

Coachella Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Program

Planning Partners

Tuesday July 20, 2010
1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Colorado River Regional Water Quality Control Board
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260

DRAFT NOTES

Action items are shown in italics.

Attendees:

Planning Partners

Anna Vargas, Poder Popular
Anthony Madrigal, 29 Palms Band of Mission Indians
Bill Bayne, City of Cathedral City
Bud Kopp, City of Rancho Mirage
Buford Crites, Friends of the Desert Mountains
Dave Barakian, City of Palm Springs
David Saldivar, Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians
Doug Wylie, Colorado River RWQCB
G. Patrick O'Dowd, WYoung
Greg Young, Cocopah
Jason Uhley, Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
Jennifer Hernandez, California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation
Jennifer Wong, Department of Water Resources
Kim Snyder, Bureau of Indian Affairs
Les Ramirez, Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians
Margaret Park, Agua-Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
Marshall Cheung, 29 Palms Band of Mission Indians
Mike Gialdini, Riverside County
Rex Sharp, Valley Sanitary District
Robert Perdue, Colorado River RWQCB
Roland Ferrer, Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
Yvonne Parks, City of Desert Hot Springs

CVRWMG

Andrea Riesgo, IWA
Dan Parks, CVWD
Daniel Cozad, IPM
David Tate, DWA
Gary Lewis, IWA
Katie Ruark, DWA
Marilyn McKay, MSWD
Mark Krause, DWA
Patti Reyes, CVWD
Roselyn Stewart, RMC
Tom West, RMC

Meeting Objectives:

- A. Keep participants up-to-date on the Coachella Valley IRWM program.
- B. Review and confirm feedback from the June 22 Public Workshop on draft IRWM Plan goals and objectives.
- C. Discuss the open Call for Projects and draft project prioritization criteria to be used to evaluate implementation projects.
- D. Discuss the draft detailed IRWM Plan outline.
- E. Identify future agenda items for Planning Partners meetings.

Meeting Notes:

Update on IRWM Planning and Schedule

Tom West, RMC Water and Environment, provided an update on the State's IRWM program and its upcoming Prop 84 funding opportunities. He provided an overview of the schedule for development of the Coachella Valley IRWM Plan, including future Planning Partners meetings.

- What is the deadline for submitted projects? Deadline for submitting projects for the draft IRWM Plan and Prop 84 Round 1 funding is July 30, 2010. There will be another opportunity to submit projects before Rounds 2+3 of Prop 84 grant cycle and concurrent with the DAC Outreach Demonstration Program.
- Who is responsible for drafting the IRWM Plan? CVRWGMG is the body responsible for preparing the draft IRWM Plan, in collaboration with the Planning Partners.

IRWM Plan Goals and Objectives

Rosalyn Stewart, RMC Water and Environment, presented the draft Goals and Objectives that were discussed at the June 22 Public Workshop. Two suggestions raised at the workshop were discussed with group. CVRWGMG recommends no changes because in DWR's prioritization structure, objectives (not goals) are the key for measuring progress.

Call for Projects – Open through July 30, 2010

Tom West reviewed the Call for Projects timeline and emphasized the importance of submitting projects into the database. The submitted projects will be included in the IRWM Plan to communicate to DWR and others the water management needs in the Valley. The submitted projects will also be considered for Prop 84 Round 1 funding, which may bring up to \$4 million to the region.

- Can a project under construction apply for funding? Yes, although grant funding is not intended to replace existing CIP spending, but rather future phases of work.
- How much IRWM grant funding is available through Prop 84? \$36 million has been earmarked for the Colorado River Funding Area (which also includes the Imperial Valley and Borrego Valley regions).
- Are there safeguards built into the 'sharing' functionality of the project database? There are no safeguards built in, so share your projects only with trusted partners. Anyone who shares the project can edit and resubmit.
- Can the sharing functionality be turned off? Yes, you can turn off a sharing partner.
- Will RMC help to refine project information? Yes, once the short list of projects has been identified for Prop 84 Round 1, RMC will help will help expand project descriptions.

- Will City Managers and CVAG be informed about progress on the IRWM Plan? Yes, CVRWGMG agrees to give briefing to CVAG on IRWM Plan progress (last Mondays).
- Concern expressed about July 30th deadline and the inability for DACs to fully complete their project submittals. Project concepts can be included in the project database at this time in order to meet timeline. Also, CVRWGMG is hosting an open house on July 28th to help DACs enter their projects into the database.
- Who is the agency to administer grants? CVRWGMG has chosen CVWD to administer IRWM grant funding (planning and implementation). All project proponents who are included with the grant application will contract with CVWD.
- Who selects projects for the grant applications? The project selection process is not defined yet. It will be based partially on the project prioritization criteria discussed today.
- *RMC to provide Planning Partners with link to DWR's IRWM Grant Program Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Packages (PSPs).*
- *RMC to send final submitted list of projects to the Planning Partners in August.*

Draft Project Prioritization Criteria

Rosalyn Stewart presented the draft project prioritization criteria for the IRWM Plan. The criteria are based on three basic principles: 1 DWR's Principles of IRWM Planning; 2 Priorities of the Coachella Valley; and 3 Project Feasibility.

- Suggestion to reduce weighting of 1C Addresses a Statewide Priority, 1D Linked to Other Projects, and 1E Involves More Than One Partner.
- Suggestion to reformat 2 Priorities of the Coachella Valley to provide maximum points if only 1 priority is accomplished.
- Suggestion to consider project readiness and amount of funding match. However, these factors may be better considered in project selection for grant applications.
- Suggestion to reduce weighting for 3 Project Feasibility.

Detailed IRWM Plan Outline

Tom West presented the draft detailed outline for the IRWM Plan and invited any comments or suggestions from the Planning Partners.

Next Steps

Tom West identified the topics for our next two Planning Partners meetings:

- September 28 Planning Partners → Project Ranking, Focus on Implementation
- October 26 Planning Partners → Review of Admin Draft IRWM Plan