each mutual water company water issues and needs, Summary report of regional trends

ACTIVITY TITLE: ENGAGE WATER AGENCIES

Activity Categories: *Needs Assessments, Community Outreach, Engagement in IRWM Efforts, Enhancement of DAC aspects in IRWM plans, Technical Assistance*

Description: SAWPA staff will engage with water agencies throughout the watershed to gather and summarize the understanding of strengths and needs of disadvantaged and underrepresented communities within their water service areas.

Deliverables: Summary report of responses

ACTIVITY TITLE: COMMUNITY LISTENING WORKSHOPS

Activity Categories: *Needs Assessments, Community Outreach, Engagement in IRWM Efforts, Enhancement of DAC aspects in IRWM plans*

Description: The California State University Disadvantaged Community Center (CSU DACC) will conduct community workshops throughout the watershed, during which community members will share their understanding of the water-related strengths and needs of their community.

Deliverables: Workshop notices, Workshop materials, Community input information in *Community Water Ethnography of the Santa Ana River Watershed*

ACTIVITY TITLE: COMMUNITY WATER ETHNOGRAPHY OF THE SANTA ANA RIVER WATERSHED

Activity Categories: *Needs Assessments, Community Outreach, Enhancement of DAC aspects in IRWM plans*

Description: CSU DACC will lead the writing of the *Community Water Ethnography⁷ of the Santa Ana River Watershed*, a report about social, cultural and water-related strengths and needs of the overburdened and underrepresented communities in the watershed. This report

⁷ In this context, "ethnography" is the customs and knowledge of individuals and communities.

will reveal all that was learned in the Strengths & Needs Assessment Program Element, and become the foundation for the Engagement & Education Program Element.

Deliverables: *Community Water Ethnography of the Santa Ana River Watershed* Report to include: spatial description of “communities” (beyond Census Tracts), community water management provider roster (who serves each community), demographic data and trends, required data needs as described by “Needs Assessment Template” in the DACI Program Guidelines.

ACTIVITY TITLE: HOMELESSNESS & WATER CONVENING

Activity Categories: *Needs Assessments, Community Outreach, Enhancement of DAC aspects in IRWM plans*

Description: SAWPA staff and program partners will convene a one-day event to reveal synergies and develop new partnerships between those seeking to manage homelessness in the watershed and those engaged with water management. These relationships do not currently exist in an extensive way. In this context, the homeless people of the watershed are considered an underrepresented community.

Deliverables: Notice of meetings, Pictures of event, Summary report of conclusions and next steps

2. ENGAGEMENT / EDUCATION

OUTCOMES OF THIS PROGRAM ELEMENT

This program element contains activities that will accomplish multiple long-term outcomes for the region. It will provide community members a better understanding of water management and water managers enriched understanding of community strengths and needs. Further, by facilitating engagement of students, and by hosting events that convene broad groups of stakeholders and community members, participation with the OWOW process will be strengthened. Lastly, by engaging and educating elected representatives from overburdened or underrepresented communities, this effort will create lasting relationships that ensure equitable representation in watershed decision-making.

ACTIVITY TITLE: TRIBAL CONSULTATION

Activity Categories: *Needs Assessment, Community Outreach, Governance Structure*

Description: Building upon past consultation efforts, the Disadvantaged Community / Tribal Pillar Chair, in partnership with SAWPA staff, Cal Rural staff and CSU DACC personnel will

confer with the sovereign tribal communities within the Santa Ana Watershed and the adjacent areas not served by a Regional Water Management Group. Invitations to participate will be made to tribal groups not currently recognized by federal and state governments.

Deliverables: Tribal government representation in OWOW process, Tribal water management needs in OWOW Plan Update 2018

ACTIVITY TITLE: VALUE OF WATER / TAP WATER TRUST

Activity Categories: *Community Outreach, Education*

Description: This activity will seek to share the value and safety of tap water within the communities of the watershed. In the vast majority of the communities tap water is clean and affordable, yet many new immigrant communities, for many reasons, do not trust the tap water is safe to drink. There are negative economic and health outcomes from reliance on bottled water that for the Santa Ana watershed can be overcome with a respectful, multi-lingual and compassionate outreach campaign. SAWPA will expand existing information campaign programs or initiate new ones through an RFP process.

Deliverables: RFP and scoping documents, Copies of outreach campaign materials, Roster of participating agencies, Map of watershed regions where campaign is carried out

ACTIVITY TITLE: TRANSLATION SERVICES

Activity Categories: *Education, Technical Assistance*

Description: SAWPA will issue an RFQ for translation services to produce an on-call list of in-person meeting and written material translation consultants. SAWPA will issue an RFP for local entities to access the on-call consultants for translation services on activities related to community engagement for water management.

Deliverables: RFQ/P documents, Copies of translated written material, Notice and list of translated public events, Pictures from translated public events

ACTIVITY TITLE: ENGAGEMENT BEST PRACTICES PUBLICATIONS

Activity Categories: *Community Outreach, Education*

Description: The Water Education Foundation will research and produce a printed publication that will take a broad look at the engagement of DACs with water management, with case studies from around the state, including the SAWPA

region. This publication will be distributed throughout the State in support of stronger engagement between communities and integrated water resources management.

The Water Education Foundation will research and produce an online publication that will summarize some of the specific findings and outcomes from the region discovered through the work completed in the three-year grant period.

Deliverables: Engagement Best-Practices publication (printed), Related web content

ACTIVITY TITLE: STATE OF THE SANTA ANA WATERSHED CONFERENCES

Activity Categories: *Needs Assessments, Education, Engagement in IRWM Efforts, Enhancement of DAC aspects of IRWM plans, Project Development Activities*

Description: The Water Education Foundation, in partnership with SAWPA, will develop and execute two conferences in the Spring of '17 and again in Fall of '18 or Spring of '19. Both events will model previously successful OWOW conference events in the Santa Ana River Watershed, and will in-part focus on the water management needs of communities, and the transition to implementation phases, respectively. The DACI grant will support multiple cost-free registrations at each conference for community members or their trusted representatives. It will also support the cost of several exhibitor slots for non-profits with community engagement missions so they can participate in the conversation. Other costs associated with the conferences will be separately funded.

Deliverables: Notice of conferences, Copies of conference materials related to the DACI Program, Roster of grant-supported registrants and exhibitors

ACTIVITY TITLE: COMMUNITY WATER EDUCATION

Activity Categories: *Education, Community Outreach, Facilitation*

Description: The CSU DACC will design and host nine community water education events, distributed appropriately to serve local communities throughout the watershed. These events will provide learning opportunities for community members on how to engage with the water management process in the watershed.

Deliverables: Notice of events, Event pictures, Copies of event-specific materials

ACTIVITY TITLE: WATER AGENCY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TRAINING

Activity Categories: *Education*

Description: Using information garnered during the Strengths & Needs Assessment, the CSU DACC will partner with SAWPA to provide nine trainings to water agencies staff in the watershed. This training will include engagement skills and specific knowledge about communities served by the participating water agencies.

Deliverables: Notice of events, Roster of participating agencies, Copies of event-specific materials

ACTIVITY TITLE: LOCAL ELECTED LEADER TRAINING

Activity Categories: *Education, Engagement in IRWM Efforts, Governance Structure*

Description: The Local Government Commission will develop and execute nine trainings for local elected leaders and their staff in the watershed. These training sessions will relay the findings of the Strengths & Needs Assessment program element, basic information on water management topics, and best practices for helping the communities they serve interact with water planning.

Deliverables: Notice of training events, Copies of event-specific materials, Roster of participants

ACTIVITY TITLE: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT INTERNS PROGRAM

Activity Categories: *Education, Engagement in IRWM Efforts*

Description: This program will support water-related overburdened community engagement internships for students from the CSU, UC and community college campuses of the watershed. The program, administered by the CSU DACC, will seek applications from public agencies and environmental or social justice NGOs for the services of pairs of interns to assist with community engagement or public affairs work related to disadvantaged communities, economically distressed areas, or underrepresented communities.

The application process will include a detailed description from each applicant about the specific tasks they will assign to the interns. Each organization will request the services of two interns from CSU to assist with community engagement, public affairs or community education activities. For example, community engagement may include capacity building for the community, educational campaigns, or trainings. Public affairs may include marketing of community programs and events. Community education

activities may include preparing community members to participate effectively in water planning to the benefit of their communities.

The intern program will model an existing program and capacity of CSU, funded by the US Department of Agriculture. Interns will be selected from the CSU campuses (San Bernardino and Fullerton), the UC campuses (Riverside and Irvine), and the many community colleges in the Santa Ana River watershed. Efforts will be made to recruit interns who are themselves from the watershed overburdened communities.

Upon selection and completion of an intern orientation, the internship provides for 300 graduate student internship hours or 350 undergraduate student internship hours to support grant activities. Interns will be mentored by CivicSpark Water Fellows, (see page 17) and supervised in their internship duties by their home institution. The intern human resources, payroll and other administrative supervision are housed at the CSU. In addition to their paid hours, interns will each have a \$500 supply/travel budget.

Half-way through the internships, the intern will produce an interim activity report. Upon completion of the paid internship, the student will develop a final activity report. The final reports are posted on-line as a part of the CSU Library special collection. The cohort of interns will be mentored by CivicSpark Water Fellows, housed at SAWPA, for trainings and networking meetings, related to IRWM community engagement efforts.

This activity provides multiple types of capacity building in the watershed: by supporting students, supporting organizations, and by creating new sustainable and contiguous networks of familiarity between organizations, and between communities and the water organizations.

Deliverables: Copies of applications from selected agencies and NGOs that express interest in intern services to support community members, Roster of participating interns (20 interns per year estimated), Logs of all intern hours served and activities, Interim and final reports of interns

3. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

OUTCOMES OF THIS PROGRAM ELEMENT

This third program element contains activities that, once complete, will provide important and needed changes to the IRWM Plan for the Santa Ana Funding Region, will support the next steps of existing IRWM projects that benefit overburdened communities, and daylight and develop new water project concepts that meet the stated needs of community members. These outcomes will represent a

strengthened understanding by the RWMG of community needs, and ensure that future implementation/construction funding and activities are directed to meeting the needs identified by members of overburdened communities.

ACTIVITY TITLE: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR COMMUNITY NEEDS

Activities Categories: *Technical Assistance, Project Development Activities or Construction*

Description: During engagement efforts the program team will learn of projects, plans and programs. Some will be items already known to the OWOW process, while others may be entirely new challenges or opportunities. Following evaluation of these projects, plans and programs, an appropriate set will receive Technical Assistance (TA) in preparation for future IRWM and other funding opportunities. This effort may also link to the State Board Technical Assistance Program, via the CSU DACC and Cal Rural Water Association which are both statewide TA providers.

Deliverables: List of projects, plans and programs uncovered during engagement, project ranking criteria, ranked projects, TA products (specific to selected concepts), Referrals to State Board TA Program

ACTIVITY TITLE: OWOW PLAN UPDATE 2018

Activity Categories: *Engagement in IRWM efforts, Enhancement of DAC aspects in IRWM plans*

Description: With close advisement from the DACI TAC, and in support of the Disadvantaged Community / Tribal Pillar, SAWPA staff will contribute to the OWOW Plan Update 2018. This effort will reach beyond simple compliance with the 2016 IRWM Standards. During this update process, the combined learning and discovery of the DACI program will be incorporated in the OWOW Plan, including an update to Subchapter 5.13 *DAC / Tribal Communities*, and a general update throughout in reference to community engagement best practices, maps and other related materials. The *Community Water Ethnography of the Santa Ana River Watershed* will be appended to the OWOW Plan Update 2018.

Deliverables: Draft OWOW Plan Update 2018, Final OWOW Plan Update 2018

ACTIVITY TITLE: CIVICSPARK WATER FELLOWS

Activity Categories: *Education, Engagement in IRWM Efforts*

Description: Through a contract relationship with Local Government Commission, SAWPA will host two CivicSpark Water Action Fellows each of the three years of the program. The Fellows will support program implementation at SAWPA, completing components of

each of the Program Elements. Among their duties, the Fellows will support the CSU interns with in-service training, mentorship, coordination, and cohort-building.

Deliverables: Roster of CivicSpark Water Fellows, Logs of volunteer activities (maintained by Fellows), Volunteer engagement plan, Training agendas developed by Fellows, Gap Assessment completed by Fellows at start of service.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

As described above, the DACI Program in the Santa Ana River Watershed aims for broad outcomes. The arc of the program includes three program elements, each of which links and relies on the others.

The **Strengths and Needs Assessment** program element will gather a broad understanding of strengths and needs of watershed communities and ensure that the insights of community members are honored. The activities of this effort focus on listening and learning.

The **Engagement / Education** program element will build a bridge of familiarity between water stakeholders and community members. Water managers and interested partners will learn about the communities of the watershed and the strengths and needs of those communities. The communities will learn about the water management process and how their participation can bring needed change to their communities. And, through facilitated events where learning, networking and engagement are core principles, the social fabric of the watershed will be strengthened to benefit water governance and community resilience.

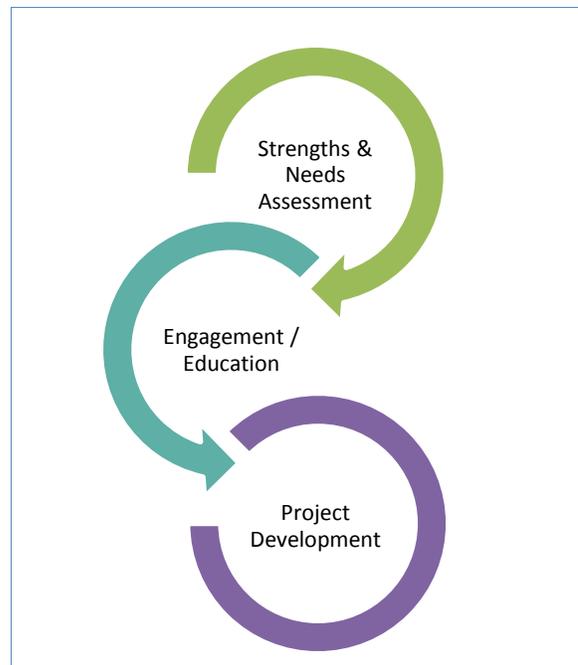


Figure 5 - Program Element Flow

The **Project Development** program element will ensure that solutions to previously documented needs are being advanced, and that newly discovered needs have solutions identified and given every opportunity to achieve future implementation funding. This effort will provide the summation of the work of the DACI Program to the **OWOW Plan Update 2018**. Documenting the findings, lessons learned, and next steps of the DACI Program, the region will have a road-map to successfully staying engaged and continuing to meet the needs of the members of overburdened and underrepresented communities.

Table 4 below links the RFP Table 3 to the proposed efforts, and the expected outcomes sought by the State and by the Santa Ana River Watershed communities.

Program Element	Table 3 Activities	Expected Outcomes
Strengths & Needs Assessment	Needs Assessments, Community Outreach, Engagement in IRWM Efforts, Governance Structure, Enhancement of DAC aspects of IRWM plans	Better understanding of water needs, better allocation of resources, increased participation in IRWM planning and project development, increased community role in RWMG decisions, ensured participation regardless of financial contributions, plan changes that result in support and understanding of DAC needs.
Engagement and Education	Education, Community Outreach, Engagement in IRWM Efforts, Facilitation, Technical Assistance, Enhancement of DAC aspects of IRWM plans, Project Development	Better understanding by community members and RWMG members of water needs, increased participation in IRWM planning and project development, overcome obstacles in communication needs, assistance for community staff to support local decision-making, changes in IRWM Plan that supports DAC needs, project development for future implementation.
Project Development	Engagement in IRWM efforts, Technical Assistance, Enhancement of DAC aspects of IRWM plans, Project Development	Increased roles for members of DACs in planning and project development, assistance to communities to support local decisions, knowledge and skills, plan updates that support DAC needs, project development for current and future implementation.

Table 4 - Links from Program Elements to Activities to Outcomes

D. Statement of Qualifications:

SANTA ANA WATERSHED PROJECT AUTHORITY

SAWPA is the approved Regional Water Management Group of the Santa Ana Funding Region, and home of the **One Water One Watershed 2.0** Integrated Regional Water Management Plan. SAWPA administers the OWOW Steering Committee and convenes the OWOW Pillars. SAWPA will administer the grant, execute aspects of program implementation, and coordinate the program partners' work.

Key Staff:

CELESTE CANTÚ, GENERAL MANAGER

Joining SAWPA in December 2006, Celeste Cantú has brought significant experience in the water field to SAWPA having served as the Executive Director of the State Water Resources Control Board in Sacramento. Ms. Cantú received her B.A. from Yale in Urban Planning and Policy and a M.P.A. from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

MARK NORTON, P.E. LEED AP - WATER RESOURCES & PLANNING MANAGER

Mark Norton's background includes over 34 years of engineering and planning experience in a range of water resource projects; 25 years with SAWPA. He is the department manager of water resources and planning and the administrator for the Lake Elsinore & San Jacinto Watersheds Authority. Mr. Norton received his bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from University of Colorado and an M.P.A from Brigham Young University.

MIKE ANTOS, PH.D. - WATERSHED MANAGER

Mike Antos will manage this program. He has played a role in the IRWM Program effort to strengthen engagement with disadvantaged communities since 2009. Mike has pursued graduate research in

transition management and collaborative governance, using integrated water management as case-study. He holds a Ph.D. in Geography from UCLA, and is a fellow of the Robert & Patricia Switzer Foundation.

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, WATER RESEARCH AND POLICY INITIATIVES, DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY CENTER

The California State University Disadvantaged Communities Center (CSU DACC) provides multidisciplinary technical assistance (TA) and capacity building to the most critically underserved communities while providing high-impact learning experiences for students. These benefits are derived from the four pillars used to form the DACC, which are: partnerships, student internships, long-term community engagement, and observations and measurements. The DACC has dedicated professional staff providing TA and oversight directly to disadvantaged communities while also training the next generation of water leaders from these communities by hiring multidisciplinary student interns from the CSU, California Community Colleges (CCC), and the University of California (UC) systems.

Key Staff:

BOYKIN WITHERSPOON III - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE CSU WATER RESOURCES AND POLICY INITIATIVES

Mr. Witherspoon's experience includes all aspects of management for the Water Research and Policy Initiative (WRPI), including budgeting, staffing, and scheduling. He manages multiple consortiums of California State University campuses, consisting of multidisciplinary teams of economist, policy experts, engineers, scientists, and social science professionals.

KARL LONGLEY - SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE CSU DACC

Dr. Longley is Emeritus professor and Dean of Engineering, and founding director of the California Water Institute at California State University, Fresno and Chair of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

ROGER SHINTAKU - DACC DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING

Mr. Shintaku is a licensed engineer with over 40 years of experience working on water issues in California. He has previously served as Assistant General Manager of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority and the Executive Director of the Salton Sea Authority.

DAWN MACY - DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR INTERNSHIPS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, CSU FULLERTON

Ms. Macy directs the Center for Internships and Community Engagement, which creates cooperative linkages between higher education, community organizations, and professional offices and strives to create high-quality community-based experiences that benefit students, partner sites, and communities.

The Office is committed to fulfilling the mission of the University to create “...experiences in and out of the classroom, [so that] students develop the habit of intellectual inquiry, prepare for challenging professions strengthen relationships to their communities, and contribute productively to society.”

MARIA MEHRANIAN - MANAGING PARTNER AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, CORDOBA CORPORATION

Ms. Mehranian oversees water and energy projects, including development of renewable energy infrastructure and creation of renewable water resources strategies. She is responsible for strategic financial planning, including capital financing, cash flow operations, profit/loss responsibilities, and project delivery.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION

Local Government Commission is a nonprofit organization fostering innovation in environmental sustainability, economic prosperity and social equity. The LGC is helping to transform communities through inspiration, practical assistance and a network of visionary local elected officials and other community leaders. Their Sacramento-based office is home to a 20-person team conducting projects state-wide. LGC project managers are uniquely talented in convening diverse groups of stakeholders to identify best practices or determine a way forward in a difficult situation. They also specialize in distilling complex information into critical points relevant to particular audiences.

Key Staff

KATE MEIS

Kate Meis is Executive Director of the Local Government Commission, and is responsible for many of LGC’s pioneering programs. She holds an M.S. in Community Development from U.C. Davis and a B.A. in Sociology from Sonoma State University.

PAUL ZYKOFSKY

Paul Zykofsky directs the Local Government Commission’s programs related to land use and transportation planning, community design, and health and the built environment. He holds a M.A. in Urban Planning and a B.A. in Architecture from City College of New York.

DANIELLE V. DOLAN

Danielle V. Dolan has been working in environmental education, engagement, and advocacy for the last 14 years, with the latter half in California water issues. She is a 2015 Water Leader, a member of the California Roundtable on Water and Food Supply, and serves on the California Water Policy Conference Planning Committee. She holds a M.S. in Community Development from UC Davis and a B.A. in Environmental Studies from Hawai’i Pacific University.

EMILY FINNEGAN

Emily Finnegan is the Project Associate for the CivicSpark: Water Action Fellowship, a Governor's Initiative AmeriCorps program that provides capacity building support for local public agencies to address water resource management challenges throughout California. She holds a B.A. in Political Science and Globalization Studies from Albany State University.

WATER EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The mission of the Water Education Foundation, an impartial, nonprofit organization, is to create a better understanding of water resources and foster public understanding and resolution of water resource issues through facilitation, education and outreach. Taking a steady pulse of the water world, the Foundation provides a vast repertoire of educational materials, products and services such as water tours, lectures, and the quarterly magazine, *Western Water*, and Project WET (Water Education for Teachers).

Key Staff:

JENNIFER BOWLES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ms. Bowles directs the development of *Western Water* magazine, the *Layperson's Guide* series, the Foundation's Colorado River program, programs on water, poster maps, tours, press briefings and school programs. She received her bachelor's degree in journalism and history from the University of Southern California, and completed the yearlong Ted Scripps Fellowship for Environmental Journalism at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

SUE MCCLURG, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ms. McClurg oversees the Foundation's grant projects and programs, and serves as the primary editor of *Western Water* magazine and the *River Report* newsletter. She also coordinates conferences and briefings, including the Foundation's biennial Colorado River Symposium. She is an award-winning journalist and is the author of the Foundation's book, *Water & the Shaping of California*, published in 2000. She received her bachelor's degree in journalism from California State University, Fresno.

SUSAN LAUER, STAFF WRITER

Ms. Lauer writes publications and special projects, develops digital publications and assists with conferences and other programs put on by the Foundation. She graduated from California State University, Chico with a bachelor's degree in psychology and honors in English.

GARY PITZER, STAFF WRITER

Mr. Pitzer writes articles for *Western Water* magazine, the *River Report* newsletter and updates titles in the *Layperson's Guide* series. He graduated from California State University, Sacramento, with a bachelor's degree in history.

CALIFORNIA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION

California Rural Water Association is a registered 501(c) (3) non-profit organization that was incorporated in 1990. CRWA is the state's leading organization dedicated to providing on-site technical assistance and specialized training for rural water and wastewater systems, focusing specifically on disadvantaged communities. CRWA is an affiliate of the National Rural Water Association, America's largest utility association, with over 31,000 members. CRWA has more than 1,100 members across California. Systems do not need to be members to receive CRWA support but receive enhanced benefits with membership. CRWA has over 40 technical specialists located throughout the state to provide on-site technical assistance.

Key Staff

DUSTIN HARDWICK - DIRECTOR OF RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Dustin has extensive experience managing federal and state programs and over 15 years in working with rural communities in the multiple areas of technical support, source water protection, drought management, and water efficiency education.

HOLLY ALPERT, PH.D., - IRWMP COORDINATOR

Holly works with IRWM regions throughout California to inform them of CRWA services and resources and to form partnerships with CRWA. She holds a BA in Environment Science from Wellesley College, and a PhD in Environmental Sciences from UC Santa Cruz.

TOM KEEGAN - TRIBAL SPECIALIST

Tom works with tribes throughout the state to bring them resources and services as needed. Tom coordinates CRWA's Tribal Program, which includes trainings, technical assistance, and a focus on drought, and access to specific tribal resources. He has nearly 30 years of experience in the water industry and seventeen years engaging with Tribal communities.

CONSULTANTS

Consultants to support the program will be selected through an open, fair, and competitive procurement process implemented by SAWPA. These consultants will provide support services to translate written material, and provide live translation at public meetings. These consultants will be on-call to SAWPA, and made available following an application process to any related water agency or community group who is conducting engagement activities with outcomes related to the DACI Program. Consultant proposals will be vetted by the DACI Technical Advisory Committee and SAWPA staff.

E. Schedule:

MILESTONES

- January 2017: Program Start
 - Strengths & Needs Assessment effort and activities begin
 - Pillar Workshops, which are ongoing, turn partial attention to DACI Program
 - DACI TAC recruitment begins
 - Water leader engagement begins
 - CivicSpark Water Fellows continues
 - Tribal Consultation begins
- February 2017: OWOW Plan Update 2018 begins
 - DACI TAC begins meetings, sets expectations and schedule
- March 2017: Engagement begin
 - Local leaders, small-system operators, water agency, and community member listening sessions
 - CSU Engagement Internships begin
- May 2017: State of the Watershed Conference 2017
- June 2017:
 - Homelessness & Water Symposium planning begins
 - Translation Services RFP released, consultant on-board
- July 2017:
 - Trust the Tap Campaign development begins
 - Implementation / Planning support sub-agreements executed for existing projects that meet community needs.
- September 2017:
 - Homelessness & Water Symposium
 - State of the Watershed Conference 2018 planning begins
- January 2018:
 - Trainings for community members, local elected officials, and water agencies begin
- March 2018:
 - Strengths & Needs Assessment complete
 - Technical Assistance for identified projects begins
- April 2018: OWOW Plan Update 2018 Complete
- June 2018:
 - Strengths & Needs Report Issued
 - State of the Watershed Conference 2018
- January 2019:
 - Trainings continue
 - Technical assistance continues

- April 2019: Engagement Best Practices Publication complete & distributed
- June 2019:
 - Trainings complete
 - Technical assistance complete
- August 2019
 - CSU Engagement Internship Program complete
- October 2019
 - Translation Consultant Work Complete
 - Grant-supported component of Trust the Tap Campaign Complete
- November 2019
 - DACI TAC Final Meeting
 - Report out to Pillar Workshop, OWOW Steering Committee, SAWPA Commission
- December 2019 – Program Complete

Task Name	Start	Finish	2017				2018				2019				2020			
			Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2			
Grant Administration	Tue 1/3/17	Tue 12/31/19	[Continuous bar from Q1 2017 to Q2 2020]															
+ DACI TAC Meetings	Wed 2/15/17	Wed 11/20/19	[Vertical tick marks in Q1 2017, Q2 2017, Q3 2017, Q4 2017, Q1 2018, Q2 2018, Q3 2018, Q4 2018, Q1 2019, Q2 2019, Q3 2019, Q4 2019, Q1 2020]															
+ Pillar Workshops	Tue 1/10/17	Tue 11/12/19	[Vertical tick marks in Q1 2017, Q2 2017, Q3 2017, Q4 2017, Q1 2018, Q2 2018, Q3 2018, Q4 2018, Q1 2019, Q2 2019, Q3 2019, Q4 2019, Q1 2020]															
- Strengths & Needs Assessment	Tue 1/3/17	Sat 6/30/18	[Bar from Q1 2017 to Q2 2018]															
Engage Local Elected Leaders	Sun 1/1/17	Thu 12/28/17	[Bar from Q1 2017 to Q4 2017]															
Engage Mutual Water Cos.	Sun 1/1/17	Thu 12/28/17	[Bar from Q1 2017 to Q4 2017]															
Engage Water Agencies	Sun 1/1/17	Thu 12/28/17	[Bar from Q1 2017 to Q4 2017]															
Community Listening Workshops	Sun 1/1/17	Thu 12/28/17	[Bar from Q1 2017 to Q4 2017]															
Community Water Ethnography	Tue 1/3/17	Thu 6/28/18	[Bar from Q1 2017 to Q2 2018]															
Homelessness & Water Convening	Thu 6/1/17	Sat 9/30/17	[Bar in Q3 2017]															
- Engagement & Education	Tue 1/3/17	Tue 12/31/19	[Continuous bar from Q1 2017 to Q2 2020]															
Tribal Consultation	Tue 1/3/17	Tue 12/31/19	[Bar from Q1 2017 to Q2 2020]															
Trust the Tap Campaign	Sat 7/1/17	Thu 10/31/19	[Bar from Q3 2017 to Q4 2019]															
Translation Services	Sat 7/1/17	Thu 10/31/19	[Bar from Q3 2017 to Q4 2019]															
Laypersons Guide (or equivalent)	Sun 6/18/17	Tue 4/30/19	[Bar from Q3 2017 to Q2 2019]															
State of the Watershed Conference 2017	Thu 9/1/16	Fri 6/30/17	[Bar in Q4 2016]															
State of the Watershed Conference 2018-19	Fri 9/1/17	Sun 6/30/19	[Bar from Q3 2017 to Q2 2019]															
Community Water Education Events	Fri 9/1/17	Sun 6/30/19	[Bar from Q3 2017 to Q2 2019]															
Water Agency Engagement Training	Fri 9/1/17	Sun 6/30/19	[Bar from Q3 2017 to Q2 2019]															
Local Elected Leader Training	Fri 9/1/17	Sun 6/30/19	[Bar from Q3 2017 to Q2 2019]															
Community Engagement Internship Program	Wed 3/1/17	Sat 8/31/19	[Bar from Q2 2017 to Q3 2019]															
- Project Development	Tue 1/3/17	Thu 10/31/19	[Continuous bar from Q1 2017 to Q4 2019]															
Technical Assistance for project development	Mon 1/1/18	Thu 10/31/19	[Bar from Q1 2018 to Q4 2019]															
OWOW Plan Update 2018	Wed 2/1/17	Mon 4/30/18	[Bar in Q1 2017]															
+ CivicSpark Water Fellows	Sat 10/1/16	Mon 9/30/19	[Bar from Q4 2016 to Q3 2019]															

F. Budget:

TASK BUDGET

Element #	Activity #	Element / Activity Name	Cost	
PE 0		Grant Administration	\$ 315,000	
PE 1		Strengths & Needs Assessment		\$ 784,522
	1	DACI Technical Advisory Committee	\$ 143,202	
	2	DAC / Tribal Pillar	\$ 56,893	
	3	Engage Local Elected Leaders	\$ 73,035	
	4	Engage Mutual Water Companies	\$ 64,884	
	5	Engage Water Agencies	\$ 53,474	
	6	Community Listening Sessions	\$ 96,843	
	7	Community Water Ethnography	\$ 230,603	
	8	Homelessness & Water Convening	\$ 65,588	
PE 2		Engagement / Education		\$ 1,866,191
	9	Tribal Consultation	\$ 200,276	
	10	Trust the Tap Campaign	\$ 116,580	
	11	Translation Services	\$ 171,833	
	12	Engagement Best Practices Publication	\$ 118,617	
	13	State of the Watershed Conferences	\$ 118,075	
	14	Community Water Education	\$ 107,481	
	15	Water Agency Engagement Training	\$ 156,204	
	16	Local Elected Leader Training	\$ 233,035	
	17	Community Engagement Interns Program	\$ 644,091	
PE 3		Project Development		\$ 3,334,287
	18	Technical Assistance / Project Implementation	\$ 3,092,588	
	19	OWOW Plan Update 2018	\$ 130,699	
	20	CivicSpark Water Fellows	\$ 111,000	
		Total	\$ 6,300,000	

SAWPA CHART OF ACCOUNTS BUDGET

Revenues	Grant Total
State Grant Proceeds	\$ 6,300,000
Total Revenue	\$ 6,300,000
Expenses	
Salaries	\$ 423,727
Benefits	\$ 177,542
G&A costs	\$ 674,573
Partnering Organizations	\$ 2,195,500
Consulting	\$ 2,547,758
Other Contract Services	\$ 230,000
Materials & Supplies	\$ 6,000
Software	\$ 2,000
Offsite Meeting / Travel	\$ 24,000
Conference Expenses	\$ 10,000
Shipping/Postage	\$ 500
Office Supplies	\$ 2,400
Other Expenses	\$ 6,000
Total Expense	\$ 6,300,000

SAWPA PERSONNEL 3 YEAR BUDGET

SAWPA Staff Title	Role	Final Year Rate*	Hours	Budget
General Manager	Project Director	\$ 463.33	248	\$ 114,905.30
Exec Counsel	Contract Legal Review	\$ 347.29	80	\$ 27,783.00
Admin Services Mgr.	Staff Supervision	\$ 245.79	32	\$ 7,865.18
Sr. Admin Assistant	Contract management	\$ 132.61	72	\$ 9,547.63
Admin Assistant II	Outreach & Scheduling	\$ 124.94	144	\$ 17,990.68
Chief Financial Officer	Staff Supervision	\$ 338.89	32	\$ 10,844.63
Accountant/Project Mgr.	Grant Management	\$ 157.62	464	\$ 73,136.71
Sr. Accounting Tech	Accounting Support	\$ 119.70	96	\$ 11,491.05
IS/IT Manager	Staff Supervision	\$ 258.24	80	\$ 20,659.44
GIS Project Mgr.	Data analysis	\$ 201.74	260	\$ 52,452.22
Exec Mgr. of Eng. & Ops.	Staff Supervision	\$ 340.49	32	\$ 10,895.75
Quality Control Manager	Grant Administration	\$ 183.32	192	\$ 35,197.73
Water Res. & Plan. Manager	Staff Supervision	\$ 299.47	256	\$ 76,663.30
Sr. Watershed Manager	Plan update coordination	\$ 239.83	112	\$ 26,860.42
Watershed Manager	Project Manager	\$ 206.80	2,864	\$ 592,269.84
Sr. Watershed Manager	Plan update coordination	\$ 228.39	112	\$ 25,579.44
SAWPA Intern	General support	\$ 51.83	3,120	\$ 161,699.84
* a 5% increase each fiscal year was applied for budgeting purposes		Totals:	8,196	\$1,275,842.16

OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM NO. 2017.3

DATE: January 26, 2017
TO: OWOW Steering Committee
SUBJECT: IRWM Planning Grant Award
PREPARED BY: Mike Antos, Ph.D., Watershed Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That the OWOW Steering Committee receive an update about the IRWM Planning Grant Award, and provide discussion and direction.

DISCUSSION

Following approval of this Committee and the SAWPA Commission, an IRWM planning grant application was submitted to DWR. In early December DWR released its draft funding recommendations, which included a \$250,000 grant for the OWOW Plan Update 2018. It is likely that between when this memo is written and the OWOW Steering Committee meeting that the awards will be made final. Following the official notice of award, SAWPA and DWR will together develop a grant agreement, a process that historically has taken several months.

The grant will support the OWOW Plan Update 2018 project, during which the OWOW 2.0 Plan will be brought into compliance with the 2016 IRWM Plan Standards. Further, developments in the watershed including new regional plans, the drought and associated management responses, and other relevant items will be added to the plan. This update work will be completed by the OWOW Pillars with support from SAWPA staff and, if needed, consultants.

The planning grant award of \$250,000 will be matched, as is required by the grant, with \$250,000 of local expenditures from the SAWPA budget for the One Water One Watershed process. Contributions of the SAWPA member agencies provide this capacity at SAWPA.

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SANTA ANA WATERSHED
PROJECT AUTHORITY

January 9, 2017

Ms. Celeste Cantu
General Manager
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority
11615 Sterling Avenue
Riverside, CA 92503

Subject: *Integrated Regional Water Management in the Santa Ana Funding Area*

Dear Ms. Cantu:

This letter regards concerns raised by stakeholders in Orange County about some aspects of the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Plan managed by the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) known as *One Water, One Watershed* (OWOW) and its subsequent implementation. Since our last letter to you dated September 8, 2016, stakeholders in Orange County have continued to discuss future implementation of the IRWM program with a focus on the upcoming Proposition 1 grant opportunities. Some critical decisions by stakeholders in Orange County about whether to remain a part of the OWOW process will be made in the first few months of this year and any assistance you can provide in resolving our outstanding differences is welcome. We are taking this opportunity to provide you with an update of our progress to date.

As you know, we prepared the September 8 letter in response to your request that we put in writing our concerns about the IRWM program in the Santa Ana Watershed. In that letter we raised concerns about the selection of projects for funding in the upper portion of the watershed that negatively impact the lower portion by reducing flows to downstream water users, the deficiencies in program transparency, and requirements for project eligibility. The OWOW Steering Committee meeting held on October 20, 2016 included an agenda item to review concerns expressed in the September 8th letter. It is our understanding that the Steering Committee directed staff to prepare a response to the letter, which we have not yet received.

In the meantime, stakeholders representing the north and central portions of Orange County, along with staff from the County of Orange, decided to begin the process of updating and merging the existing North and Central Orange County IRWM plans. We anticipate that through this process we will be able to foster greater cooperation and collaboration within Orange County and to work to identify a portfolio of projects that provide the greatest benefit to the lower watershed. The updated plan will be useful for the IRWM process as well as for other future grant opportunities. We want to thank you for considering financial support for this planning process but Orange County stakeholders have developed a cost-sharing plan that provides sufficient funds to complete this process.

We are hopeful that through continued discussions with SAWPA staff and the OWOW Steering Committee the concerns of the Orange County stakeholders will be addressed and our existing watershed collaboration will be strengthened and improved. We believe in the concept expressed in OWOW – One Water, One Watershed. We continue to support an IRWM process that determines which projects to fund based on a fair and transparent stakeholder-driven process. We would prefer such a process for future Proposition 1 IRWM implementation funding rounds rather than one that allocates funding based on population, land area, or other metrics.¹ However, if we cannot reach a satisfactory conclusion to the issues raised, we would like to discuss allocating the Proposition 1 IRWM grant funds similar to the method used successfully in the San Diego Funding Area.

At this time, we are also considering an alternative option of moving ahead by creating a new North and Central Orange County Region within the Santa Ana Funding Area. Our reasons for considering this option include:

- Lack of concrete commitment to and a proposed process for resolving issues raised to date; and
- Concerns about past performance in SAWPA's grant application scoring during the Proposition 84 IRWM grant program.

To summarize briefly, unresolved issues include the need to adopt a principle that improvements in one area of the watershed are not achieved at the detriment of another and the actualization of this principle in the selection of projects for funding, a commitment to evaluate benefits of funding projects at a watershed scale and an actual process to achieve this result, a fair and transparent project selection process at every decision-making step so that stakeholders understand how project funding decisions are made, and changes to project eligibility requirements.

The decision to begin the DWR Regional Acceptance Process to create an Orange County Region will be made by the stakeholder group in time for DWR to act on an application prior to the first implementation round for the Proposition 1 IRWM grants. A clear and tangible resolution of our unresolved concerns through the OWOW process by that time would be of great assistance in our decision making process within Orange County.

We thank you and the OWOW Steering Committee members for your willingness to meet with us to discuss these concerns. We are hopeful that we will be able to continue to discuss the issues raised the last time we met with you in August, and that these

¹ The Orange County portion within the Santa Ana watershed is a significant part with 45% of the total watershed population, 21% of the land area, and approximately 35% of the total water demands.

Ms. Celeste Cantu
January 9, 2017
Page 3 of 3

discussions will improve the OWOW process as well as the management of water resources in the Santa Ana Watershed.

Sincerely,



Peer Swan
Chair, Newport Bay Watershed Executive Committee



Marilyn Thoms
Manager, Watershed Management Division
OC Environmental Resources



Michael R. Markus, P.E.
General Manager, Orange County Water District

cc: OWOW Steering Committee members
SAWPA Commissioners
SAWPA Member Agencies General Managers

ATTACHMENT: September 8, 2016 letter to Celeste Cantu.

September 8, 2016

Ms. Celeste Cantu
General Manager
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority
11615 Sterling Avenue
Riverside, CA 92503

Subject: *Integrated Regional Water Management*

Dear Ms. Cantu:

This letter is a follow up to our meeting of August 23, 2016 held at SAWPA regarding Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM). At that meeting you requested that we send a letter stating our concerns regarding future implementation of the IRWM program in the Santa Ana Watershed, also known as the One Water One Watershed (OWOW) Program. The intent of this letter is to clarify those concerns and to request some changes that we believe will enable us to move forward with a more transparent, fair and collaborative process.

Our concerns are summarized as follows and discussed in more detail below:

1. The OWOW Plan should include a clearly stated principle that improvements in one area of the watershed are not to be achieved at the expense or detriment of another.
2. This basic principle stated above must be adhered to in the selection of projects in each funding round. In addition, there needs to be a provision for a meaningful discussion prior to SAWPA approval and submission to the state if an entity believes they are worse off based on the projects being submitted.
3. The net effect of projects, such as for water supply benefits, greenhouse gas or energy reduction, must be evaluated at the watershed scale.
4. The project selection process should be modified to assure that a selection of projects be fair and transparent to all stakeholders at every decision-making step.
5. For Proposition One grants, the requirement that a project have more than one partner would be satisfied by an agency partnership with Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWDSC).
6. A group of agencies may propose a suite of projects that address multiple benefits that would be considered as satisfying the requirement for projects to be multi-benefit projects.

Regarding Item #1 concerning the content of the OWOW plan, stakeholders in Orange County have raised these issues on several occasions, as early as 2009. Then Orange County Board of Supervisor John Moorlach requested that "consideration be given to adopting a planning principle for OWOW that no party in the watershed is disadvantaged as a result of any strategies adopted in the plan" (see Attachment 1). This same concern was raised subsequently by OCWD in 2010 and 2016 (see Attachments 2 and 3).

For your convenience, we have identified sections of the OWOW 2.0 plan and provided suggested language. We suggest changes to:

- Moving into Implementation, page 2;
- Governance Structure pages 8 and 17;
- Vision page 2 and 4, and
- Goals and Objectives, page 7 (see Attachment 4).

Regarding Item #2 concerning the selection of projects for grant funding, the principles stated in the OWOW plan must be accomplished through the project selection process. This concern was raised previously when OCWD asked that project proponents not be allowed to claim benefits for an increase in new water supplies if the project caused a reduction in water supplies downstream (see Attachment 5). A resolution of this issue can be achieved through adoption of a requirement that the final portfolio of projects selected for funding have the net result of benefiting the entire watershed where progress in one area is not achieved at the expense or detriment of another.

Item #3 concerns evaluating the net benefits of projects regarding greenhouse gas emissions and energy use reduction. If state grant funds are expended to support projects, it is vital that the benefits and costs of those projects are evaluated accurately. This can only occur if such benefits are considered at the watershed-wide scale. When a new storm water capture or recycled water project reduces an existing downstream water supply, the impacts and cost to replace that supply downstream must be accounted for in the grant application (see Attachment 5).

Item # 4 concerns the need for greater transparency in the selection of projects for funding rounds. Suggestions to improve stakeholder involvement and transparency were provided by the Newport Bay Watershed Executive Committee in 2009 (see Attachment 1) and in the report prepared by RMC, *Final Technical Memorandum, Review of SAWPA Prop 84 Round 2 Grant Application Process and Submittal, March 17, 2014*. We suggest that these recommendations be discussed broadly with stakeholders and with decision making bodies such as the OWOW Steering Committee and SAWPA Commission and addressed in time for changes to be implemented for Proposition 1 funding rounds. It is our understanding, based on discussions at the August 23, 2016 meeting, that we have reached agreement on issues 5 and 6. To reiterate, the group agreed that for the next funding round MWDSC would be considered a partner to satisfy the requirement for a multi-agency partnership and that the requirement for projects to be multi-benefit projects could be satisfied with a group of agencies proposing a suite of projects. At this meeting, we also agreed that if SAWPA receives a DWR planning grant to update the OWOW plan, that SAWPA would be willing to provide a fair share of that grant to update the North and Central IRWM Plans.

We thank you and the OWOW Commission members for your willingness to meet with us over the past few months to discuss these concerns and respectfully request that you respond to this letter in writing. We are hopeful that continued discussions will result in improvements in the OWOW process that results in improved management of the water resources in the Santa Ana Watershed.

Ms. Celeste Cantu
September 8, 2016
Page 3 of 3

Sincerely,



Peer Swan
Chair, Newport Bay Watershed Executive Committee



Marilyn Thoms
Manager, Watershed Management Division
OC Environmental Resources



Michael R. Markus, P.E.
General Manager, Orange County Water District

cc: OWOW Steering Committee members
SAWPA Commissioners

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1: April 13, 2009 Letter from John Moorlach to Ron Sullivan
- Attachment 2: August 24, 2010 Letter from Michael Markus to Celeste Cantu
- Attachment 3: July 7, 2016 Letter from Michael Markus to Celeste Cantu
- Attachment 4: Selected pages from the OWOW 2.0 plan with proposed revisions
- Attachment 5: December 6, 2012 Letter from Michael Markus to Celeste Cantu



JOHN M.W. MOORLACH, C.P.A.

ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SUPERVISOR, SECOND DISTRICT

ORANGE COUNTY HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
233 W. SANTA ANA BLVD.
10 CIVIC CENTER, SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA 92701
Phone (714) 834-3220 Fax (714) 834-6109
john.moorlach@ocgov.com

April 13, 2009

MARIO MAINERO
CHIEF OF STAFF

RICK FRANCIS
DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

MARK BATARSE
POLICY ADVISOR

KATHLEEN MORAN
POLICY ADVISOR

APRIL RUDGE
POLICY ADVISOR

LINDSAY BRENNAN
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Mr. Ron Sullivan, Chair, One Water-One Watershed Steering Committee
c/o Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority
11615 Sterling Ave
Riverside, CA 92503

RE: Collaboration on Integrated Regional Water Management Planning

Dear Mr. Sullivan,

On behalf of the Newport Bay Watershed Executive Committee, I wish to provide a follow-up to the discussion that occurred during our meeting on March 25, 2009. During that meeting we discussed the Newport Bay Watershed Executive Committee proposing changes to the OWOW governance document to contribute toward an equitable and participatory planning and decision making process. The Executive Committee appreciates the Steering Committee's openness to reviewing the governance document. We offer the suggested revisions in the attached document and look forward to discussing these at our joint meeting on April 16, 2009.

The OWOW governance document establishes a process for the development of an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) and for the prioritization of projects therein. In lieu of describing actions taken to date, we have offered rewording to describe an ongoing process for the OWOW Plan's management long term. Other suggestions are offered to provide clarification, document noticed open meetings for all meetings of all OWOW committees, converting to an odd-numbered governing body, and a revised approach for when and how Steering Committee members are replaced.

We strongly endorse SAWPA's role as administrator of the plan and consolidated grants that are anticipated to be awarded for implementing the plan. In the spirit of long term collaboration and implementation, the Newport Bay Watershed Executive Committee recommends that the Steering Committee consider appointing a technical management committee. This is envisioned to be a staff-level working group that would provide the Steering Committee with the background knowledge necessary to make informed decisions about the IRWMP and an ongoing structure for implementation. The Newport Bay Watershed Executive Committee also suggests consideration be given to adopting a planning principle for OWOW that no party in the watershed is disadvantaged as a result of any strategies adopted in the plan.

The Newport Bay Executive Committee thanks the OWOW Steering Committee for consideration of its comments on the OWOW governance document. We look forward to both fruitful discussion and future collaboration.

Sincerely,


John Moorlach
Supervisor, Second District
Chairman, Newport Bay Watershed Executive Committee

cc: Members, OWOW Steering Committee
Members, Newport Bay Watershed Executive Committee
Celeste Cantu, SAWPA
Mary Anne Skorpanich, County of Orange

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ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

OFFICERS

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KATHRYN L. BARR

First Vice President
PHILIP L. ANTHONY

Second Vice President
JAN DEBAY

General Manager
MICHAEL R. MARKUS, P.E.

August 24, 2010

Ms. Celeste Cantu
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority
11615 Sterling Avenue
Riverside, CA 92503

CELESTE
Dear Ms. Cantu:

The Orange County Water District Board of Directors adopted the following policy statement at its August 18, 2010, meeting, which was meant to reaffirm its support of the guiding policy principle of evaluating projects through the One Water One Watershed (OWOW) process on a watershed wide basis:

"The Orange County Water District supports collaboration among all stakeholders in the Santa Ana River (SAR) Watershed. Because of the large population in the watershed, natural resource values, and the inter-related nature of activities in watershed, it is vitally important that stakeholders work together to maximize water resources in an environmentally responsible manner. The District supports placing a high priority on developing additional water supplies for the watershed and collaboration among agencies in the watershed to maximize efficient use of water resources throughout the watershed. For proposed water resource projects that may affect the rate of flow in the Santa Ana River or its tributaries, the District supports evaluating the net impact of the project at the scale of the entire SAR Watershed. The goal should be to fund projects that increase the net water supplies of the watershed "

We would encourage that projects submitted for funding under the OWOW program be evaluated regarding their impact to the entire watershed.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Markus, P.E.
General Manager
Orange County Water District

PHILIP L. ANTHONY
DENIS R. BILODEAU, P.E.
JORDAN BRANDMAN
SHAWN DEWARE
JAN M. FLORY
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ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

President
CATHY GREEN

First Vice President
DENIS R. BILODEAU, P.E.

Second Vice President
PHILIP L. ANTHONY

General Manager
MICHAEL R. MARKUS, P.E., D.WRE

July 7, 2016

Ms. Celeste Cantu
General Manager
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority
11615 Sterling Avenue
Riverside, CA 92503

Subject: OWOW Prop 1 IRWM Grant Project Eligibility Criteria

Dear Ms. ^{WEBSTER} Cantu:

We have reviewed Item 6a on the agenda for the July 7, 2016 OWOW Steering Committee meeting and provide comments as described below. Representatives from various Orange County (OC) stakeholders met with you over the last several months to discuss concerns of OC stakeholders, as described in the staff report for Item 6a (Policy Direction Regarding Proposition 1 OWOW Project Eligibility Criteria). While we do not completely agree with the summary discussion of those meetings as they are described in OWOW Steering Committee Memorandum No. 2016.12, we do not wish to belabor that point here, but rather focus on language that should be added to the discussion of the OWOW Proposition 1 IRWM Grant Project Eligibility Criteria.

As we provided in an email to you yesterday evening, we propose adding the following text to the OWOW Prop 1 IRWM Grant project eligibility criteria:

Through the efforts to evaluate and rank projects, we seek to resolve conflicts that arise when projects funded in one area result in decreasing water supplies in another area of the watershed and when more stormwater and recycled water is captured and stored upstream that results in less water flowing downstream for their capture and reuse. This is to be achieved by adopting two guiding principles in plan development and project funding selection. These two principles, consistent with the theme of "One Water One Watershed", are: (1) all areas improve together and (2) improvements in one area are not achieved at the expense or detriment of another.

Celeste Cantu
July 7, 2016
Page 2 of 2

Adding this text will provide more description to explain our concerns and also demonstrate that progress is being made in addressing our concerns.

We propose adding this text as a preamble or introductory paragraph, but if you wish to incorporate it differently, we are open to discussing that. If this text is not acceptable, we strongly recommend that approval of item 6a be deferred to a future meeting so that we can work out agreeable language.

OCWD appreciates the opportunity to review and provide comments on the proposed eligibility criteria. We look forward to a productive dialogue to resolve our remaining concerns.

Sincerely,



Michael Markus, P.E., D.WRE, BCEE, F.ASCE
General Manager

cc: OWOW Steering Committee members

**Selected Pages from OWOW 2.0 Plan
with Proposed Revisions**

environment that nature has given us. It also is recognizing that excessive irrigation water use and waste creates downstream pollution. Often the problem in achieving solutions is not data gathering, but rather the sharing of existing water information so that water consumers can become the true stewards of water. That information is made available to all levels of the public to better understand where their water comes from, how it is used, what impacts we have on it, and where it goes after it is used. New or expanded existing Web-based tools would be developed to answer this need.

Creating Anew

SAWPA, under OWOW 2.0 planning, sought to expand collaboration across multiple jurisdictional and institutional boundaries so that natural hydrology is restored, aquifers are protected, ecosystems are enhanced and improved, landscapes are developed appropriate to the arid environment in which we reside, and where people are not using water for waste transport downstream. The work addresses and recognizes the upstream and downstream dynamic. Through these efforts, we ~~sought~~ seek to resolve conflicts that will arise when projects funded in one area result in decreasing water supplies in another area of the watershed and more and when more stormwater and recycled water is captured and stored upstream as a result of low impact development and recharge and reuse activities, resulting that results in less water flowing downstream for their capture and reuse. This is to be achieved by adopting two guiding principles in plan development and project funding selection. These two principles, consistent with the theme of “One Water One Watershed”, are: (1) all areas improve together and (2) improvements in one area are not achieved at the expense or detriment of another.

Water quality challenges would be addressed resulting from nonpoint source pollution carried by stormwater, which is often captured and then recharged into our groundwater basins and aquifers for later use as a drinking water supply. Furthermore, this plan would create effective outreach and liaisons with disadvantaged communities, environmental justice communities, Native American Tribes, and land use planning sectors that would be key to implementing this new paradigm in integrated water resource planning.

Highlights of New Model in IRWM Planning

As a first step, SAWPA developed a work plan that proposed to raise the bar so that all IRWM Plan Standards are met, all DWR IRWM program preferences are addressed, and the vision for the region is achieved. To accomplish this end and still achieve the OWOW Plan goals and objectives, a new integrated water management plan for the Santa Ana Region was proposed to focus on the following areas.



Water Demand Reduction Strategies

Developing education and outreach actions that encourage implementation of tier-based allocated water conservation rates for not just some, but all retail water agencies in the watershed. This encourages programs such as “Cash for Grass” and indoor water efficient appliance rebates, outdoor irrigation efficiency measures, and implementation of new programs where landscaping and irrigation experts are hired to educate homeowners,

homeowner associations and businesses in better methods. It also provides incentives to retrofit high

In implementing the Steering Committee's Goals and Objectives, the Steering Committee will:

1. Acknowledge that water resources of the Santa Ana River Watershed Region should be put to maximum beneficial use and that water waste must be prevented.
2. Acknowledge water as a public resource and respect existing agreements governing the water resources of the Santa Ana River Watershed Region.
3. Seek regional solutions for regional problems.
4. Encourage collaboration across boundaries and between multiple parties in project development.
5. Consider sub-regional plans and planning efforts.
6. Respect and implement the principle that improvements in one area of the watershed are not to be achieved at the expense or detriment of another.
7. Assure that implementation of the OWOW plan and funded projects benefit all areas within the watershed as a whole, the principle also expressed as "all get better together".

During the OWOW process the Steering Committee will complete the following functions:

1. Provide incentives for the development of multi-benefit integrated projects through the allocation of State Bond funds.
2. Oversee the development of an integrated watershed management plan.
3. Identify institutional barriers and opportunities for more efficient management that further advance the integration of water management activities.
4. Advocate for policy changes the increase interagency effectiveness and efficiency in integrated water management.

As funding opportunities arise to implement the OWOW plan, the Steering Committee provides the SAWPA Commission an updated Santa Ana River Watershed Region IRWM plan and programmatic portfolio of projects specific to the funding opportunity. The Steering Committee is responsible for the development and implementation of the project selection criteria.

Besides involvement through the OWOW outreach and Pillars, the public also can voice their opinion during the public and noticed meetings held by the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee meetings are held at least annually with the provision that special meetings may be called as needed. All Steering Committee meetings are conducted in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act. Meeting minutes are prepared and kept by SAWPA staff and posted on the SAWPA website.

SAWPA Administration

The other arm to the governance of the OWOW process includes the management function conducted by SAWPA. As a regional water agency for the Santa Ana River Watershed, SAWPA has a long history of supporting regional collaborative efforts of this kind. As with previous IRWMP efforts for the Santa Ana River Watershed, SAWPA serves as support in providing administrative and facilitative assistance to the pillar groups and the Steering Committee for the overall OWOW Plan development.

SAWPA and its Member Agencies

SAWPA is the designated Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) for the Santa Ana River Watershed, and the one DWR-recognized IRWM region within the watershed. SAWPA is a Joint Powers

Recognizing that SAWPA originally was formed as a joint powers authority in 1968 with five (5) member water agencies, apparent from the start of the OWOW 1.0 planning process was the need to expand the governance structure to form a Steering Committee composed of a broader spectrum of watershed stakeholders. The OWOW Steering Committee was developed and organized by SAWPA to reflect not strictly a water agency emphasis, but a cross section of many types of stakeholders such as DACs and Tribes as well as water resource sectors such as stormwater and flood control, thus providing equal opportunity and representation throughout the watershed. Through the Steering Committee, better decision making and distribution of power and voice is provided to the stakeholders of the watershed in the planning process as opposed to only involving the five (5) original water resource agencies of SAWPA. This process of adding a diverse stakeholder governance committee layer follows the path taken by most other IRWMs.

In evaluating other RWMG government structures to SAWPA's OWOW governance, one of the most striking differences was how SAWPA utilized the Pillars approach to reflect one of the most comprehensive involvement and grass roots processes in the integrated regional water management planning across the State and is quite unique. Using the Pillars centered on water resource strategies and asking their voluntary involvement even to the scale of composing and authoring sections or chapters of the OWOW 1.0 Plan, as well as the OWOW 2.0 Plan, has helped to ensure strong buy-in and support by all those who have participated. This approach is highly unusual as compared to other IRWM where a single consultant usually is hired to oversee the IRWM plan development and work with stakeholder groups for input, but with the consultant ultimately responsible for writing the plan.

Further, it appears that approximately half of all the recognized 48 IRWM regions across the State utilize the same consultant for their IRWM plan development. This uniform and more cookbook approach for plan preparation, though effective in assuring consistency with meeting IRWM guidelines and requirements, may fail to meet the buy-in and support of stakeholders or achieve the synergistic development of integrated regional solutions as observed in the Santa Ana River Watershed, and perhaps a few other IRWM regions.

Another observation in review of governance structure models in comparison to the current OWOW governance is the emphasis on a fair, neutral, and transparent approach in the selection of projects for funding that meet the goals and objectives of the OWOW Plan. This includes implementing the principles that improvements in one area of the watershed are not achieved at the expense or detriment to another and all areas as a whole share the benefit. A separate body of outside reviewers is asked to review a rated and ranked list of recommended projects to ensure that the projects reflect the selection criteria approved by the Steering Committee and the SAWPA Commission, and are validated for veracity. Rather than parceling out funding based upon the five JPA SAWPA member agency jurisdictions or subwatershed or subregions as observed in many other RWMGs, the best projects are selected that meet the OWOW project selection criteria and OWOW goals. By this process, SAWPA plays a more neutral role as facilitator rather than as judge or sole governance of funding distribution.

A common concern observed in many IRWMs is the challenge of assuring the involvement of the often under-represented Native American Tribes and DACs in the RWMG governance. To improve governance representation to be more effective under OWOW 2.0 planning, SAWPA revised the OWOW Pillars to

would be used as guiding principles for the Pillars to follow in the development the OWOW IRWMP. Further, the eco-charette format served to provide a consensus of the OWOW leadership values and principles, challenges, and strategies via group input and voting mechanisms to refine and enhance the overall vision of the group.

The results of that initial foundational workshop continue today and remain largely unchanged as the foundation to our current watershed planning under the OWOW 2.0 Plan. It is recognized that as new watershed challenges arise, fiscal and energy crises, dubbed the 5th and 6th Horsemen of the Apocalypse under **Chapter 1.0 One Water One Watershed Program**, SAWPA governance must adapt and reevaluate the specific goals and objectives of the watershed plan to fine tune and focus regional efforts to affect positive change. Further, with improved tools and tracking systems to monitor progress in attaining watershed goals, we now have the capability to establish indicators of change so that the performance can be assessed. With development of the indicators, the language of the goals and objectives for the OWOW 2.0 Plan were redefined and clarified.

OWOW Vision and Mission

The vision of the OWOW Plan is:

1. A watershed that is sustainable, drought-proofed and salt-balanced by 2035, and in which water resources are protected and water is used efficiently
2. A watershed that supports economic and environmental viability
3. A watershed that is adaptable to climate change
4. A watershed in which environmental justice deficiencies are corrected
5. A watershed in which interruptions to natural hydrology are minimized
6. A water ethic is created at the institutional and personal level
7. A watershed where progress in one area is not achieved at the expense or detriment of another.
8. All areas within the watershed improve together.

Listed below is a summary of the issues that rose to the top as priorities at the eco-charette.

Values

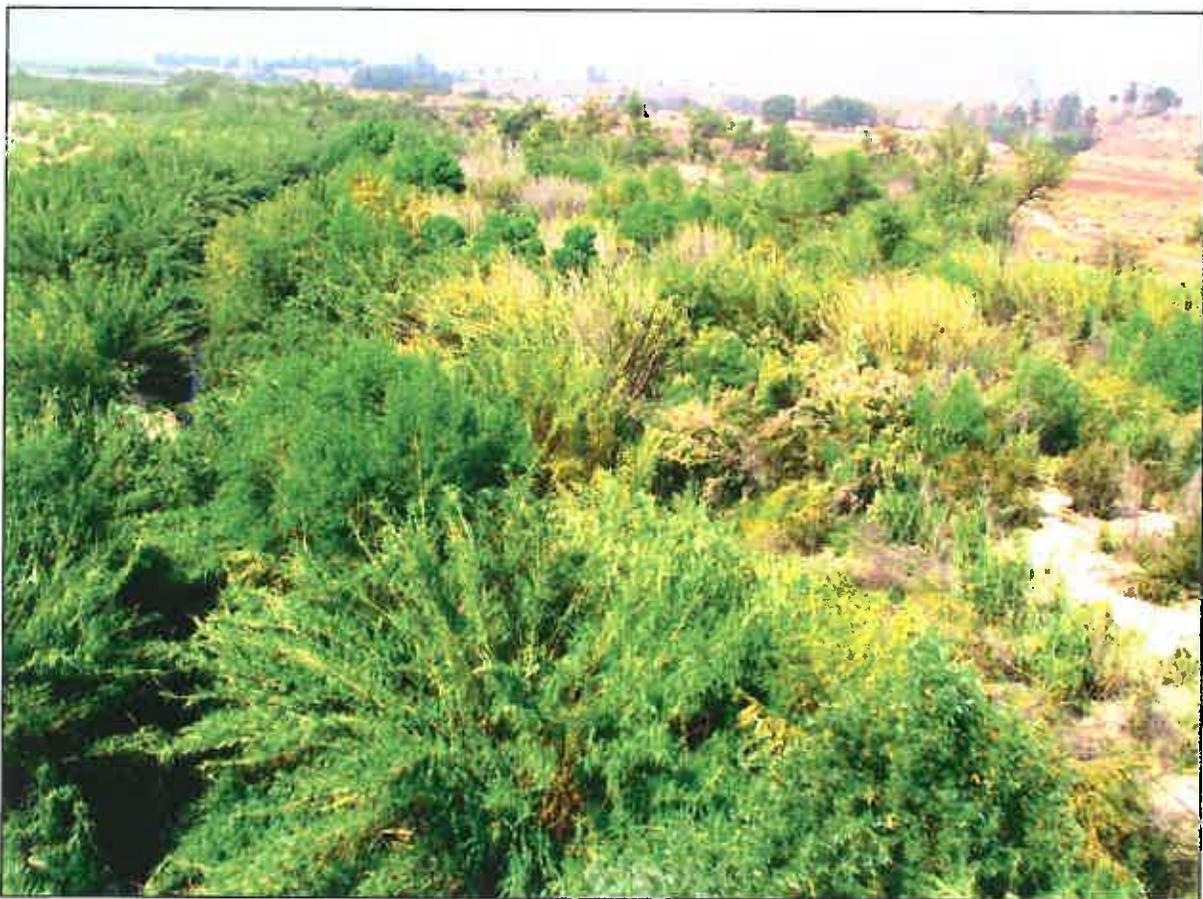
- Sustainability
- Comprehensive Water Strategy
- Smart Growth/Urban Centers Communities
- Maintain Quality of Life
- Project benefits are fairly distributed

With an established values, vision and mission, the OWOW Steering Committee conveyed a sense of urgency that moderately aggressive to aggressive planning was needed. Furthermore, they were effective in conveying direction to produce a plan that is more aggressive in taking steps to plan for major changes in how developing, protecting, and conserving water is approached. At the end of the eco-charette, the general direction was as follows:

- There was a shared understanding that all water within the Santa Ana River Watershed is a precious resource. Climate change, continuing Colorado River drought, questions about the San Joaquin Bay Delta's vulnerability and its ability to reliably deliver water to southern California, and interruptions

- Watershed-wide planning must transcend specific funding opportunities (e.g. State grants).
- The implementation of the Plan must result in agreements among the Watershed stakeholders on how to manage and operate the watershed.
- The Plan must improve life conditions throughout the watershed, ensuring that an improvement in the welfare of one area is not at the expense of others. This includes ensuring that grant funds are awarded to projects that fairly distribute the benefits across the watershed and in cases where projects decrease another's water supplies the area of decreased supply is compensated so all areas benefit as equally as possible.

Generally, the consensus is that the OWOW effort needs to be bold and innovative to meet the watershed's vision.



Water Supply

Goal: Maintain reliable and resilient water supplies and reduce dependency on imported water

Objectives:

- Decrease water demand
- Increase water-use efficiency
- **Increase** use of rainfall and snowpack as a resource
- Increase use of recycled water
- Sustainably develop local water resources
- Maintain sufficient storage to overcome multi-year (3 year) drought over a ten year hydrologic cycle
- **Reduce green-house-gas emissions and energy consumption in the State of California from water resource management**
- Avoiding actions where an increase in water supplies in one area results in the decrease in water supplies for another without a comparable increase in supply for the affected area or provision for other compensation.

The Santa Ana River Watershed, among all the services it provides, is the source of a great deal of the water used by human communities, and virtually all of the non-human communities. In fact, approximately 70% of the supply is of local origin coming from local groundwater, local precipitation and surface flows, and recycled water. The supply of water to communities is foremost in the management effort of the watershed, and this goal seeks to understand the effectiveness and efficiency of the water supply system.

Hydrology

Goal: Manage at the watershed scale for preservation and enhancement of the natural hydrology to benefit human and natural communities.

Objectives:

- Preserve and restore hydrologic function of forested and other lands
- Preserve and restore hydrogeomorphic function of streams and water bodies
- Safely co-manage flood protection and water conservation
- Include ecosystem function in new development planning and construction

The physical processes of the watershed exist on the land and in the water. This goal highlights how managers of water and land (and the relationship between the two) are striving to protect and restore natural processes that benefit other goals within the watershed, like supply or habitat augmentation.

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ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

MEMBER OF THE SANTA ANA WATERSHED PROJECT AUTHORITY

OFFICERS

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First Vice President
PHILIP L. ANTHONY

Second Vice President
SHAWN DEWANE

General Manager
MICHAEL R. MARKUS, P.E., G.WRE

December 6, 2012

Celeste Cantu
General Manager
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority
11615 Sterling Avenue
Riverside, CA 92503.

Dear Ms. Cantu,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed allocation of funds for Round 2 of the Proposition 84 Integrated Regional Watershed Management Program. We agree with the goals of this program and the emphasis in the Santa Ana Watershed as expressed by SAWPA that it is "only through a view of the watershed as an integrated system that we can be successful and develop operational efficiencies." We also appreciate the efforts made by SAWPA staff to create a fair and transparent process to solicit, evaluate, rank, and recommend projects for funding.

Please accept this letter in addition to comments submitted electronically by the Orange County Water District (OCWD) on individual projects. The following comments address two broad concerns of OCWD with the implementation of OWOW 2.0: (1) program elements and funding decisions that could be more successful in attaining the goal of managing the Santa Ana Watershed as an integrated system, and (2) suggestions for maintaining transparency throughout the entire funding process.

OCWD understands and respects the rights of upper watershed agencies to maximize use of local water resources. On the other hand, we insist that projects funded under Proposition 84 be fairly vetted and ranked taking into account the true benefits and costs of such projects and their value to the watershed and the state as a whole.

Fostering Management of the Santa Ana Watershed as an Integrated System

Water agencies throughout the watershed, including OCWD, are challenged to manage water supplies in response to changing demands amidst the decreasing

Ms. Celeste Cantu
December 6, 2012
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reliability of imported water supplies. SAWPA has played a major role in fostering cooperation between water agencies in the stewardship of resources in the watershed.

As statewide policies, goals, and grant programs increasingly emphasize integrated watershed planning, decreased reliance on imported water and reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, programs at the local and regional level must be carefully planned, evaluated and implemented. In this light, we draw attention to policies and funding decisions that may not fully acknowledge and account for the water supply and energy impacts of proposed projects on a watershed scale.

As you are well aware, nearly all wastewater discharged to the Santa Ana River by POTWs that flows through Prado Dam is recharged to the Orange County groundwater basin. OCWD also captures a significant amount of stormflows for groundwater recharge.

Recycled water projects proposing to use water that would otherwise be discharged to the Santa Ana River and beneficially used downstream may be relocating where the water is recycled rather than increasing the total amount of water recycled in the watershed. This also may be true for stormwater capture projects. If public funds are to be expended to support such projects, it is vital that the benefits and costs of the projects are accurately evaluated. In cases where recycled water projects and stormwater capture projects in the upper watershed result in reduced water supplies downstream, the calculation of benefits should be based on the net impact within the watershed, rather than just in the project area. The calculation of benefits must account for the corresponding loss of water in the lower watershed and the energy expended to replace that supply. Otherwise, the benefits of increased water supply, reduced energy usage, and reduction in greenhouse gas emissions estimated for the project are not actually realized on the statewide level.

Based on project descriptions posted on SAWPA's website, it appears that water supply and greenhouse gas emissions reduction benefits may have been overestimated in some of the projects proposed for OWOW Round 2 funding. The projects listed below intend to increase either recycled water use or stormwater capture or both in a manner that may reduce flows in the Santa Ana River. The potential impacts of reducing water supply in Orange County are not evaluated as part of the quantification of project benefit and cost.

Project Name	Project Description
Wineville Recycled Water	Increases recycled water use by 6000 afy
San Sevaine Recharge	Increases use of recycled water and capture of stormwater by 6500 afy
Vulcan Pit Flood Control	Increases stormwater and recycled water use by 2000 afy
Wilson Basins Project	Increases recycled water use by 1300 afy
Francis St/Ely Basin Project	Increase stormwater capture by 622 afy
Plunge Creek Recharge	Increases capture of stormwater by 1,250 afy
Enhanced SAR Recharge	Increases the amount of stormwater that can be captured and recharged along the Santa Ana River to 80,000 af in a single year
14 th Street Recharge	Increases stormwater capture by 400 afy

Increasing Transparency in the Funding Process

SAWPA created a stakeholder process that assisted in developing the Round 2 Project Selection Process. Now that the list of projects that are proposed for funding is available we would appreciate the posting of documents leading up to that decision. Please post the results of project reviews by the interview team and the final scores for those projects as well as an explanation of the process used by the interview team to select the proposed list of 22 projects. Please also explain the decision making process used to create the list of projects recommended for funding. Please also explain the process for determining recommended funding levels for those projects.

Allocating Funding to Low Unit-Cost Projects

Current ranking criteria give higher rankings to cost-effective projects. This process did not anticipate how to rank projects that already have a low unit-cost. This may be an oversight that should be considered for Round 3 funding. An example of this is the Corona/Home Gardens Well Project. The project description indicates that the unit-cost of new water will be \$57 per acre-foot. The question that should be considered is whether such a low-cost project needs state funding.

Conclusion

California water and energy policies as reflected in many programs such as the California Water Plan, Proposition 84 funding guidelines, and State Water Resources Control Board Strategic Plan, to name a few, stress the importance of reducing the generation of greenhouse gas emissions in the state and reducing

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December 6, 2012
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reliance on imported water in Southern California. We fully support these goals and wish to work with stakeholders in the watershed toward these ends.

We thank you for considering these comments and look forward to continuing to work with you in advancing the goals of OWOW 2.0.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Markus', written over a horizontal line.

Michael R. Markus, P.E., D.WRE, BCEE, F.ASCE
General Manager

cc: OWOW Steering Committee
Joe Grindstaff, Project Review Committee
Pete Silva, Project Review Committee
Gerard Thibeault, Project Review Committee

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Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

OVER 45 YEARS OF INNOVATION, VISION, AND WATERSHED LEADERSHIP



One Water One Watershed

AWRA INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AWARD
HARVARD KENNEDY SCHOOL'S TOP 25 INNOVATIONS IN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

January 10, 2017

Thomas P. Evans
Commission
Chair

Peer Swan, Chair
Newport Bay Watershed Executive Committee
2301 N. Glassell St.
Orange, CA 92865

Celeste Cantú
General
Manager

Subject: Integrated Regional Water Management

Dear Mr. Swan:

Orange
County
Water
District

This letter is in response to your letters of September 8, 2016, and January 9, 2017, which were also signed by Marilyn Thoms, County of Orange and Mike Markus, Orange County Water District. As you know, we discussed your September letter and the concerns and recommendations therein, which are repeated without modification in your January letter, at a public meeting of the One Water One Watershed Steering Committee on October 20, 2016. This was one of a series of meetings on the ideas you have presented, including public meetings with the Steering Committee and meetings you have had with several of the individual members of the Steering Committee over the last year.

Western
Municipal
Water District

You and Orange County Water District staff attended the public meetings of the Steering Committee in July and October of 2016 and participated in the discussion of the concerns described in your letter. As you therefore know, the Steering Committee, after hearing your presentation and having extensive discussion, found that the concerns your letter summarized have been addressed by changes made to the OWOW project selection and ranking process over the past two grant rounds. It was noted that the ranking factors and the selection process that were used in the most recent grant rounds were discussed in public meetings with stakeholders from the entire Santa Ana River watershed and were approved by the Steering Committee and the SAWPA Commission. They reflect refinements to the selection process to promote truly regional, watershed scale projects that avoid adverse impacts to parts of the watershed, as you have been advocating.

Eastern
Municipal
Water
District

Specifically, your concerns about policy principles requiring that projects not harm others in the watershed and have a net benefit to the entire watershed were directly addressed in the eligibility criteria developed and adopted for the 2015 grant round and further improved and adopted by the Steering Committee last July for Proposition 1 grant funding. As was discussed at the Steering Committee meetings in July and October, the current adopted eligibility criteria make it clear that IRWM grant funding from the State will be used to incentivize and support truly watershed-scale projects with watershed benefits, while the OWOW Plan also helps other valuable but more local projects obtain funding from other categories of grants. Your disagreement with the acceptability of the adopted criteria for the past six months is a matter of semantics, not substance.

San
Bernardino
Valley
Municipal
Water
District

Inland
Empire
Utilities
Agency



We also noted that, while the Steering Committee adopted eligibility criteria for Proposition 1 IRWM grants, specific ranking factors would be developed through a stakeholder process once State Guidelines and solicitation package are published for a particular round of funding. The view of the Steering Committee was that it is transparent and fair for ranking factors and the project selection process to be discussed in a watershed-wide stakeholder process, in public meetings, and not only in meetings of subgroups from specific watershed areas.

Your oral comments at the October meeting of the Steering Committee about preferring a “top down” approach in which a small group of experts decide what projects should get funding rather than using a larger stakeholder approach were not concurred with by the Steering Committee.

Your letter also proposed a number of specific revisions to the OWOW Plan. As you know, we are beginning a process to update the OWOW Plan this year to address new State requirements for IRWM Plans. Staff recommended against your proposed changes for a number of reasons, and the OWOW Steering Committee directed us not to make your changes, but to address the issues you have raised during the 2017 Plan update.

Your January letter also describes the County of Orange’s current work to merge the North and Central IRWM plans, a process that SAWPA applauds as an improvement. Neither SAWPA nor the OWOW Steering Committee suggested that SAWPA would contribute financially to that work. In the interest of efficiency and real integration of planning, however, SAWPA has several times requested the scope of work for the consultant doing Orange County’s plan revision so that we can best coordinate our work on our OWOW Plan 2017 update. The consultant’s scope of work has not yet been provided, but we continue to think it would be helpful to all of us to share it.

Thank you for your involvement in the OWOW process and for your enthusiasm for better integrated regional water management. We look forward to continuing the discussion in stakeholder meetings during the Plan update and future grant rounds.

Sincerely,



Celeste Cantú
General Manager

cc: Tom Evans
Ron Sullivan
Amanda Carr
Mike Markus