

**Greater Los Angeles County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan
South Bay Steering Committee
West Basin MWD
Carson, CA**

**Tuesday September 9, 2008
1:30 – 3:30 pm**

Meeting Notes

Present:

Frank Kuo, LA County Flood Control District
Leighanne Reeser, West Basin MWD
Marilyn Lyon, South Bay Environmental Services Center
Rob Beste, City of Torrance
Patrick Arakawa, LA County Flood Control District
Bob Siemak, Water Replenishment District
Scott Valor, Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission

Lauren Mahakian, City of El Segundo
Theresa Wu, Water Replenishment District
Mary Zauner, LA County Sanitation Districts
Wing Tam, City of LA, Bureau of Sanitation
Dawn Hock, RMC
Persephene St. Charles (phone), RMC
Shirley Birosik (phone), Regional Water Quality Control Board
Shana Epstein (phone), City of Beverly Hills

Agenda Item	Topic/ Issue	Discussion	Action Item/Follow Up
1	Welcome, Introductions	Leighanne Reeser led introductions	
2	August Steering Committee Meeting Notes	Meeting notes were reviewed and approved with two corrections: addition of Shirley Birosik to those present, and changing Agenda Item 4 notes to read: "A table was distributed summarizing contributions pledged and paid. To date, approximately 60% (\$614,750) of pledged funds have been received, and \$139,000 has been paid to the consultant."	
3	Brief overview of July Leadership Committee Discussion and Outcomes	There was no information to report as there was no August Leadership Committee meeting and the July Leadership Committee meeting was reviewed at the last SC meeting.	
4	Funding Contribution Status	A table was distributed summarizing contributions pledged and paid. All but three payments have been received. The Brown and Caldwell agreement was taken back to the West Basin Board for approval of additional services within the funding contribution budget. To date, \$659,750 (63%) of pledged funds have been received, and \$172,240 has been paid to the consultant.	

The Mission of the Greater Los Angeles County IRWMP is to address the water resources needs of the Region in an integrated and collaborative manner.

and recreation. Over 85 percent of the Subregion is still undeveloped open space; remaining land uses in the area are primarily residential and concentrated along the coastline and interior valleys. There is little heavy industry. The Subregion depends almost entirely on imported water due to naturally-poor groundwater quality and limited surface storage opportunities. Per capita recycled water use is among the highest in the nation, but further expansion is limited to areas that are difficult to reach due to cost. Aquatic habitat protection and restoration is a special priority, as the Subregion includes the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, several State Parks, a state designated Area of Biological Significance (ASBS), and Malibu Lagoon, all heavily used for recreation. The Subregion is also home to over a dozen endangered and threatened species, including the southernmost Steelhead Trout population in the state.

South Bay Watersheds

The South Bay watersheds consist of three defining characteristics—its coastline, its population and its industry. More than 30 miles of coastline in the South Bay attract tens of millions of visitors to Southern California every year, serve as an impor-

tant recreation area for the area’s residents both rich and poor, and in a few remaining pockets such as the Palos Verdes Peninsula, Madrona Marsh, Ballona Wetlands, portions of the Santa Monica Mountains and Baldwin Hills, support a diverse population of birds and other wildlife. With over 2.9 million residents, the South Bay is one of the most dense and economically diverse urban areas of the region, creating both challenges to preserve and enhance local water resources and the natural environment as well as unique opportunities for collaboration. The South Bay’s industries—oil refining, power generation, and transportation via the Port of Los Angeles, Los Angeles International Airport and major freeways—provide similar challenges and opportunities.

Upper Los Angeles River Watershed

The Upper Los Angeles River Watersheds is home to approximately 2.3 million residents, mostly in development concentrated in the interior valleys and the foothills, which are generally surrounded by large expanses of open space in the San Gabriel, Verdugo, Santa Monica, and Santa Susanna Mountains. In most years, the mountains generate substantial runoff, much of which can be recharged into the underlying groundwater basins



The Los Angeles River is fed by the largest drainage area in the Region.

5	IRWMP Sub-regional planning needs	<p>The group discussed sub-regional planning needs for the South Bay. Below is a summary of this discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The goals in the IRWMP should be looked at to determine what has been accomplished and see how much work each sub-region needs in each area. • Projects in the IRWMP database should be examined to determine whether they will bring the sub-region towards its goals. • Planning documents relevant to the sub-region should be looked at to find goals which have not been met. The lead entity of each planning document should be contacted for current needs. Examples of these documents include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ City of Los Angeles IRP & Water Quality Compliance Master Plan ○ LA Water Quality Compliance Master Plan ○ Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission Plan Update ○ Dominguez Watershed Master Plan ○ Ballona Creek Master Plan • Potential planning needs include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identification of sub-regional characteristics to ensure they are included in the IRWMP ○ Better cost estimate of Ballona watershed water quality needs (TMDLs for compliance, figures aren't real, need real figures for development of projects) ○ Develop specific planning targets for all sub-regions to meet the region's overall targets ○ Tracking where the sub-region is in meeting the region's overall goals since the plan was adopted ○ Flood planning – localized planning ○ Water supply reliability needs and cost figures for entire South Bay sub-region outside what West Basin has for its service area ○ Development and implementation of a sediment management 	<p>The group should review the section in the IRWMP that describes the South Bay sub-region and note information that is missing or if the current text should be changed. Comments should be brought to the next SC meeting.</p> <p>Leighanne will email the section in the IRWMP that describes the South Bay to the group.</p> <p>The group should come prepared to the next SC meeting with sub-regional planning needs.</p>

		plan for Machado Lake (it was mentioned that this need is already filled by the Machado Lake Watershed Master Plan)	
6	IRWMP update	<p>The IRWMP was discussed by the group. A summary of this discussion is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The update is currently being planned as an addendum to the current IRWMP. Sections that need to be updated were identified in the outline distributed last month. Sections that don't require an update will be noted as such. • The goal of this update is to create an interim update to bring the plan up to Prop 84 standards. A full update would occur every 5 years. • The group agreed that an addendum may create confusion to the reader, and that updates should be included in the actual IRWMP document. Any changes could be recorded using track changes for initial SC review. Comments relative to this approach were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The SC's opinion on the update should be brought to the Leadership Committee. ○ Changes made to the document itself would be costly in terms of cost to print out new documents. ○ The updated document could be downloaded, avoiding printing costs. • The group should decide whether projects should be included in the document or as a link to the online project database. • The Steering Committee will need to forward update needs to the consultant. • The SC's comments on the IRWMP Update Outline are reflected in the August meeting notes 	
7	DAC Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The DAC Workshop held on August 12, 2008 was attended by Leighanne Reeser, Frank Kuo, and James Alamillo (Heal the Bay) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The attendees of the workshop determined that the current DAC Outreach draft plan is insufficient, and requires a mission statement and purpose. ○ Three subcommittees were created to accomplish the following: 1) create a Mission Statement, 2) create a spreadsheet of DACs, 3) define DAC 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Leadership Committee will approve an interim DAC Plan until the subcommittees can provide comments • Comments from the SC are to be incorporated into the DAC Outreach Plan. The goal is to ensure that projects which benefit DACs are included in the plan. • The group will need to discuss the timing of DAC workshops in light of the delays to the grant application process. • The Upper San Gabriel sub-region may be doing a DAC outreach workshop for the South El Monte area (need clarity on purpose of workshop) 	
8	Recent and Upcoming Grant Opportunities	<p>A listing of recent and upcoming grant opportunities was distributed to the group. Opportunities brought to the attention of the group include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Santa Monica Bay Restoration Grant Program: The purpose of this program is to provide funds to capital improvement projects that restore and protect the Bay's water quality. The deadline for this application is Oct. 17, 2008. • California River Parkway Grant Program: The purpose of this program is to provide public access through river parkways. The deadline for this application is Nov. 12, 2008. • Urban Streams Restoration Program: The purpose of this program is to assist communities in reducing damages from stream bank and watershed instability and floods while restoring the environmental and aesthetic values of streams. The deadline for this application is Nov. 12, 2008. • Nonpoint Source Implementation Grant Program: The purpose of this program is to implement measures and practices that reduce or prevent nonpoint source pollution and support the TMDL program. The deadline for concept applications is October 16, 2008. 	
8	Future agenda items, Items to report at Leadership Committee meeting, Other Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporter Signature Document for the LA IRWMP: An IRWMP Supporter signature page was created for agencies to pledge their support for the IRWMP. The group should review this and submit comments to Leighanne. • The Lower San Gabriel SC has elected Tim Worley as Vice Chair. • Leadership Committee item: The group would prefer updates to the IRWMP be made directly to the document, as opposed to creating an addendum. • The Local Project Sponsor MOU has received all signatures except one. 	<p>Leighanne will email the Supporter Signature Document to the group.</p> <p>The SC should review and submit comments on the Supporter Signature page to Leighanne by September 22, 2008.</p>

		The web-based process for the LPS' is almost completed.	
9	Next Meetings	<p>Leadership Committee September 24, 2008, 9:30 am to 12:00 pm LA County DPW</p> <p>South Bay Steering Committee October 7, 2008, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm West Basin MWD</p>	