

Measure M2 Environmental Cleanup Allocation Committee

December 11, 2014

Meeting Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Chair Mary Anne Skorpanich, Orange County Watersheds
Vice Chair Garry Brown, Orange County Coastkeeper
Scott Carroll, Costa Mesa Sanitary District
Gene Estrada, City of Orange
Keith Linker, City of Anaheim
Hector Salas, Caltrans
Mark Tettermer, Irvine Ranch Water District
Laurie Walsh, San Diego Water Quality Control Board (*on speaker telephone*)
Dennis Wilberg, City of Mission Viejo
Marwan Youssef, City of Westminster

Committee Member(s) Absent:

Adam Fischer, Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board
Doug Houston, University of California, Irvine
Stephan Mayville, Regional Board – Region 8
Sat Tamaribuchi, Environmental Consultant

Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Staff Present:

Alison Army, Senior Transportation Analyst
Marissa Espino, Senior Strategic Communications Officer
Janice Kadlec, Public Reporter
Charlie Larwood, Manager of Planning and Analysis
Dan Phu, Project Development Strategic Planning Section Manager

Guests:

Ken Susilo, Geosyntec
Tyrone Chesanek, City of Santa Ana
Thomas Lo, City of Santa Ana

1. Welcome

Chair Mary Anne Skorpanich welcomed everyone to the December 11, 2014 Environmental Cleanup Allocation Committee (ECAC) meeting. She asked the people present at the meeting to introduce themselves.

2. Approval of the September 11, 2014 ECAC Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Garry Brown, seconded by Gene Estrada, and passed unanimously to approve the September 11, 2014 ECAC meeting minutes as presented. Mark Tettermer abstained to vote on the September 11, 2014 ECAC meeting minutes because he did not attend the meeting.

3. Tier 2 Projects Status Presentations

Tyrone Chesanek presented information on the Santa Ana Delhi Diversion Project, an urban discharge diversion facility to capture and divert discharge low-flow into the sanitary sewer system.

Keith Linker asked if they would have the opportunity of capturing some storm water and use it to offset something else. Tyrone said they have not looked at this but it sounds like a viable option.

Marwan Youssef asked how long until construction. Tyrone said they are expecting two dry seasons to get the work done.

Gene Estrada asked if Tyrone could give examples of the delays he has run into since they applied for the grant. Tyrone said it was mostly coordination with the funding partners involved with the project. Also overcoming the challenges in looking at what they are going to do inside the channel. Because of the trash element they planned to put in, the flood control district was uncomfortable with doing a lot of things. Mary Ann Skorpanich said part of the golf course is owned by John Wayne Airport and portions of it were purchased with certain funds that had restricted usage.

Gene Estrada asked if the Regional Board had a problem with the work being proposed in the channel. Tyrone said no, in fact they were very excited about it.

Keith Linker asked if the cap of 10 million gallon per day (mgd) is being approached with all the new projects coming down the line. Mary Ann Skorpanich said they have been just less than 4 mgd with the other diversions that have been implemented. Peters Canyon project is 1.5 mgd and this project is about 1.5 mgd, so they don't expect to reach the cap with this project.

4. ECP Tier 1 and Tier 2 Funding Distribution

Alison Army gave an update on the Tier 1 and Tier 2 projects. She distributed maps that show the first four rounds of Tier 1 and two rounds of Tier 2 projects. The maps show the amount of funding per call by each funding recipient.

Laurie Walsh asked if the funding shown on the map shows that everyone applied or does it just show those that were awarded. Alison Army said the map shows only awarded funds.

Garry Brown asked which city has not been awarded funds yet. Alison Army said the City of Los Alamitos has not been awarded funds to date.

5. Tier 1/Tier 2 Projects Benefits

Dan Phu distributed documents showing the benefits of the first two rounds of Tier 1 projects. Due to the implementation schedules, the benefits of funded projects from the two most recent rounds were not yet fully available.

Garry Brown suggested another column showing the total number of devices funded. Dan Phu said they can do this. Garry Brown said it would help with comparing the numbers.

Mark Tettemer asked if zeros on the document indicate no trash was taken. Alison Army said if there is a zero in this column the project was either an irrigation project, the project may is not installed yet, or it was not funded.

Chair Mary Anne Skorpanich asked about the Marina Skimmer. Dan Phu said the Skimmer was funded by the County. Alison Army said the project Dana Point was awarded was an irrigation project. Chair Mary Anne Skorpanich said yes but Dana Point also had one other watershed project. Alison Army said she was right and Dana Point should be shown in the document with a 1 in their column.

Garry Brown asked if this information would be shared with the entire OCTA Board. Dan Phu said at this time they are planning to include this information with the Measure M 2016 Board information package as part of the Measure M's ten year review.

Dan Phu said the City of Newport Beach has invited OCTA Staff to watch the installation of their CDS unit. If anyone is interested they are welcome to come. Just let staff know.

Dan Phu introduced Ken Susilo from Geosyntec who will help OCTA determine how to measure the benefits of the Tier 2 projects. The Tier 2 project benefits will be analyzed by using information provided by the project applicants in conjunction with SBPAT modeling effort during the Tier 2 evaluation process.

Ken Susilo gave a presentation on how OCTA would be going about developing a methodology to rate Tier 2 projects. The proposed methodology would be something relatively simple and straight forward, and would quantify the effectiveness or cost effectiveness of the Tier 2 project.

Garry Brown asked where the startup data was obtained. Ken Susilo said the data came from them. Garry Brown asked where the actual database derived. Ken Susilo said it derived from the International BMP data base. A lot of it is from California and Caltrans.

Garry Brown observed that Los Angeles is years ahead of us in removal with proprietary BMPs. He wondered if they have developed a large enough database that would be helpful. Ken Susilo said no, they have tried to consider vendor information but they are skeptical of the information.

The ECAC discussed which databases they would use to gather information.

Garry Brown suggested the Measure M Program should be a “snap shot” program, and to monitor it every two or three years. They have set the precedence. The Ordinance does not say we should hire someone like Geosyntec to ensure they effectively distribute the money. He cannot believe the OCTA Board would not want something that would improve effectiveness and further validate the program and the expenditure.

Gene Estrada agreed with Dan Phu. They should see how much information is gathered and see if they can determine what the BMPs are. Look at the things missing and try and capture these in future projects.

Mark Tettemer said it is hard not to put dollars and benefits together and determine which project is an albatross and will not work anymore versus something more cost effective. At some point the data is going to split and it is going to be tempting to put them together and see what makes sense going forward.

6. Tier 1 Consolidated Vendors Agreement Update

Alison Army gave an update on the Tier 1 Consolidated Vendors Agreement. The procurement process ended in mid-October 2014. The County received six proposals. The Evaluation Committee met on November 13, 2014. The County plans to execute contracts with the selected vendors by Mid-February 2015.

A committee member asked how many cities utilized the vendors. Alison Army said she did not have the information with her but the information could be obtained.

7. Upcoming Environmental Cleanup Program Call for Projects Cycle

Dan Phu and Alison Army gave a report on the upcoming Environmental Cleanup Program Call for Projects Cycle. Staff is recommending that OCTA issue a Tier 1 call for projects in 2015 and hold off issuing a Tier 2 call for projects until 2016.

Dan Phu asked the members if they thought there would be a problem issuing a Tier 1 call for projects in 2015, and should they hold off issuing a Tier 2 call for projects until 2016.

Keith Linker said he did not see any problems in doing this. Mary Anne Skorpanich and Gene Estrada agreed.

Mark Tettemer asked if the cities were polled. Dan Phu said when talking to the cities informally about Tier 1 projects he always asks if they have any Tier 2 projects waiting. So far the answer has always been no except for the City of La Palma who might have something.

Garry Brown suggested emailing each city's contact asking if they have any shovel ready projects.

Dennis Wilberg asked if there was a commonality for the current project delays or are they all over the map. Dan Phu said even with the funded projects the challenges are getting the partners on Board. The second most common problem is resources for project development. The third reason is lack of land.

Laurie Walsh said she agreed the delay is good and fits well with the new Southern Orange County's Permit the Board will be considering in February.

Chair Mary Anne Skorpanich said the most important thing is to have some certainty of when the money will become available and to know ahead of time. They may want to start looking to the future in the first part of next year and plan out the dates.

8. CASQA/Award

OCTA recently received a prestigious award from the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) for the M2 Environmental Cleanup Program. Charlie Larwood gave a report on the award for the most outstanding BMP stormwater implementation project.

9. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

10.. Committee Member Reports

Chair Mary Anne Skorpanich reported next Tuesday on December 16 the State Water Resources Control Board will be meeting in Los Angeles. They will be meeting to hear the appeals of Los Angeles County permittees on stormwater permits issued two years ago. The State Board received 37 appeals to this permit on sixty different issues. The key item is the language involving receiving water.

11. Next Meeting – TBD

The next meeting of the ECAC will be determined at a later date.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.