PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 and N-08-21, THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY. ALL VOTES TAKEN WILL BE AN ORAL ROLL CALL.

This meeting will be accessible as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Access Via Computer (Zoom)*:</th>
<th>Meeting Access Via Telephone*:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• <a href="https://sawpa.zoom.us/j/88689389456">https://sawpa.zoom.us/j/88689389456</a></td>
<td>• 1 (669) 900-6833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Meeting ID: 886 8938 9456</td>
<td>• Meeting ID: 886 8938 9456</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Participation in the meeting via the Zoom app (a free download) is strongly encouraged; there is no way to protect your privacy if you elect to call in by phone to the meeting.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE
Thursday, July 22, 2021 – 11:00 a.m.

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER | PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Bruce Whitaker, Convener)

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS
   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. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: MAY 27, 2021

..............................................3
4. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. **Proposition 1 Round 2 Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Competition Process (SC#2021.8)** ..............................................................
   
   Presenter: Ian Achimore
   Recommendation: Receive and file.

B. **Disadvantaged Communities Involvement (DCI) Program Status (SC#2021.9)** ..................
   
   Presenter: Rick Whetsel
   Recommendation: Receive and file.

5. COMMITTEE MEMBERS’ COMMENTS

6. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

7. ADJOURNMENT

**PLEASE NOTE:**

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) 354-4220 or svilla@sawpa.org. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable staff to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility for 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, Sara Villa, Clerk of the Board of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority declare that on July 15, 2021, a copy of this agenda has been uploaded to the SAWPA website at www.sawpa.org and posted at the SAWPA office, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California.

---

**2021 OWOW Steering Committee Regular Meetings**

Fourth Thursday of Every Other Month (January, March, May, July, September, November)

(Note: All meetings begin at 11:00 a.m., unless otherwise noticed, and are held at SAWPA.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January</th>
<th>March</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/28/21</td>
<td>3/25/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/28/21</td>
<td>Regular Committee Meeting [cancelled]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>May</th>
<th>July</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5/27/21</td>
<td>7/22/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/27/21</td>
<td>Regular Committee Meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>September</th>
<th>November</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/23/21</td>
<td>11/18/21*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/23/21</td>
<td>Regular Committee Meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Meeting date adjusted due to conflicting holiday.
The OWOW Steering Committee meeting was called to order at 11:03 a.m. by Bruce Whitaker, Convener, at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, CA 92503. The record will reflect this meeting was conducted virtually.
1. **CALL TO ORDER | PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
   Pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order N-29-20 issued by Governor Newsom, this meeting was conducted virtually. All votes taken during this meeting were conducted via oral roll call.

   Convener Whitaker welcomed a new OWOW Steering Committee Member, Nicholas Dunlap of City of Fullerton.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
   There were no public comments; there were no public comments received via email.

3. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – March 25, 2021**
   
   MOVED, approve the March 25, 2021, meeting minutes.
   
   Result: Adopted by Roll Call Vote
   
   Motion/Second: Dennstedt/Chaffee
   
   Ayes: Chaffee, Dennstedt, Dunlap, Hagman, Hoffman, Robertson, Spiegel, Whitaker
   
   Nays: None
   
   Abstentions: None
   
   Absent: Brown, Hessler, Kerr

4. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

   A. **Proposition 1 Round 2 Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Competition Process (SC#2021.4)**

   Ian Achimore provided the PowerPoint presentation on pages 11 – 31 of the agenda packets, *Proposition 1 Round 2 Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Competition Process*. The presentation covered an overview of the scoring criteria from Proposition 1 Round 1, an update on latest information from the Department of Water Resources (DWR) regarding Proposition 1 Round 2, and to review a potential Communication Plan requested by the OWOW Steering Committee at the last meeting.

   Mr. Achimore reminded the Committee of the Round 2 grant funding amounts for each category are estimated as follows:

   - North Orange County: $7,175,543
   - Upper Watershed: $12,372,943
   - Watershed Wide: $2,062,157
   - DAC Implementation: $4,095,000
   - Grant Administration: $1,352,929

   It was noted that the North OC funding for Round 2 exceeds the designated 30% due to carry over funding from Proposition 1 Round 1.

   In the next few meetings of the OWOW Steering Committee, the scoring criteria for projects that are chosen under the Proposition 1 Round 2 Grant funding will be a major topic of conversation. There is potential to update the criteria that was used for the Proposition 1 Round 1 grant process and the Steering Committee will need to approve it prior to releasing a call for projects for Round 2. To ensure fairness and even distribution of funds, smaller projects (defined as projects requesting less than $500,000 in grant funds) will have a dedicated 10% (or approximately $1.9 Million) of funding for awarding. Another prioritization tool for the Committee is how the scores were weighted for
Proposition 1 Round 1 projects. There was a list of classes described and categorized to assist in assessing the projects proposed to receive grant funding; some examples of these classes were Water Supply Reliability, Efficiency” and “Multipurpose Flood and Stormwater”, as well as “Drinking Water Treatment, Distribution”. This list of classes was made and then given a level of weight to ensure that projects that were most beneficial were selected for funding. The benefit classes and weighting factor are potential areas for the Steering Committee to make changes and revisions that apply to current needs of the Watershed. Convener Whitaker encouraged feedback on the benefit classes from the group and noted that it may need be reviewed again at the next meeting. Committee Member Deborah Robertson noted that she looks forward to reviewing the projects from the City of Colton and would need to review again prior to giving feedback on the weighted classes. Committee Member Brenda Dennstedt reminded the group that determining the weighted classes for Round 1 was a collaborative and compromising process that took into consideration various geographic perspectives. The result was more well-rounded and valuable for the watershed. Mr. Achimore assured the Committee that this will be an ongoing process that does not need to be finalized until approximately the September timeline.

Mr. Achimore shared some updates from DWR about the process for Proposition 1 Round 2. These updates include simplifying the application process, promoting climate resilience, updating the process to include 2 deadlines as requested by stakeholders and Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) areas throughout the state, and the potential for the Governor and State Legislature to add additional grant requirements based on major policy issues (drought emergencies).

At the March 2021 OWOW Steering Committee meeting, it was requested that SAWPA staff create an outreach plan to promote applications for grant funding when the Call for Projects time comes. Committee member Brenda Dennstedt inquired about the timeline for the outreach and communication plan. She also mentioned that Western Municipal Water District will be hosting a Roundtables event soon and it would be a good time to share this information. Mayor Patricia Lock Dawson, of City of Riverside, also inquired about obtaining information from SAWPA that the City of Riverside could share and send out in their areas. Mr. Achimore responded that SAWPA will be preparing materials and flyers to distribute and promote awareness of the grant opportunities. Committee Member Ted Hoffman inquired about the drought situation and if that is influencing the Proposition 1 Round 2 funding distributions. He also suggested various types of agencies that would benefit in receiving information about this process, such as JPAs, smaller water retailers, and other county agencies that work with large groups of organizations and can assist in proliferating that information.

It is anticipated that the Department of Water Resources will release draft eligibility guidelines for Round 2 projects in August 2021. Once released, SAWPA staff will recommend a final set of rating and ranking criteria for the OWOW Steering Committee to use to approve projects. SAWPA staff will need the OWOW Steering Committee approval of the final rating and ranking system before opening the Round 2 Call for Projects.

This item was for information purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.A.
B. **Incorporate the 2021 Orange County Stormwater Resource Plan into the OWOW Plan (SC#2021.5)**

Mark Norton introduced Christy Suppes of Orange County. Christy Suppes, of Orange County Public Works, who provided the PowerPoint presentation, on pages 37 – 45 of the agenda packet, titled *Orange County Stormwater Resource Plan Update*. At this time, the Orange County Stormwater Resource Plan (OC SWRP) is being updated. The plan comprises several existing planning efforts for Orange County and is used for prioritization of stormwater capture projects seeking funding through Proposition 1. It was originally submitted for inclusion to the North/South Orange County IRWM Plans and SAWPA OWOW Plan in 2017.

The four main documents that comprise the OC SWRP are the Report of Waste Discharge, the Water Quality Improvement Plan, the Integrated Regional Watershed Management Plans, and the Watershed Infiltration and Hydromodification Management Plan. The update of these documents triggered the update of the OC SWRP. A website has been prepared by Orange County that lists the various proposed projects and their statuses, which provides access for all who wish to review the projects at any time. There was no discussion.

This item was for information purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.B.

**MOVED**, to incorporate the 2021 Orange County Stormwater Resource Plan by reference in an appendix to the OWOW Plan Update 2018.

Result: **Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Unanimously)**

Motion/Second: Chaffee/Spiegel

Ayes: Chaffee, Dennstedt, Hagman, Hoffman, Spiegel, Whitaker

Nays: None

Abstentions: Dunlap, Robertson

Absent: Brown, Hessler, Kerr

C. **Disadvantaged Communities Involvement (DCI) Program Status (SC#2021.3)**

Rick Whetsel provided the PowerPoint presentation on pages 63 – 151 of the agenda packet, *Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program Technical Assistance Project Presentations*. Fourteen of the technical assistance projects were present by representatives from the proponent that oversaw the project. Each presentation provided a brief overview of the issue of concern, project accomplishments and their next steps.

The proponents and their projects were as follows:

- Eastern Municipal Water District: Quail Valley Sub-Area 4 Septic to Sewer, Phase 1 Planning Analysis
- Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency: Replenish Big Bear
- City of Rialto & California State University San Bernardino: Bohnert/Banyon Septic to Sewer Project
- City of Fullerton: Fullerton's Water Future - Ensuring Delivery of Clean, Safe Drinking Water
- City of Santa Ana: Washington Avenue Well Project
• Box Springs Mutual Water Company: Rehabilitation, Removal or Replacement of Water Storage Reservoirs with SCADA
• City of Colton: Two New Potable Wells with Generators
• Devore WC: New Reservoir, Distribution System Upgrades and New Well
• Idyllwild WD: Water Treatment Plant Upgrade with SCADA
• Marygold Mutual Water Company: New Well and Generator Project
• Terrace Mutual Water Company: New Potable Well
• Orange County Water District: Watershed Education and Field Trip Program for Disadvantaged Community Elementary School Students
• Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians: Residential Asbestos Cement Pipe Abandonment and Replacement Project
• Huerta del Valle: Reconnecting and Enhancing Water Resources for greater community and environmental benefit.

This item was for information purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.C.

5. **COMMITTEE MEMBERS’ COMMENTS**
   There were no Committee Member comments.

6. **REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**
   Committee member Ted Hoffman made a request to address issues of wildfires and quality of the Santa Ana River riverbed. He also mentioned that the Riverside County portions of the Santa Ana River Trails projects have not been completed and he would like to request any information that SAWPA could give him.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**
   The meeting ended at 1:05 p.m.

**APPROVED:  July 22, 2021**

__________________________________________
Bruce Whitaker, Convener

Attest:

__________________________________________
Sara Villa, Clerk of the Board
DATE: July 22, 2021

TO: OWOW Steering Committee

SUBJECT: Proposition 1 Round 2 Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Competition Process

PREPARED BY: Ian Achimore, Senior Watershed Manager

RECOMMENDATION
Receive and file.

DESCRIPTION
Upon the release of a Proposition 1 Round 2 IRWM Project Solicitation Package (PSP) from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), the OWOW Steering Committee becomes responsible for bringing to the SAWPA Commission a portfolio of projects that is eligible for the funding opportunity, is located within this IRWM region (i.e. the Santa Ana River Watershed), is suitably ready to proceed, has sufficient local match funding identified, and provides benefits to the watershed in line with the goals of the Santa Ana River Watershed’s approved IRWM Plan - the OWOW Plan Update 2018. One critical aspect of the process of developing a suite of projects for the grant proposal is the development and application of a set of rating and ranking (i.e. scoring) criteria. The scoring criteria are used to assess and rank all the competing projects in a way that is transparent and reflects the priorities of the OWOW Plan Update 2018.

The scoring criteria were adopted by the OWOW Steering Committee in November 2018 in tandem with the OWOW Call for Projects for Proposition 1 Round 1 IRWM funding. Now that DWR is preparing to release their draft PSP, tentatively scheduled for August 2021, SAWPA is focused on working with the OWOW Steering Committee and watershed stakeholders on developing final scoring criteria for Proposition 1 Round 2, as well as implementing the communication plan that the Steering Committee approved at their May, 2021 meeting. The communication plan will allow SAWPA to highlight the upcoming OWOW Call for Projects. If the draft PSP is released in August, the OWOW Call for Projects would likely last from October 2021 to January 2022.

Since the last Steering Committee Meeting in May, SAWPA held a virtual OWOW workshop on June 24, 2021 to highlight the expected changes to the upcoming Proposition 1 Round 2 draft PSP. These changes, which differ from what was included in DWR’s Proposition 1 Round 1 PSP, include:

- Simplifying the grant application process, including removal of required pre-application workshop,
• Promotion of climate resilience throughout the PSP,
• Clarification of “direct benefit” to disadvantaged community projects to ensure stakeholders know if their potential project is eligible, and
• Two application deadlines that IRWM regions can use, either March 2022, or September 2022.

During the June 24 workshop, SAWPA also shared the possible updates to the OWOW rating and ranking criteria with the stakeholders, which include the following:

• Change the small project threshold of ≤$500,000 of grant request, and/or change the 10% and 90% split for small and large projects,
• Add more categories or change the weighting factors of benefits,
• Add more descriptors for benefit area limits, and
• Have the OWOW benefit class related to disadvantaged communities (DAC) mirror the DWR definition of benefits to DACs.

Staff discussed the first two items with the Committee at their May 27, 2021 meeting. At this July 22 Committee meeting, SAWPA will present an overview to the Committee about the last two items, which were not shared with the Committee in May.

At the Committee’s next meeting on September 23, 2021, SAWPA will present a recommendation to update or leave unchanged any one of these items. Additional items not on this list could be brought to the Committee as OWOW’s Call for Projects could be influenced by unexpected policy changes in the upcoming DWR draft PSP. If DWR makes major policy changes, SAWPA may also recommend delaying the call for projects in order to gather further input from stakeholders and the Steering Committee.

BACKGROUND
In November 2018, the OWOW Steering Committee adopted both an overarching policy, referred to the Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Grant – OWOW Program Policy, as well as the detailed scoring criteria. The scoring criteria, and much of the Proposition 1 Round 1 Call for Projects process was described in the OWOW Plan Update 2018, which was also adopted by the OWOW Steering Committee.

Through the current policy, once a project has been identified as eligible, the project lead will be required to quantify the benefits the completed project will provide this IRWM region. The benefit classes, such as “water supply reliability” are included in the OWOW Plan Update 2018 and reflect the Proposition 1 water bond passed by the California general electorate in November 2014. Each of the benefit classes contains a weighting factor derived from the work of OWOW stakeholders in April 2018 and are adopted by the Steering Committee.

Attachments:
  1. PowerPoint Presentation
Proposition 1 Round 2
Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Competition Process

Ian Achimore, Senior Watershed Manager
OWOW Steering Committee | July 22, 2021
Item No. 4.A.
Purpose of Presentation

- Update on Communication Plan implementation for OWOW Prop 1 Round 2,
- Present feedback from OWOW stakeholders regarding OWOW rating and ranking criteria, and
- Present two new potential updates to the rating and ranking criteria.
Prop 1 and Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM)

All overall IRWM Round 1 and 2 project proposals must:

- Respond to climate change, and
- Contribute to regional water self-reliance.

All individual projects must:

- Be “implementation” projects (may have small component for related education efforts),
- Have an expected useful life of 15 years, and
- Have CEQA/permits acquired within 18 months after execution of grant agreement with Department of Water Resources (DWR).
Prop 1 Round 2 Amounts by Category

Total = $27,058,572

*Includes $989,072 carry over from Round 1

- Santa Ana River Watershed: $7,175,543
- Grant Admin: $4,095,000
- North Orange County*: $1,352,929
- Upper Watershed: $12,372,943
- Watershed Wide: $2,062,157
- DAC Implementation: $4,095,000

*Includes $989,072 carry over from Round 1
Steering Committee approves Prop 1 Policy

Nov 2018

DWR Releases Draft R2 Grant Guidelines

Aug 2021

Scoring Criteria Adopted by Steering Committee

Sep 2021

OWOW R2 Call for Projects

Oct 2021 - Jan 2022

DWR Releases Final R2 Grant Guidelines

Dec 2021

SAWPA finalizes R2 grant agreement

Feb 2023

R2 Application Submittal to DWR

Sep 2022

Steering Committee Approves R2 Projects

Mar 2022

Staff Review & Participatory Budgeting

Jan to Feb 2022

*Schedule assumes DWR will release draft Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) by August 2021, and all other Round 2 deadlines will reflect the same timing of the Round 1 schedule of events.
Communication Plan Implementation

Focus of Next Couple Slides

- OWOW Prop 1 Policy
- Stakeholder meetings
- Implement Communication Plan
- Start Call for Projects
- Participatory Budgeting
# Communication Plan Implementation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entity from Communication Plan</th>
<th>Status*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Council of governments</td>
<td>Presentations scheduled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flood control districts</td>
<td>Coordinating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAWPA member agencies and large to mid-sized retail water agencies</td>
<td>Coordinating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small water agencies (mutual water companies, investor-owned utilities)</td>
<td>Coordinating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tribes</td>
<td>Will reach out soon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-governmental organizations</td>
<td>Will reach out soon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disadvantaged communities</td>
<td>Will reach out soon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource conservation districts</td>
<td>Will reach out soon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest related groups (National Forests, fire safe councils, Cal-Fire)</td>
<td>Coordinating</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*As of July 2, 2021*
Possible Updates to Criteria

- Change small project threshold of ≤$500,000 of grant request, and/or change the 10% and 90% split for small and large projects,
- Add more categories or change the weighting factors of benefits,
- Add more descriptors for benefit area limits, and
- Mirror DWR definition of benefits to disadvantaged communities (DAC).

Note: OWOW criteria may be updated once we know DWR’s priorities and areas of focus as part of the future PSP, anticipated to be released in August 2021.
Small Project Competition - Scoring Criteria Policy

- **Goal of Policy**: Ensure smaller projects can compete on a level playing field,
- **Steering Committee approved ≤$500,000 grant request threshold for Round 2.**, 
- **Using Round 2 available funds**, the calculations of 10% and 90% are shown in table on this slide.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Request Threshold</th>
<th>Small</th>
<th>Large</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≤$500,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>&gt;$500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Funds Available (10% and 90%)</td>
<td>$1.9M</td>
<td>$16.7M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grant Funds Total = $18,530,100**
(sum of upper watershed, watershed-wide and DAC funding)
Weighted Scores

- Step 1 - Max Quantity:
  Identify max quantity in a benefit class

- Step 2 - Raw Score:
  \[ \text{Raw Score} = \left( \frac{\text{Project Quantity}}{\text{Max Quantity}} \right) \times 20 \]

- Step 3 - Weighted score:
  \[ \text{Weighted Score} = \text{Raw Score} \times \text{Weighting Factor} \]

Example:
\[ \left( \frac{x \text{ acre feet}}{X \text{ acre feet}} \right) \times 20 \times 9.2 \]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current OWOW Benefit Classes</th>
<th>Weighting Factor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Water supply reliability, efficiency</td>
<td>9.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groundwater recharge and management</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reclaim water, treat and convey</td>
<td>8.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multipurpose flood &amp; Stormwater</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watershed / ecosystem / wetland</td>
<td>7.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefits to members of DACs</td>
<td>7.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefits large area of watershed</td>
<td>7.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drinking water treatment, distribution</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contains public education component</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-point source pollution reduction, etc.</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fisheries restoration / protection</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Removal invasive non-native species</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Benefit Area Definitions

Through the participatory budgeting process in Round 1, stakeholders were comfortable with the following limits to benefit areas:

- **Ecosystem Projects**: US Geological Survey designated HUC-12* level watersheds,
- **Surface Water Quality and Groundwater Quality**: HUC-12s and DWR-118 groundwater Basins,
- **Coastal water quality/recreation**: 10-mile buffer areas, and
- **Inland park or water-body Recreation**: ½ mile buffer areas.

*HUC = Hydraulic Unit Code (more info: https://water.usgs.gov/GIS/huc.html)
Much of the discussion in Round 1 process was ensuring the same methodology was used by applicants for designating their benefit areas. This largely affected the two benefit classes highlighted. Under Round 2, SAWPA could develop more examples and benefit area limits that help project proponents define their benefit areas.

### Current OWOW Benefit Classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit Class</th>
<th>Weighting Factor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Water supply reliability, efficiency</td>
<td>9.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groundwater recharge and management</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reclaim water, treat and convey</td>
<td>8.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multipurpose flood &amp; Stormwater</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watershed / ecosystem / wetland</td>
<td>7.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefits to members of DACs</td>
<td>7.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefits large area of watershed</td>
<td>7.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drinking water treatment, distribution</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contains public education component</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-point source pollution, reduce, etc.</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fisheries restoration / protection</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Removal invasive non-native species</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DWR and OWOW Past Definition of DAC Benefit Area

**DWR**

**Method:**
- Count the DAC areas within either a construction footprint area, or (larger) benefit area.
- Use MHI* Survey if no data exists for a given area.

**Purpose:**
- To determine if a project is 1) eligible for waiver of the cost share requirement, and 2) eligible for receiving DAC grant funding set aside.

**OWOW**

**Method:**
- Count the DAC areas within the larger benefit area.

**Purpose:**
- To determine how a project scores in the OWOW “Benefits to members of DACs” benefit class.

*Medium Household Income*
Potential Issue with Past DAC Definition

- OWOW allowed project proponents to claim open-space areas, like surface water bodies and the river bottom, as a direct benefit to DAC.
- Was done to encourage project proponents to think regionally and find interlinkages with other potential project partners.
- A possible change to the OWOW process could be done to mirror DWR methodology as DWR interpreted “direct benefit to DAC” very specifically (can only claim benefits to end use customers and non-open space parcels).
Pros/Cons of Modifying DAC Definition

**Pro:** No confusion later in process when DWR does analysis of final application, and
- Incentivizes projects that mirror the goals of Prop 1 legislation.

**Con:** Could make OWOW application complicated as benefit areas created via OWOW project portal are currently drawn regardless of parcel type (investigating GIS fix to portal), and
- Doesn’t incentivize project proponents to think regionally.
Next Steps

- Hold another OWOW virtual workshop on August 26, 2021 and get additional feedback from stakeholders,
- Take recommendation of any updates to OWOW Steering Committee on September 23,
  - Staff will share recommendation of rating and ranking criteria at that meeting,
- Open OWOW Call for Projects from October 2021 to January 2022.

Note: If DWR makes major policy changes in their draft PSP in August, 2021, SAWPA may delay the call for projects in order to gather further input from stakeholders and Steering Committee.
Recommendation

Receive and file.
DATE: July 22, 2021

TO: OWOW Steering Committee

SUBJECT: Disadvantaged Communities Involvement (DCI) Program Status

PREPARED BY: Rick Whetsel, Senior Watershed Manager

RECOMMENDATION
Receive and file.

DISCUSSION
The Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program (DCI Program) for the Santa Ana River Watershed has three main Program Elements, within which are twenty separate activities. Those three Program Elements consist of 1) Strengths and Needs Assessment, 2) Engagement and Education, 3) Project Development. A fourth element contains grant administration tasks assigned to SAWPA.

The attached presentation provides a summary overview of SAWPA’s DCI Program, its many program activities and its accomplishments.

BACKGROUND
The Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program is a Prop 1 funded effort within the Integrated Regional Water Management Program to ensure the involvement of disadvantaged communities, economically distressed areas, and underrepresented communities in integrated regional water management planning. As the Santa Ana River Watershed approved Regional Water Management Group, SAWPA was awarded a $6.3 million grant in June 2017. In January 2020, an amendment to this agreement was approved to modify the Work Plan and Schedule to reflect current project conditions, as well as, to extend the term of the agreement from April 30, 2020 to July 31, 2021.

SAWPA managed the program with five program partners: California State University, Local Government Commission (a 501c3 nonprofit), the California Rural Water Association (a 501c3 nonprofit), the Water Education Foundation (a 501c3 nonprofit), and the University of California Irvine.

Attachments:
1. PowerPoint Presentation
Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program

Summary Report

Rick Whetsel, Senior Watershed Manager
OWOW Steering Committee | July 22, 2021
Item No. 4.B.
DWR established the Disadvantaged Community Involvement Grant Program to support the following objectives:

1) Work collaboratively to involve DACs, community-based organizations, and stakeholders in IRWM Planning efforts

2) Increase the understanding, and identify the water management needs of disadvantaged communities

3) Develop strategies and long-term solutions that appropriately address the identified DAC water management needs

4) Support technical assistance for planning of future construction projects including feasibility, design, CEQA, etc. - Not construction at this stage.
Program Partners
Leveraging Resources for Biggest Impact
CivicSpark Water Fellows Program

- SAWPA hosted two CivicSpark Water Action Fellows each year of the program to support program implementation.
- CivicSpark was launched in 2014 as Governor Brown’s Initiative AmeriCorps program (managed by Local Government Commission).
- Water Action Fellowship is a Governor’s Initiative AmeriCorps program, building on success of CivicSpark.
- Water Action Fellows serve on research, planning, and/or implementation projects to fill immediate gaps and build long-term capacity within their beneficiary agencies to address critical water resource challenges.
DWR has designated DAC household income for this DCI grant program as below 80% of the State median household income.
Santa Ana Watershed Cities

Percent Disadvantaged Community Population
% Agency Pop Disadvantaged

0%
1% - 10%
10% - 20%
20% - 40%
40% - 60%
60% - 80%
80% - 100%

Retail agencies without service area boundaries shown as circle

Income and population data for census block groups from American Community Survey (ACS) 2014-2018.
DAC census blocks are those with median household income less than 80% of the Statewide median household income of $71,228.
DCI Program Elements

1. Strengths and Needs Assessment
2. Education and Engagement
3. Project Development
4. Administration
Program Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Element</th>
<th>Budget Allocation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Strength &amp; Needs Assessment</td>
<td>$898,644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Engagement &amp; Education</td>
<td>$1,853,068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Project Development</td>
<td>$3,233,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Grant Management/ Administration</td>
<td>$315,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,300,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### PE 1: Strengths & Needs Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element / Activity</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DACI Technical Advisory Committee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAC / Tribal Pillar</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engage Local Elected Leaders</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engage Mutual Water Companies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engage Water Agencies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Listening Sessions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Water Ethnography</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homelessness &amp; Water Convening</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PE 2: Engagement / Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element / Activity</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tribal Consultation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust the Tap Campaign</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Translation Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engagement Best Practices Publications</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of the Watershed Conferences</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Water Education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Agency Engagement Training</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Elected Leader Training</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Engagement Interns Program</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PE 3: Project Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element / Activity</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Technical Assistance / Project Implementation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OWOW Plan Update 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CivicSpark Water Fellows</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Program Element 1 - Strengths and Needs Assessment

Objectives:
Acknowledge and document strengths of overburdened and underrepresented communities.

- Interview and/or survey local elected leaders.
- Engage with mutual water companies.
- Conduct community workshops throughout the watershed

Create new networks of familiarity between local elected or community leaders and water management leaders.
Ethnographic Approach

- Ethnography is a qualitative method that produces holistic analyses of social experiences.
- Conducted over a two-year period
- Four Key activities:
  - engagement,
  - listening,
  - analysis
  - community conversation report-backs.
- Engaged five social groups
  - Native communities,
  - other diverse local communities,
  - elected officials,
  - water agencies,
  - mutual water companies.
Ethnographic Strengths and Needs Assessment

Objective: Strengths and needs assessment designed by SAWPA and its partner agencies to take the next step in integrated and inclusive watershed planning.

- SAWPA partnered with the University of California, Irvine’s Department of Anthropology and California State University, San Bernardino Water Resources and Policy Initiatives.
- Initial phase 1 Report available on SAWPA DCI webpage
Program Element 2 - Education and Engagement

Objectives of this program element included activities intended to accomplish multiple long-term outcomes for the region:

- Provide community members better understanding of water management.
- Strengthen participation in the OWOW process.
- Engage and educate elected representatives.
Objective: incorporate findings from the Disadvantaged Community Involvement program into the 2018 OWOW Plan update.

- Updated Subchapters of the OWOW Plan
  - 5.3 Tribal Communities
  - 5.5 Disadvantaged Communities

- Plan Adopted: February 2019

- Available on the SAWPA DCI Program webpage
Homelessness & Water Convening

Objective: reveal synergies and develop new partnerships between those seeking to manage homelessness and those engaged with water management

- SAWPA Hosted two events (2017)
- Identified linkages between water & homelessness
  - Homeless considered underrepresented community
  - Water quality degradation (trash, bacteria)
  - Hydromodification (damming, debris)
  - Riparian / Aquatic habitat (physical disturbance, fire)
  - Flood risk (unsheltered people)
  - Access to drinking water
  - Access to sanitation (sanitary sewer, hygiene)
  - Repurposing of multi-use recreation facilities
Tribal Consultation

Objective: Confer with the sovereign tribal communities within the Santa Ana Watershed and the adjacent areas not served by a Regional Water Management Group.

- Conducted outreach and held workshops
  - Invitations to all Tribal groups
  - Included non-federally recognized Native American Tribes.

- Activity Lead: SAWPA staff/ CRWA
Engagement Best Practices Publication

Objective: Produced publication to report on engagement of disadvantaged communities and water management

- Highlighted case studies from around the state, including the SAWPA region

- Activity Lead: Water Education Foundation

- Final Report: July 2020
  - Printed publication distributed Statewide
    *SAWPA has a limited number of copies available!
  - Digital version available on the SAWPA DCI webpage
Water Agency Community Engagement Training

Objective: Conducted six virtual training events directed at agency staff of small Community Water Systems and Mutual Water Companies.

- Activity Lead: California Rural Water Agency

- Courses offered included:
  - Leak Detection & Water Loss Accountability
  - Rates & Rates Structure
  - Water Conservation/Water Shortage Management Plans
  - AB 54 Board Member Training
  - Emergency Preparedness/Response
  - Grant Funding & Infrastructure Planning
  - Well Diagnostics, Rehab, & Maintenance
Objective: Provided trainings for local elected leaders and their staff in the watershed.

- Relayed the findings of the Strengths & Needs Assessment
- Provide basic information on water management topics, and best practices
  - **Workshop 1**: Getting to Know Your Watershed (September 2019)
  - **Workshop 2**: Collaborative Planning in the Face of Uncertainty (January 2020)
  - **Workshop 3**: Communicating the Value of Water to Your Constituents (July 2020)

Spring 2021 - conducted condensed versions of the 2019-2020 Watershed Ambassador Certification Program.

- Materials used to develop on-line mini-series to be hosted on SAWPA Watershed Ambassador website to continue the program

- Materials available on SAWPA DCI Program website
Santa Ana River Watershed Ambassador Program for Local Policymakers - Virtual Mini Series

How To Get Certified

1. Watch the Recordings
2. Complete the Activity
3. Complete the Evaluation
4. Email ambassador@awpa.org
5. Receive Your Certificate!

Workshop 1: Getting to Know Your Watershed
Workshop 2: Collaborating in the Face of Uncertainty
Workshop 3: Communicating the Value of Water
Statewide Disadvantaged Communities and Tribal Involvement Lessons Learned Virtual Summit

Focus: Disadvantaged Communities and Tribes Lessons Learned through Prop 1 IRWM Program

- Highlighted SAWPA’s DACI Program
- Findings from IRWM regions around the State
- Key Speakers:
  - Wade Crowfoot, California Natural Resources Agency
  - Laurel Firestone, State Water Resources Control Board
  - Yana Garcia, California Environmental Protection Agency
  - Carmel Brown and Anecita Agustinez, Department of Water Resources
- Conducted as three half day events
- Over 450 Attendees
- Summit Presentation materials available on the SAWPA DCI webpage
Community Engagement Interns Program

Objective: Program, administered by the CSU DACC, sought 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.

- Provided internships for students from the CSU, UC and community college campuses of the watershed.
- Activity Lead: CSUSB / Civic Sparks
- Placement 60 Interns (complete)
Public Outreach Services

Trust the Tap

Objective: Trust the Tap is a multi-lingual informational campaign focused on spreading awareness about the values and safety of tap water within communities of the watershed that have historically mistrusted the safety of water from the tap.

- Materials available in Spanish, Vietnamese, and English.
- Tool Kit includes:
  - Bill stuffers
  - Informational videos
  - News releases
  - Social media posts
  - Posters
  - Trifold brochures
  - Outreach plan

Available on the SAWPA webpage

Translation Services

Objective: Translation services for documents and meetings.

- Multiple languages.
- Completed: 80 jobs at $85 K
Technical Assistance for Community Need

Objectives:

- Building upon what was learned through the outreach and engagement efforts to overburdened and underserved communities a suite of potential project and program types were identified as eligible to receive technical assistance funding.
- Develop evaluation criteria to rate, rank and score the potential projects, plans and programs.
- Allocated Technical Assistance funding.
- Allocated Funding $2.9 M
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TA Award</th>
<th>Project Sponsor:</th>
<th>Project Title:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>CSU WRPI</td>
<td>Median Household Income Surveys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>SAWPA</td>
<td>Assessing the Water Quality, Riparian, and Aquatic Habitat Impacts of Homelessness in the Upper Santa Ana River Watershed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$350,000</td>
<td>Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians</td>
<td>Residential Asbestos Cement Pipe Abandonment and Replacement Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$500,000</td>
<td>Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency</td>
<td>Replenish Big Bear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>California Rural Water Association</td>
<td>Tribal Advisory Committee (Tribal AC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$175,000</td>
<td>Box Springs MWC</td>
<td>Rehabilitation, Removal or Replacement of Water Storage Reservoirs with SCADA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$200,000</td>
<td>City of Colton</td>
<td>Two New Potable Wells with Generators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>Devore WC</td>
<td>New Reservoir, Distribution System Upgrades and New Well</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>Idyllwild WD</td>
<td>Water Treatment Plant Upgrade with SCADA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>Marygold MWC</td>
<td>New Well and Generator Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>Riverside Highland WC</td>
<td>Ion Exchange System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$250,000</td>
<td>Terrace MWC</td>
<td>New Potable Well</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$200,000</td>
<td>Eastern Municipal WD</td>
<td>Quail Valley Sub-Area 4 Septic to Sewer, Phase 1 Planning Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$250,000</td>
<td>City of Rialto</td>
<td>Bohnert/Banyon Septic to Sewer Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>Orange County WD</td>
<td>Watershed Education and Field Trip Program for Disadvantaged Community Elementary School Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>City of Fullerton</td>
<td>Fullerton’s Water Future - Ensuring Delivery of Clean, Safe Drinking Water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>Huerta del Valle</td>
<td>Reconnecting and Enhancing Water Resources for greater community and environmental benefit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>City of Santa Ana</td>
<td>Washington Avenue Well Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2,900,000</td>
<td>Total Technical Assistance funding</td>
<td>Washington Avenue Well Project</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conclusions & Recommendations

Core community concerns to be addressed:
- Language Barriers
- Communication
- Tap Water Quality

Recommendations to water decision-makers
- Devote staff to maintaining long-term relationships with community-based that have relationships with underrepresented and overburdened communities.
- Work directly with community-based organizations to hear and respond to the localized concerns that people have about tap water.
- Design strong and inclusive working group structures that are able to connect the strengths and needs surfaced by communities to actionable projects and programs.
- More regional involvement and support is needed for small water community systems/mutual water companies serving disadvantaged communities
- Continue to fund disadvantaged community involvement programs.
SAWPA Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program Webpage

Direct links to the Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program resources and materials can be found at:
https://sawpa.org/owow/dci-program/