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Biennial SCW Program Progress Report Outline for ROC Meeting 8/31

Executive Summary

- Purpose
- Key Findings and Summary Statistics
- ROC Recommendations (see subsection below)
 - Acknowledge variety of inputs considered to arrive at recommendations
- Statement that Biennial Report process occurs every two years and that additional recommendations will continue to be assessed and implemented into the future

Introduction

- Description of SCWP
- Summary of 14 Program Goals
- Process for Biennial Report– including timeline and conveyance via Board Memo
- Outline of content

Purpose of Biennial Report

- To present Ordinance language
- To summarize progress towards Program goals
- To summarize other reports *including* upshot of ROC review of other SCWP reports (e.g., WARPPs, Annual Reports, SIP Transmittals, etc.)
- To provide a progress report on adaptive management which considers both internal and external input

SCWP Accomplishments

- Highlight magnitude and accomplishments of the Program
- Progress towards goals of the program
- Summary of Program Awards

Regional Program Summary

- Summary of Regional Program components
 - Infrastructure Program
 - Scientific Studies
 - TRP
 - Watershed Coordinators
- Total Funding and Projects (see WARPPs as examples)
- Progress towards goals (see WARPPs as examples)
- Application Process and Timelines
- Regional Program Findings, including survey to applicants, Scoring Committee Memo, and external feedback

Municipal Program Summary

- Overview of Municipal Program and processes
- Summary of local return and funds dispersed
- Summary of municipalities funding efforts towards Program goals
- Municipal Program Observations/Findings, including potential insights to inform adaptive management

District Program Summary

- Overview of District responsibilities and activities
 - Resources needed to implement recommendations and adaptive management activities (in alignment with Board Motion)
- District Education Program summary
 - Public Education and Community Engagement
 - Workforce Development Program(s) (broader than SCWP)
 - K-12 Education Program(s) (broader than SCWP)
- District Program Observations/Findings which considers both internal and external inputs
- Minor Ordinance changes anticipated to facilitate ongoing administration and adaptive management

Adaptive Management in line with Stakeholder Recommendations to date

- Inputs to Adaptive Management process & summary of what has been “heard”
- What has been completed or established?
 - Guidance and Guidelines (e.g., Handbooks, Interim Guidance, Feasibility Guidelines, etc.)
 - Data and Tools (e.g., Portal, Dashboard, Spatial Data Library, SIP Programming tool, etc.)
 - Including addition of community engagement to budget in application
 - Studies
 - MMS - Equity in Stormwater Investments White Paper
 - Special Studies
- What is already in progress?
 - Alternate Water Supply Scoring Pilot
 - Project Modification Guidelines
 - Studies
 - Metrics and Monitoring Study
 - BMP Effectiveness Research by SCWRPP
 - BOR Study for infiltration
 - Education and Engagement Grants Program
 - Website and SCWP Communications
- What is anticipated to be initiated prior to the next Biennial Report?
 - *Note that updates to governing documents and guidance (e.g., Feasibility Study Guidelines, Transfer Agreements, etc.) are included in subsequent actions, where applicable*

- Watershed planning efforts to include consideration of previous and concurrent studies and incorporate input from WASCs related to watershed-specific priorities and eligible project types
- Establish a means to solicit and incorporate community input and needs in an ongoing manner
- Implement new metrics, monitoring and project assessment criteria into Feasibility Study Guidelines and Regional Program Application and Reporting Modules particularly relative to Community Investment Benefits, Water Supply Benefits, Water Quality Benefits, DAC Benefits, NBS, and Community Engagement.
- Implement new metrics and monitoring criteria for the Municipal Program Annual Plan and Annual Reporting processes
- Updates to Regional and Municipal Program Transfer Agreements to align with Board Motion and findings from studies
- Refresh spatial data library to include MMS opportunity data and watershed planning data
- Clarify definitions for locally available water supply and establish initial water supply targets for each of the 9 watershed areas, starting with an estimate based on percentage of runoff captured and adapting as appropriate over time and in consideration of other existing information and targets (or portions of targets) established through other efforts (e.g., IRWM, CWP, One Water LA 2040 Plan, EWMPs/WMPs, LA Basin Study, Focus Groups, etc.)
- Establish post-project completion reporting requirements
- Establish Monitoring Guidance to align with findings from studies
- What may be considered in the future?
 - Create Municipal Program Portal for plans and reporting, aligning with MMS recommendations for metrics and monitoring criteria
 - Establish Anti-Displacement guidance
 - Consider private property incentive program/promotion of parcel-based bundling
 - Dedicated staffing to enhance consistent communications and resources across watersheds
 - Assess potential to fund large-scale projects that cross watersheds.
 - Assess potential/processes to use Measure W funds to finance large-scale projects.
 - Develop a monitoring program and guidance for Regional and Municipal Program participants
 - Establish an overarching SCWP program timeline for key adaptive management and program requirement milestones within six months of Board Report
 - Update processes to improve clarity for applicants and evaluators related to cost-sharing and leveraged funding

Recommendations [below are the potential summary/high-level recommendations based on ROC comments/discussion to date - for discussion at 8/31/23 ROC meeting to guide draft report]

Within six months of this report, the District should establish a timeline/pathway to implementing these recommendations, subject to legal review, adherence to Ordinance-required processes, and consideration of resources.

Modifying Program/Project Planning and Tracking

1. Expedite watershed planning efforts to include consideration of previous and concurrent studies and incorporate input from WASCs related to watershed-specific priorities (consistent with Board Motion)
2. Implement new metrics, monitoring, and project assessment criteria into Regional Program Application and Reporting Modules and revisions to scoring criteria
3. Assess separate processes for projects applying for different stages of the IP (design, construction, O&M)
4. Implement new metrics, monitoring, and project assessment criteria for the Municipal Program Annual Plan and Annual Reporting processes

Updating Goal-specific Guidance Documents

5. Clarify definitions for locally available water supply and establish initial water supply targets through watershed-area specific planning for each of the 9 watershed areas, starting with an estimate based on percentage of runoff captured and adapting as appropriate over time and in consideration of other existing information and targets (or portions of targets) established through other efforts (e.g., IRWM, CWP, One Water LA 2040 Plan, EWMPs/WMPs, LA Basin Study, Focus Groups, etc.)
6. Expand DAC guidance to establish a clear process on determining and defining Disadvantaged Community Benefits informed by the MMS
7. Develop CIB guidance to include specific metrics, clarify definitions, and quantify Benefits informed by the MMS and comprehensive watershed planning
8. Revise Feasibility Guidelines to require distinction between nature-based solutions versus nature mimicking solutions, and clarify what it means to prioritize NBS

Expanding Community Outreach and Engagement

9. In conjunction with Watershed Coordinator SOEPs (Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan), leverage the education and engagement grants program to increase Program participation by community groups and tribes
10. In conjunction with Watershed Coordinator SOEPs (Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan), establish a means to solicit and incorporate community input and needs in an ongoing manner for the Technical Resources Program, Infrastructure Program and Scientific Studies

Refining Administrative/Procedural Elements

11. Refine the process and timeline for the ROC to evaluate whether program goals are being advanced at the Program and watershed levels per the Ordinance, including bringing SIPs to the ROC as they are approved by the WASCs to allow for more timely review and deliberation

12. Revise Regional Program quarterly reporting to twice-yearly in conjunction with the Project Modification Reports (PMR) (Ordinance change, Board Approval)
13. Establish additional dedicated resources and staffing to support adaptive management and success of SCWP as it continues to expand, including the Board-directed comprehensive watershed planning group

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