

**Measure W – Safe, Clean Water Program  
Administrative Oversight Committee (AOC)**

Thursday, September 9, 2021

Members Present: Matthew W. Szabo, City Administrative Officer, Chair (CAO)  
Matias Farfan, Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA)  
Mary Hodge, Office of the Mayor (MO)

Staff Present: Sarai Bhaga, City Administrative Office (CAO)  
Jessica Quach, City Administrative Office (CAO)  
Rafael Prieto, Chief Legislative Office (CLA)

The meeting was called to order at 11:24 AM.

1. General Public Comment, Multiple Agenda Item Comment

Public comment held.

2. Approval of the Minutes from prior meeting on May 13, 2021

**Action:** Approved

3. Discussion and Possible Action: Status Update by Departments

Staff from the Bureau of Sanitation (Bureau) gave a summary of the Municipal and Regional Programs as well as an update to the MS4 permit. The Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) approved the new permit on July 23, 2021 and is effective on September 10, 2021. The new permit has a few changes such as the addition of Ventura County and bi-annual reporting. In addition, there is a potential for increased enforcement. The Bureau is working with the RWQCB to address time schedule orders and extensions and is currently updating watershed management plans to demonstrate how the City will meet compliance. On the regulatory side, the watershed management plans will be used to identify areas suitable for projects and leverage SCW funding and partnerships with other City agencies for implementation.

The City received the first year of funding in 2021 which has triggered annual reporting obligations such as a financial report which is due on October 1, 2021. The Bureau submitted the annual work plan on April 1, 2021 and expects a disbursement of \$37 million by end of September 2021.

The Bureau submitted regional transfer agreements for Round 1 projects, received \$12.4M for the first year of funding, and submitted quarterly reports to the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works (County). The scope of work and transfer agreement addendums for Round 1 projects are due on October 29, 2021. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors are scheduled to approve the Stormwater Investment Plans. The scope of work for Round 2 projects is also due on October 29, 2021 and the disbursement of funds for the first year of Round 2 project funding is anticipated between January and March of 2022.

The Bureau presented a summary of funding secured for projects, operations and maintenance, and special studies requests for the Round 1 and 2 Regional Program. The Summary included breakdowns by department and watershed. In addition, the Bureau presented an update on Round 3 projects. The Bureau, along with the Working Group, is

currently working on identifying funding for future projects. Since funding for Rounds 1 and 2 have been committed, future projects may not have as much funding available. Several projects have been submitted within the City's limits, but not by City agencies. The Bureau has identified the need for guidance to address processes so that the Bureau is aware of projects and can strategize better within a watershed. The Bureau presented a timeline for project development and approval.

The County is currently working on guidance for projects with water supply components, are within disadvantaged communities, and nature-based solutions as a project component. In addition, Watershed Coordinators have been chosen for each watershed.

The committee requested information regarding a plan for outreach to non-City agencies who intend to apply for projects and the process for developing projects. Watershed advocates within the Bureau act as liaisons to Council Districts and can help develop and prioritize projects. Within the Bureau, projects are chosen based on regulatory documents. Potential projects are scored by working group using scoring tool and ranked. Concept reports are developed and projects are identified as either municipal or regional projects.

The committee also discussed whether or not there is an opportunity to move funds between project allocations. The Bureau responded that it is up to applicant to submit a scope of work addendum to the County and that funding is project specific.

The committee requested information regarding the Department of Water and Power's (DWP) process for developing projects. Staff from DWP responded that projects focus on water supply and are developed for multi-benefits. An example of multi-benefit projects are those that are part of DWP's parks program with the Department of Recreation and Parks. As a water agency, DWP has more agencies to potentially partner with for projects.

**Action:** No action.

4. Discussion and Possible Action: Letters of Support/No Support

Staff from the Office of the City Administrative Officer gave an overview of the letters of support requirement. The committee discussed how many letters are estimated to be received. The Bureau stated that seven to 10 requests were received for Round 3 of the Regional Program and to expect at least 10 requests per round. Recommendation to direct staff to report back on process for submission of letters of support/no support to be discussed at a future meeting.

**Action:** Approved.

5. Discussion and Possible Action: Other Committee organizational matters

Cancellation of September 30, 2021 regular meeting.

**Action:** Approved.

Meeting adjourned at 12:11 PM.