



**One Water Los Angeles  
 Funding & Cost-Benefit Special Topic Group – Meeting #1  
 Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup> 2016- 9:00AM –11:00AM  
 2714 Media Center Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90065 (Board Room)**

*"This summary reflects the opinions of stakeholders and may not necessarily be those of the City of Los Angeles."*

**Meeting Summary**

*The purpose of this summary is to provide an overview of the discussion topics, including ideas, solutions and issues. It is not intended as a transcript or as minutes.*

**Meeting Attendees**

*Participants:*

Carolyn Casavan	Casavan Consulting
Johanna Dyer	National Resources Defense Council
Jack Humphreville	Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council
Rita Kampalath	Heal the Bay
Andy Lipkis	Tree People
Denny Schneider	Westchester Neighborhood Council
Guang-yu Wang	Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission

*Meeting Team:*

Facilitator	Jack Baylis	Baylis Group
Technical Lead	Robb Grantham	Carollo
One Water LA Team	Eliza Jane Whitman	LASAN
One Water LA Team	Flor Burrola	LASAN
One Water LA Team	Doug Walters	LASAN
One Water LA Team	Andre Goodridge	LASAN
One Water LA Team	Kim O'Hara	LADWP
One Water LA Team	Bob Sun	LADWP
Note Taker	Janet Ouch	K&A

**Welcome & Introductions**

Introduction of LASAN and LADWP staff, consultant staff, and lead team took place. Participants also introduced themselves to the group.

**Overview of the One Water LA Plan 2040**

An overview of the One Water LA Plan was provided. One Water LA’s second phase of the planning process is underway and the goal of this process is to:

- Broaden the number of people who are aware of One Water LA.
- Develop Funding Strategies and Partnership ideas with input from members of this Special Topic Group (STG).
- Incorporate the Special Topic Group input into the plan wherever feasible.



OWLA reflects Mayor Garcetti's goal of achieving 50 percent local water supply by 2035 and will include an examination of water sources including storm water and recycled water, new technologies and creative ideas, and identification of new city policies and water-related integration opportunities between City departments and regional agencies.

Stakeholders have provided valuable input in the development of One Water LA. For this phase of the planning effort, five special topic areas have been identified that would benefit most from additional targeted input – the Funding and Cost/Benefit STG is one of those. Three meetings will be held where the planning team will be tapping into group members creative ideas to develop new Partnerships and Funding Strategies, and Cost & Benefit Considerations.

### **Road Map for the Funding & Cost/Benefit Special Topic Group**

Jack Baylis, the facilitator, discussed more specific goals for this STG and described the proposed content for the three planned meetings.

- Meeting #1 (Today):
  - Share information and resources, and begin to discuss opportunities, priorities and solutions
- Meeting #2:
  - Continue discussion of opportunities and solutions, and identify action steps
- Meeting #3:
  - Review draft summary of outcomes, and fine-tune in preparation for presentation at the stakeholders workshop

The purpose of the first meeting is for stakeholders to present their initial (raw) ideas for funding opportunities, new partnerships, and Cost/Benefit Analysis.

Robb Grantham, the technical lead, discussed the common funding sources, which include; rates, taxes, partnerships, and Grants and Low Interest Loans. He also discussed the limitations for each source type.

### **Funding Consideration Discussion**

- State Revolving Funds provide low interest loans for both water and wastewater projects. Programs and qualifications are different for water and wastewater. Loan forgiveness is sometimes available for low income/disadvantaged communities. The City might qualify for certain areas within the City.
- Interest in underserved neighborhoods. Are there opportunities to assist these neighborhoods in a manner consistent with Prop 218 and beneficial to the broader system?
- Look into funding for operations and management, new funding models, NGOs, public/private partnerships.
- Evaluate how costs could be shared with other divisions based on impacts to stormwater. Examples were provided regarding solid waste and transportation. Look at trash and sources of plastics, fertilizers and other pollutants.
- Governance is a key issue. Need more involvement from LA County, because the benefits of many of the programs extend beyond the geographic City limits.
- Program costs should be made available to the public. What is the cost of stormwater management? What amount is going to pollutants?
- Environmental justice vs. cost-benefit issues
- Outreach should be conducted to neighborhood councils



## **Activity**

Special Topic Group members were asked to write their ideas on a post-it and place them into three categories. The categories included funding opportunities, partnerships and cost-benefit considerations. The members will vote online on the best ideas using a nominal group technique. Below summarizes the recommendations given by the stakeholders for each category.

## **Partnerships**

1. Utilize NGOs, neighborhood councils to assist with implementation and solutions.
2. Follow the trail to the source.
  - a. Trash- what are the sources of trash in our stormwater.
  - b. Other pollutants- Consider solving the problem at the source and taxing at the source
3. Look at other public agencies and their part of the cost, such as; stormwater runoff from States, Federal, and Local Roads.
4. Reach out to LAUSD and RAP, and other large land holders.
5. Facilitate collaboration between multiple agencies to plan, fund, and build multi-purpose infrastructure.
6. Create more public-private partnerships
7. Assist Disadvantaged Communities /small cities in applying for funding
8. Involve agencies not typically at the table (i.e LAUSD, street services, Metro, Parks and Rec, etc.)
9. Partner with commercial and industrial property owners
10. Work with the County in identifying governance issues
11. Ownership of the water? When/where? Determine when and where to consider the ownership of water.
12. Increase Community Outreach and Neighborhood Association Outreach . Model after LADWP's MOU with Neighborhood Councils.
13. Determine where California is on this topic.

## **Funding Opportunities**

1. Seek County Stormwater Fee
2. Utilize funding from ADA/Willeys Sidewalk Replacement Project
3. Apply for LAUSD Prop K
4. Consider other taxing sources:
  - a. Trash-takeout
  - b. Plastic
  - c. Fertilizer
  - d. Pharmaceuticals
  - e. Auto-road runoff
5. Consider non-traditional grant opportunities such as CalRecycle
6. Greater use of State Revolving Funds for multi-benefits projects
7. Identify all the capital improvement plans and budgets over the next 10-20 years for all related infrastructure agencies including:
  - a. Roads



- b. Schools
  - c. Parks
  - d. Major Developments (commercial, residential, and industrial)
  - e. MWD
  - f. Flood Control
  - g. DWP
  - h. City Sewer
8. Consider the entire State Bonds- not just Prop 1 water bond, but also money for parks, open space, habitat and climate change.
  9. Look at competitive cost of distributed solutions and centralized solution.
  10. Look into new funding models. Understand benefits. Identify sources of funding. Come up with mix and match.
  11. Leverage private funding through incentives that encourage public investment.
  12. Compare Capital Cost vs. Operational Cost Sources.
  13. Identify Operation and Maintenance Funding Sources.

### **Cost and Benefit Considerations**

1. DWP and the Sewer department are not ATMs for water and the City.
2. Consider a new policy on placing new taxes on the ballot.
3. Identify financing and operational plans
4. Quantify multi-benefit / benefit based funding
5. Identify a better linkage of stormwater to groundwater
6. Allocate cost according to benefits
7. Need for more metering to develop a better understanding of where the water is going.
8. Understand how multiple agencies can and should contribute in identifying costs and benefits of water projects.
9. Highlight proportional funding to enable multi-benefit projects to be built and maintained
10. Consider value of open space, natural habitat, and biodiversity
11. Compare Environmental justice issues vs. Cost Effectiveness
12. Determine how to measure results and the value of benefits
13. There is a lack of open space to decompress. Relate water to water as opportunity/benefit.
14. Find a resolution to separation of cost between source funds
15. Water report as resource? Water Value? Change in cost for projects vs. value change
16. Relate all goals to water. Assumption that water is available?

### **Follow-Up Action Items**

- Next Special Topic Group Meeting will occur in two to three weeks
- Vote on the top ideas through email using the nominal group technique
- Come up with any additional ideas for funding