

MEETING NOTES

PROJECT: Antelope Valley IRWM Stakeholder Meeting

MEETING DATE: 8/7/2019

LOCATION: City of Palmdale

ISSUED DATE: 8/12/2019

Lilac Room at the Chimbole Cultural Center
38250 Sierra Hwy, Palmdale CA 93550

ATTENDEES: Zachary Ahinga , Evelyn Ballesteros, Charles Bostwick, Monisha Brown, Rich Campbell, James Chaisson, Keith Dyas, Brian Dietrick, Vanessa De Anda, Matt Knudson, Bob Large, Adam Ly, Yvonne Malikowski, James Riley, Claudette Roberts, Mike Shahbakhti, Brach Smith, Tiffany Steinert

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

A. Welcome and Introductions (Evelyn B.)

- The Antelope Valley Integrated Regional Management (AV IRWM) Stakeholder Meeting was opened and led by Evelyn Ballesteros from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LACDPW), Waterworks Division. Topics related to the Prop. 1 Implementation Grant and IRWMP Updates were led by Brian Dietrick of Woodard & Curran.

B. AV IRWM Notice of Intent (Evelyn B.)

- Per the IRWM Guidelines, the AV IRWM Region needs to publish a Notification of Intent (NOI) to prepare an update to the 2013 AV IRWM Plan in local newspapers. This needs to be issued once a week for two successive weeks, as stipulated in Section 6066 of the CA Government Code. LACDPW will publish the NOI in the Antelope Valley Press, a local newspaper, on behalf of the Region during the last two weeks of August 2019.

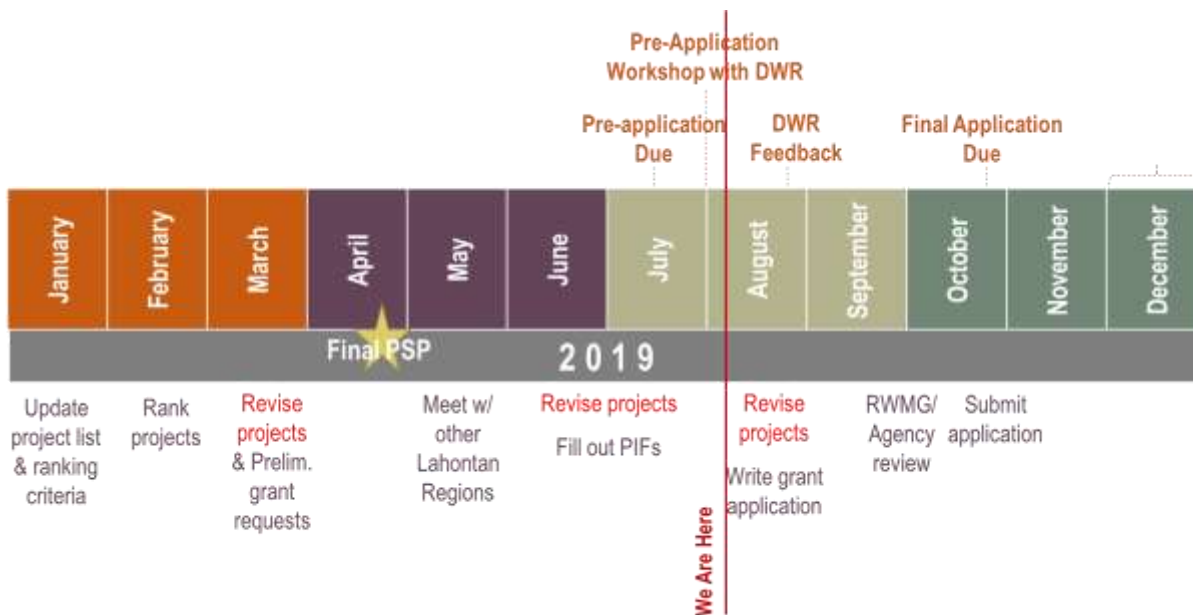
C. Proposition 1 Round 1 Implementation Grant (Brian D.)

- **Prop. 1 Schedule:** The Funding Area, in coordination with DWR, set the following dates and deadlines for the Prop. 1 Implementation Grant application process, as reflected in Figure 1:
 - i. July 15, 2019: Pre-application materials due to DWR
 - ii. July 30, 2019: Pre-application Workshop
 - iii. ~August 26, 2019: Feedback from DWR on pre-applications
 - iv. ~October 21, 2019: Grant Applications due
- **Pre-application Workshop:** DWR requested an *optional* 1-day workshop with each Funding Area to provide a platform for interregional coordination and increase the potential for successfully funded projects. Because the Lahontan Funding Area spans from northern to southern California, the Lahontan Funding Area agreed to host two workshops. One workshop was held in Northern California for the Inyo-Mono, Lahontan Basins, and Tahoe Sierra IRWM Regions, and the other was held in Southern California for the Antelope Valley, Fremont Basin, and Mojave IRWM Regions. Woodard & Curran coordinated with the five project sponsors to complete and submit the pre-application materials to DWR on July 15th. Woodard & Curran also assisted project sponsors to prepare presentation materials for the Pre-application Workshop, which took place on July 30th and was held at the AVEK headquarters. The Workshop was led by IRWM Region representatives, including representatives from the local project sponsors and consultant team.
 - Prior to the Pre-application Workshop, DWR expressed concern about RCSD's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Rehabilitation and Groundwater Protection Project being driven by a

compliance order. The Regional Board issued revised waste discharge requirements under Order R6V-2015-0069 (November 5, 2015) requiring the RCSD to implement a treatment and disposal plan that will remedy an existing unauthorized discharge to the groundwater and prevent further contamination of the underlying groundwater aquifer, by 2021. It was noted that the proposed project aimed to not only address the identified groundwater impacts resulting from the current WWTP operations, but also augment local water supplies through groundwater recharge. In other words, not all of the project benefits are related to the compliance order. However, according to the IRWM Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) Guidelines, "...compliance obligations are not eligible projects and cannot be funded." On August 2nd, the Region was notified via email that DWR's legal team considered the eligibility of the project and determined that the project is not eligible for Prop. 1 IRWM Round 1 Implementation funding. Woodard & Curran intends to review a forthcoming Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document that DWR has said will address this issue. The goal will be to determine if there are any other eligibility arguments that could be made. In the meantime, work will continue on the application materials for the other four projects and the RCSD project will be "on hold." DWR has commented that they are willing to work with RCSD to identify other sources of potential funding for the project.

- DWR is in the process of reviewing the remaining projects and will provide written feedback to the project sponsors by August 26th. The final application will have a deadline around October 21st. The Implementation Schedule for Prop. 1 is presented in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Prop. 1 Implementation Schedule



- **Prop. 1 Funding:** Prior to the Pre-application Workshop, the AV IRWM Region agreed to approach allocation of funds within the Region by fulfilling AVRCD's total requested amount (since the total project costs are relatively low) and distributing the remaining funds available for Round 1 equally among the four larger projects. However, since DWR concluded that RCSD's project is ineligible for Prop. 1 Round 1 funding, RCSD's original grant request of \$924,875 is now available for potential redistribution. The following options were presented to the AV Stakeholder group for consideration:
 - i. Retain RCSD's allocated funds for Prop. 1 Round 2

- ii. Redistribute RCSD's allocated funds for Prop. 1 Round 1 as follows:
 - A. Maintain AVRCD's 50% cost share (i.e., keep current allocation) and distribute funds among evenly among the three larger projects;
 - B. Split available funds evenly among all four projects;
 - C. Fund the maximum amount of AVRCD's costs allowed under the PSP guidelines¹ and split remaining funds among the three larger projects.
- The stakeholder group agreed to fund the maximum amount of AVRCD's costs allowed under the PSP guidelines¹ and split the remaining funds among the three larger projects (i.e., the last option) as it may be more difficult for AVRCD than for other agencies to fund the cost share. The revised grant request numbers for Prop.1 Round 1 are shown in Table 1:

Table 1: Revised Grant Requests for Prop. 1 Round 1

Project Name/Sponsor	Total Cost	Original Request	Additional Grant Amt.	Revised Request	Revised % Local Match
SNIP Phase 2 AVEK	\$26,400,000	\$924,875	\$274,458	\$1,199,333	95%
AV Regional Cons. Project AVRCD	\$396,000	\$195,500	\$101,500	\$297,000	25% ¹
Phase 2 Distribution System PRWA	\$8,324,875	\$924,875	\$274,458	\$1,199,333	86%
Littlerock Dam Sediment Removal PWD	\$19,657,557	\$924,875	\$274,458	\$1,199,333	94%
WWTP Rehab. and GW Protection RCSD	\$12,150,000	\$924,875	\$0	\$0	-
Total	\$66,928,432	\$3,895,000	-	\$3,895,000	95%
Revised Total (without RCSD)	\$54,778,432	\$3,895,000	-	\$3,895,000	93%

D. Full AV IRWM Plan Update (Brian D.)

- Woodard & Curran is in the process of updating the AV IRWM Plan to comply with 2016 IRWM Guidelines and to reflect the current characteristics of the Region. The IRWM Plan Objectives and Targets were originally drafted in 2007 and were revised in 2013; however, some of the Objectives and Targets are now outdated, no longer apply, or have been accomplished since the last IRWM Plan update. Revisions to the IRWM Plan Objectives and Targets are presented
- **Table 2.** The Stakeholder group did not have any comments or edits to the revisions presented.

Table 2: Revised IRWM Plan Objectives and Targets

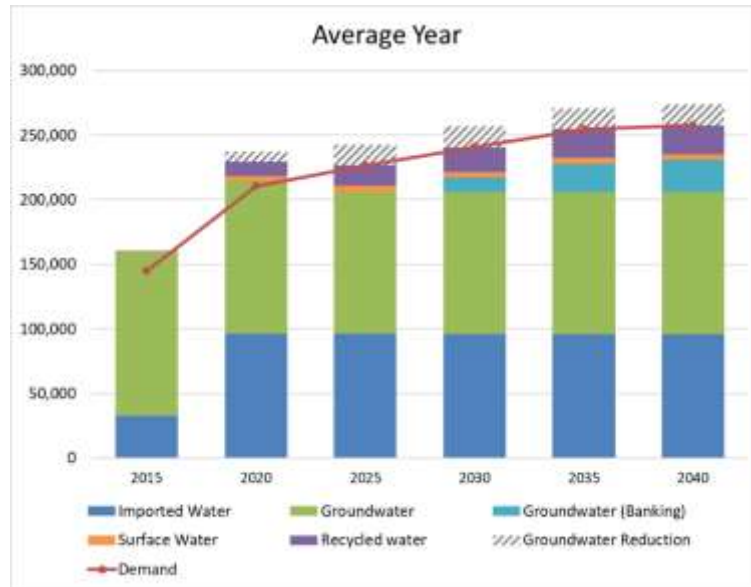
¹ AVRCD's proposed project will provide benefits to 58% DAC by population. Per Prop. 1 Round 1 PSP guidelines, AVRCD may request a 75% cost share waiver. This leaves approximately \$99,000 (or 25%) that must be provided as local match.

Objectives	Planning Targets	Status
Water Supply		
Provide reliable water supply to meet the Antelope Valley Region's expected demand between now and 2035; and adapt to climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain adequate supply and demand in average years. Preliminary: Provide adequate reserves (61,200 31,200 AFY) to supplement average condition supply to meet demands during single-dry year conditions, starting 2009. Preliminary: Provide adequate reserves (164,800 189,000 AF/4-year period) to supplement average condition supply to meet demands during multi-dry year conditions, starting 2009. Adapt to additional 7-10% reduction in imported deliveries by 2050, and additional 21-25% reduction in imported water deliveries by 2100. 	Westside Water Bank, Eastside Water Banking and Blending Project, Willow Springs Water Bank
Establish a contingency plan to meet water supply needs of the Antelope Valley Region during a plausible disruption of SWP deliveries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate ability to meet regional water demands over an average year without receiving SWP water for 6 months over the summer by 2017-2025 	
Stabilize groundwater levels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage groundwater levels throughout the basin such that a 10-year moving average of change in observed groundwater levels is greater than or equal to 0, starting January 2010. Production Rights defined in the Judgement are met by 2023. 	AV Groundwater Adjudication
Water Quality		
Provide drinking water that meets regulatory requirements and customer expectations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to meet Federal and State water quality standards as well as customer standards for taste and aesthetics throughout the planning period. 	
Protect and maintain aquifers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent unacceptable degradation of aquifer according to the Basin Plan throughout the planning period. Map contaminated sites and monitor contaminant movement, by 2017. Identify contaminated portions of aquifer and prevent migration of contaminants, by 2017. 	SNMP SNMP
Protect natural streams and recharge areas from contamination.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent unacceptable degradation of natural streams and recharge areas according to the Basin Plan throughout the planning period. 	
Maximize beneficial use of recycled water.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase infrastructure and establish policies to use 33% of recycled water to help meet expected demand by 2015, 66% by 2025, and 100% by 2035. 	PRWA – no updates
Flood Management		
Reduce negative impacts of stormwater, urban runoff, and nuisance water, and adapt to climate change impacts in the future.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate a regional flood management plan Stormwater Resources Plan and policy mechanism by the year 2017-2025 and incorporate adaptive management strategies for climate change. 	
Optimize the balance between protecting existing beneficial uses of stormwater and capturing stormwater for new uses.		
Environmental Resources Management		

Preserve open space and natural habitats that protect and enhance water resources and species in the Antelope Valley Region	• Contribute to the preservation of an additional 2,000 acres of open space and natural habitat, to integrate and maximize surface water and groundwater management by 2017-2025 .	
Land Use		
Maintain agricultural land use within the Antelope Valley Region.	• Preserve 100,000 acres of farmland in rotation through 2035-2040 .	
Meet growing demand for recreational space.	• Contribute to local and regional General Planning documents to provide 5,000 acres of recreational space by 2035-2040 .	
Improve integrated land use planning to support water management.	• Coordinate a regional land use management plan by the year 2017-2025 and incorporate adaptive management strategies for climate change.	
Climate Change		
Mitigate against climate change.	• Implement “no regret” mitigation strategies, when possible, that decrease GHG’s or are GHG neutral.	

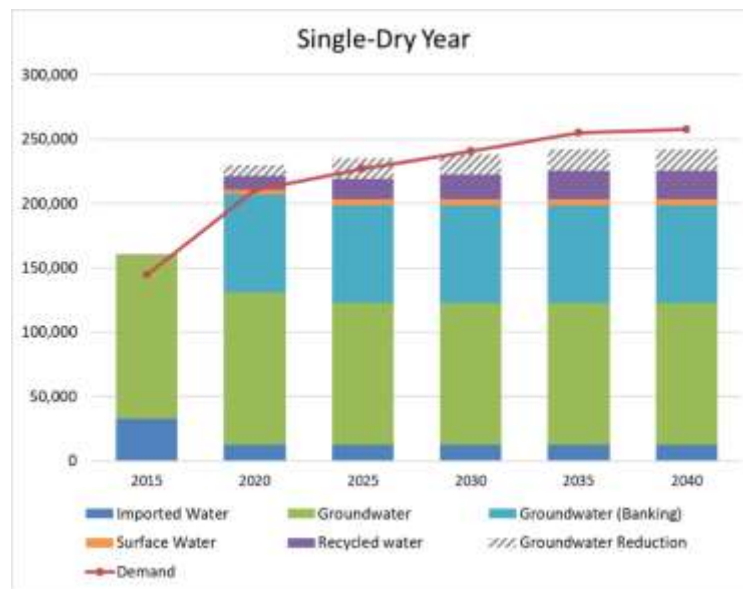
- Woodard & Curran is also in the process of updating the water supply and demand projections in the Region as part of the full AV IRWM Plan update. Woodard & Curran is exploring new approaches for calculating the water budget given that new information has been made available by the Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin Judgement and Watermaster reports since the last AV IRWM Plan update in 2013. The revised approach involves using the information provided in the local 2015 Urban Water Management Plans (UWMPs) and Watermaster Annual Reports to estimate current and projected imported water, groundwater, surface water, and recycled water supplies. Demand projections consist of urban demands, which are extrapolated from UWMPs, and agricultural demands which are a function of cultivated acreages and types of crops in the Region. Conversations with AVEK have since confirmed that AVEK’s 2015 UWMP is the best available source of data since it has been approved by the Board.
- *Preliminary* supply projections are shown in Figure 2 for an average year, Figure 3 for a single-dry year, and Figure 4 for a multi-dry year (4-year drought). The solid bars indicate the available water supplies, the hatched bars represented projected groundwater reductions as a result of the AV Groundwater Basin adjudication, and the red line represents projected demands. Preliminary estimates show a potential mismatch between water supplies and demands in a single-dry and multi-dry period, supporting the case for additional water supply projects and demand management projects in the Region.

Figure 2: Preliminary Water Supply & Demand Projections in the Region in an Average Year



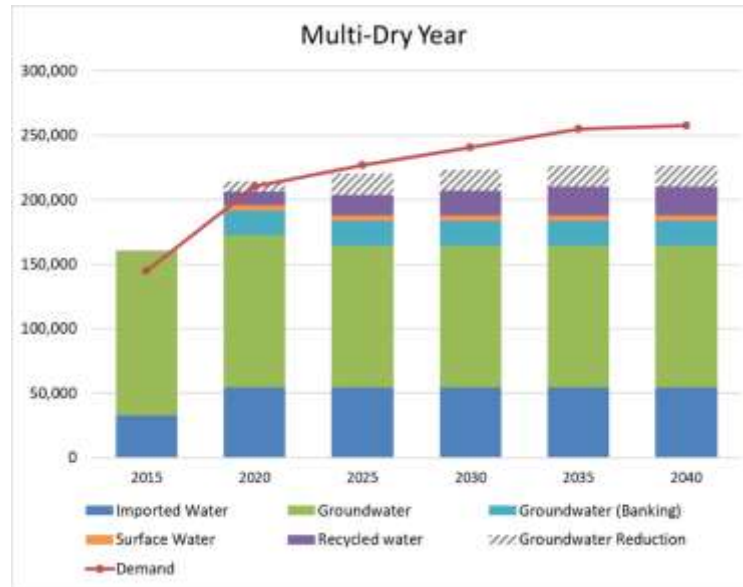
Projections assume groundwater banking will meet any potential supply shortfalls.

Figure 3: Preliminary Water Supply & Demand Projections in the Region in a Single-Dry Year



Projections assume total groundwater banking supplies will be available to meet potential supply shortfall in a single-dry year. Additional recycled and stormwater supplies may also be developed in the future. Groundwater banking supplies are subject to change.

Figure 4: Preliminary Water Supply & Demand Projections in the Region in an Multi-Dry Year



Projections assume total groundwater banking supplies will be used ¼ each year of a 4-year drought. Additional recycled and stormwater supplies may also be developed in the future. Groundwater banking supplies are subject to change.

E. Public Comments (Evelyn B.)

- Salt and Nutrient Management Plan (SNMP): Tiffany Steinert, on behalf of the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, invited LACSD to present information to the Board on the Antelope Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Plan update and any relevant findings. LACSD intends to get approval from the Board at a meeting scheduled for November.

F. Action Items

Next Stakeholder Workshop: October 2nd, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. at the Chimbole Cultural Center.

Responsible Party	Task	Due Date
Woodard & Curran	Continue AV IRWM Plan updates	Ongoing