



Western Riverside Council of Governments Technical Advisory Committee

AGENDA

Thursday, July 15, 2021
9:30 AM

Western Riverside Council of Governments
3390 University Avenue, Suite 200
Riverside, CA 92501

Members of the public are encouraged to participate in this meeting via Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 846 5469 4723
Password: 805054
Dial in: (669) 900 6833 U.S.

SPECIAL NOTICE – COVID-19 RELATED PROCEDURES IN EFFECT

Due to the state and local State of Emergency resulting from the threat of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), Governor Newsom has issued Executive Order N-29-20 (issued March 17, 2020) in which Section 3 supersedes Paragraph 11 of Executive Order N-25-20 (issued on March 12, 2020). This order states that WRCOG does not need to make a physical location available for members of the public to observe a public meeting and offer public comment. The Order allows WRCOG to hold Committee meetings via teleconferencing and allows for members of the public to observe and address the meeting telephonically or electronically.

To follow the Order issued by the Governor, the Technical Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, July 15, 2021, at 9:30 a.m. will be held in-person at the location listed on the agenda and virtually, on the Zoom platform. Members of the public may submit public comments before or during the meeting, prior to the close of public comment to snelson@wrcog.us.

Any member of the public requiring a reasonable accommodation to participate in this meeting in light of this announcement shall contact Suzy Nelson 72 hours prior to the meeting at (951) 405-6703 or at snelson@wrcog.us. Later requests accommodated to the extent feasible.

The Committee may take any action on any item listed on the agenda, regardless of the Requested Action.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER (Andy Okoro, Chair)**

- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. ROLL CALL

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

At this time members of the public can address the Committee regarding any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee that are not separately listed on this agenda. Members of the public will have an opportunity to speak on agenda items at the time the item is called for discussion. No action may be taken on items not listed on the agenda unless authorized by law. Whenever possible, lengthy testimony should be presented to the Committee in writing and only pertinent points presented orally.

5. SELECTION OF TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022

A. Recognition of Outgoing Chair and Leadership Selection for Fiscal Year 2021/2022

Requested Action(s): 1. Select Technical Advisory Committee Chair, Vice-Chair, and 2nd Vice-Chair positions for Fiscal Year 2021/2022.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and may be enacted by one motion. Prior to the motion to consider any action by the Committee, any public comments on any of the Consent Items will be heard. There will be no separate action unless members of the Committee request specific items be removed from the Consent Calendar.

A. Summary Minutes from the May 20, 2021, Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

Requested Action(s): 1. Approve the Summary Minutes from the May 20, 2021, Technical Advisory Committee meeting.

B. Finance Department Activities Update

Requested Action(s): 1. Receive and file.

7. REPORTS / DISCUSSION

Members of the public will have an opportunity to speak on agenda items at the time the item is called for discussion.

A. Cal Cities Activities Update

Requested Action(s): 1. Receive and file.

B. Update on Early Childhood Education Challenges and Opportunities in the WRCOG Subregion

Requested Action(s): 1. Receive and file.

C. UCR Presentation on OASIS Park

Requested Action(s): 1. Receive and file.

D. Energy Department Activities Update

Requested Action(s): 1. Receive and file.

E. SAWPA OWOW Grant Funding Opportunity

Requested Action(s): 1. Receive and file.

8. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Kurt Wilson

9. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS ~ Members

Members are invited to suggest additional items to be brought forward for discussion at future Committee meetings.

10. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ Members

Members are invited to announce items / activities which may be of general interest to the Committee.

11. NEXT MEETING:

The next Technical Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 19, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., in-person at the WRCOG office at 3390 University Avenue, Suite 200, Riverside, and on the Zoom platform.

12. ADJOURNMENT



Western Riverside Council of Governments Technical Advisory Committee

Staff Report

Subject: Recognition of Outgoing Chair and Leadership Selection for Fiscal Year 2021/2022
Contact: Chris Gray, Deputy Executive Director, cgray@wrcog.us, (951) 405-6710
Date: July 15, 2021

Requested Action(s):

1. Select Technical Advisory Committee Chair, Vice-Chair, and 2nd Vice-Chair positions for Fiscal Year 2021/2022.
-

Purpose:

The purpose of this item is to recognize the outgoing Chair and select Technical Advisory Committee leadership positions for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021/2022.

Background:

WRCOG would like to recognize outgoing Chair Andy Okoro, City of Norco, for his efforts in leading the Technical Advisory Committee meetings during the previous year. Staff appreciates his hard work and dedication in leading the meetings, particularly as WRCOG transitioned to the virtual format.

WRCOG's Committee leadership positions are selected at the start of each fiscal year. The leadership for the Executive Committee for Fiscal Year 2021/2022 is as follows:

Chair: Karen Spiegel, County of Riverside – District 2
Vice-Chair: Crystal Ruiz, City of San Jacinto
2nd Vice-Chair: Chris Barajas, City of Jurupa Valley

Historically, the Technical Advisory Committee positions have coincided with those of the Executive Committee, although there are no requirements for this pattern stipulated in WRCOG's JPA or Bylaws.

Prior Action(s):

None.

Fiscal Impact:

This item is for informational purposes only; therefore, there is no fiscal impact.

Attachment(s):

None.

Western Riverside Council of Governments Technical Advisory Committee

Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee was called to order by Chair Andy Okoro at 9:31 a.m. on May 20, 2021, on the Zoom platform.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Okoro led members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

- City of Banning - Doug Schulze*
- City of Calimesa - Bonnie Johnson
- City of Corona - Jacob Ellis
- City of Eastvale - Bryan Jones
- City of Hemet - Chris Lopez
- City of Jurupa Valley - Rod Butler
- City of Lake Elsinore - Jason Simpson
- City of Menifee - Armando Villa
- City of Moreno Valley - Mike Lee
- City of Murrieta - Louie Lacasella
- City of Norco - Andy Okoro (Chair)
- City of Perris - Clara Miramontes
- City of Riverside - Al Zelinka
- City of San Jacinto - Rob Johnson
- City of Temecula - Aaron Adams
- City of Wildomar - Gary Nordquist
- County of Riverside - Jeff Van Wagenen
- Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) - Danielle Coats
- Western Municipal Water District (WMWD) - Craig Miller
- March Joint Powers Authority - Mathew Evans

*Arrived after roll call

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

5. **CONSENT CALENDAR** – (Temecula / San Jacinto) 21 yes; 0 no; 0 abstention. Items 5.A through

5.C were approved.

A. Summary Minutes from the March 18, 2021, Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

Action:

1. Approved the Summary Minutes from the March 18, 2021, Technical Advisory Committee meeting.

B. Finance Department Activities Update

Action:

1. Received and filed.

C. Single Signature Authority Report

Action:

1. Received and filed.

D. EMCC Activities Update

Action:

1. Received and filed.

E. 2021 General Assembly & Leadership Address Activities Update

Action:

1. Received and filed.

F. I-REN Activities Update

Action:

1. Received and filed.

G. SCAG Activities Update

Action:

1. Received and filed.

6. REPORTS / DISCUSSION

A. 2021 TUMF CCI Adjustment Update

Chris Gray, WRCOG Deputy Executive Director, presented on the proposed Construction Cost Index (CCI) to the TUMF Network. Staff is required to bring information on an annual CCI adjustment through the WRCOG Committees structure for discussion and recommendation for consideration by the Executive Committee. The CCI is an administrative element of the TUMF Program and is intended to keep the dollar value of the TUMF Program whole. In recent years, the Executive Committee has not approved a CCI adjustment to the TUMF, except for the 2019 CCI adjustment. Staff did not bring forward a CCI adjustment in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since the adoption of the 2016 TUMF Nexus Study, construction, labor, and land costs have demonstrated an increasing trend. Though the Caltrans CCI is not a factor in determining the adjustment to the TUMF, there has been a sharp increase in costs. Factors contributing to the increase include tariffs and the rebounding economy placing competition on transportation construction from other sectors for materials and labor. This is intended to demonstrate the rising costs of transportation improvements throughout the state, including a handful of interchange projects that are currently underway in the WRCOG subregion. The Executive Committee adopted two indices in the 2016 Nexus Study as the basis for completing CCI adjustments to the TUMF schedule of fees. The TUMF CCI adjustment is based on the percentage increase in the Engineering News Record (ENR) CCI for the 12-month period from January 2020 to January 2021, and the percentage increase in the National Association of Realtors (NAR) Median Sales Price of Existing Single-Family homes in the Riverside / San Bernardino Metropolitan Statistical Area for the 12-month period from the 3rd Quarter of 2019 to the 3rd Quarter of 2020 (to coincide with the publication of the most recently updated index).

The ENR CCI has increased approximately 3% and the NAR Median Sales Price of existing Single-Family homes in the Riverside / San Bernardino Metropolitan Statistical Area has increased 17%.

Staff has also provided this presentation to the Public Works Committees (PWC) and the PWC recommended implementing the 2021 CCI adjustment, including eliminating the current freeze on the Retail land use and adjusting it to the level it would be at without the freeze policy. It was determined that a reduction in Retail land use was not incentivizing development and was actually creating a revenue shortfall in the Program. Staff notes that during the 2016 Nexus Study update process the Executive Committee approved a reduction to the TUMF Retail land use fee in response to comments from stakeholders regarding retail developments in Western Riverside County. The Fee Analysis Study completed by WRCOG in 2017, and updated in 2019, confirmed that, on average, the impact fee costs to develop a retail project is higher in Western Riverside County than in surrounding areas. The actual retail CCI adjustment fee should be \$14.23 per square foot. It is staff's recommendation to continue the retail freeze at \$7.50 per square foot. Staff added that the retail fee generates approximately 3% of all TUMF revenues or approximately \$1 million – \$2 million per year.

Additionally, as part of the adoption of the 2016 Nexus Study, the Executive Committee approved a two-year freeze, followed by a two-year phase-in, to the Single-family residential TUMF. The first portion of the phase-in was implemented July 1, 2019. The 2019 CCI fee adjustment was then implemented in a phase-in approach, with all land uses increased on July 1, 2020. Lastly, the Single-family residential fee was raised to its full fee on January 1, 2021. A similar approach can be taken on this CCI adjustment at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

After discussion the final recommended action was that each land use type not be adopted at the full 2021 CCI adjustment rate of roughly 9% and instead increase by only 3%. This recommendation passed with 11 "yes" votes. Discussion during the meeting emphasized the desire to keep incentivizing retail development, but also to not delay fee increases because of the repercussions that creates a shortfall to the TUMF Program, thereby underfunding projects.

Action:

1. Recommended that the Executive Committee approve the 2021 Construction Cost Index adjustment of 3% for each land use.

(Menifee / Temecula) 11 yes; 6 no; 0 abstention. Item 6.A was approved. Representatives from the Cities of Calimesa, Hemet, Lake Elsinore, San Jacinto, and Wildomar , and the County of Riverside voted no. Representative from the March Joint Powers Authority did not respond. The water districts do not vote on TUMF matters.

B. Preliminary Draft Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Agency Budget

Andrew Ruiz, WRCOG Chief Financial Officer, reported that total Agency revenue for FY 2021/2022 is projected to be \$57,169,505 against total Agency expenditures of \$56,945,706. This represents a total increase of approximately 40% in WRCOG's Budget compared to FY 2020/2021; however, staff anticipate the total increase to be actually less than 10% after the 4th quarter Budget amendment. TUMF revenues are expected to increase significantly from this current fiscal year. Lastly, REAP funds will begin trickling in.

While the economy appears to be improving, programs have still been conservatively budgeted for. There could still be delayed repercussions from COVID-19 that could show itself in the coming years. Additionally, staff continue to not only look at short-term budgetary impacts, but also long-term financial obligations, such as its pension obligations to CalPERS. Throughout the fiscal year, staff will closely monitor any financial changes and make the necessary adjustments to ensure the Budget remains balanced.

Action:

1. Recommended that the Executive Committee adopt Resolution Number 03-21; A Resolution of the Executive Committee of the Western Riverside Council of Governments adopting the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Agency Budget.

(San Jacinto / Lake Elsinore) 18 yes; 0 no; 0 abstention. Item 6.B was approved.

C. Environmental Department Activities Update

Kyle Rodriguez, WRCOG Senior Analyst, provided an update on current programs within the Agency's Environmental Department. The Department assists member agencies with addressing state mandates requiring education and outreach programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

SB 619 Organic Waste: Reduction Regulation is encouraging implementation efforts but protecting jurisdictions from penalties. SB 1383 will continue to take effect except imposing penalties until January 1, 2023. The rate increase could have severe impacts as businesses begin to reopen.

The Pollution Prevention Initiative "Love Your Neighborhood" was brought to WRCOG as a collaboration effort from the Riverside County Watershed Program and Riverside County Flood Control to meet the mandate of solid waste, recycling, and household hazardous waste and MS4 compliance objectives.

The Community Transportation Needs Assessment seeks to identify the unmet community mobility needs of low-income and disadvantaged communities and develop sustainable solutions in partnership with its residents.

Staff used a digital billboard campaign, online education shows, improved online communication, and

began a virtual voucher for oil filter exchange events during the shutdown. Recognizing staff's effort put forth during the pandemic, CalRecycle presented WRCOG with the 2021 Jaimy Gentry Outstanding Achievement for Rising Above COVID-19.

Action:

1. Received and filed.

D. Santa Ana Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit Compliance Program Activities Update

Darcy Kuenzi from the Riverside County Flood Control provided an update on activities related to the Santa Ana Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit Compliance Program. The Santa Ana Watershed Program is being updated as a regional permit for the Counties of Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino. The Santa Margarita River permit is being renewed and could be updated in 2021/2022. WRCOG and the Riverside County Flood Control are partnering up on a "Love Your Neighborhood" Partnership Program that includes trash implementation and school outreach.

Actions:

1. Received and filed.

E. SCE Charge Ready Program

Holly Merrihew from Southern California Edison (SCE) provided an overview of SCE's Charge Ready Program. The Program will assist businesses and property owners with deploying the infrastructure and equipment necessary to support electric vehicle charging stations at multi-family buildings, public sector and/or business locations. SCE staff broke down the different tiers available and key program requirements. For more information please contact your SCE Account Manager.

Actions:

1. Received and filed.

7. REPORT FROM THE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Chris Gray reported that WRCOG distributed a survey to TAC and Fellow supervisors asking for feedback regarding the Program and upcoming sixth cohort. Please complete and have submitted by May 21, 2021. WRCOG's 30th Annual General Assembly will take place Thursday, June 24, 2021, from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. This virtual event, featuring Daymond John, will only be broadcasted one time.

8. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were no items for future agendas.

9. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Committee member Danielle Coats announced that EMWD has hired Joe Mouawad as its new General Manager.

10. NEXT MEETING

The Technical Advisory Committee is DARK in the month of June. The next Technical Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 15, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., on the Zoom platform.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee adjourned at 11:05 a.m.



Western Riverside Council of Governments Technical Advisory Committee

Staff Report

Subject: Finance Department Activities Update
Contact: Andrew Ruiz, Chief Financial Officer, aruiz@wrcog.us, (951) 405-6740
Date: July 15, 2021

Requested Action(s):

1. Receive and file.

Purpose:

The purpose of this item is to provide an update on the Agency Audit for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 and financials through May 2021.

Background:

Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Agency Audit

WRCOG's annual Agency audit is tentatively scheduled to begin the week of July 28, 2021. WRCOG utilizes the services of the audit firm Rogers, Anderson, Malody, and Scott (RAMS), to conduct its financial audit. The first visit is known as the "interim" audit; in August 2021, RAMS will return to finish its second round, which is known as "fieldwork."

Financial Report Summary Through May 2021

The Agency Financial Report summary through May 2021, a monthly overview of WRCOG's financial statements in the form of combined Agency revenues and costs, is provided as Attachment 1.

Prior Action(s):

None.

Fiscal Impact:

This item is for informational purposes only; therefore, there is no fiscal impact.

Attachment(s):

[Attachment 1. - May-2021 Agency Financials](#)



Western Riverside Council of Governments
Budget to Actuals
For the Month Ending May 31, 2021

	Approved Budget 6/30/2021	Thru Actual 5/31/2021	Remaining Budget 6/30/2021
Revenues and Transfers in			
Member Dues	311,410	286,640	24,770
General Assembly Revenue	300,000	-	300,000
Interest Revenue - Other	25,000	11,342	13,658
Operating Transfer In	2,208,432	1,840,360	368,072
Clean Cities	175,000	151,000	24,000
Solid Waste	112,970	112,970	-
Used Oil	376,396	376,396	-
Gas Company Revenue	108,400	83,667	24,733
Regional Streetlights Revenue	201,915	201,915	-
WRCOG HERO	136,290	58,530	77,760
PACE Residential	78,000	41,348	36,652
PACE Commercial	200,000	180,904	19,096
CA HERO	1,464,730	1,422,288	42,442
Commercial/Svcs - Admin Portion	41,137	54,491	(13,354)
Retail - Admin Portion	89,632	65,914	23,719
Industrial - Admin Portion	236,729	124,664	112,066
Single Family Residential - Admin Portion	652,270	1,402,870	(750,600)
Multi Family - Admin Portion	267,415	211,552	55,863
Commerical/Service	987,281	1,307,788	(320,507)
Retail	2,151,178	1,581,933	569,245
Industrial	5,681,507	2,991,934	2,689,573
Single Family Residential	15,654,486	33,668,881	(18,014,395)
Multi-Family	6,417,964	5,077,250	1,340,714
LTF Revenue	676,500	676,500	-
Grant Revenue	125,000	100,000	25,000
Adaptation Grant Revenue	409,894	101,277	308,617
Local Jurisdiction Match	100,000	90,000	10,000
Total Revenues and Transfers in	\$ 40,539,536	\$ 52,222,414	\$ (11,682,877)
Expenses			
Salaries	2,053,769	1,727,423	326,346
Benefits	1,027,040	855,866	171,174
Overhead	1,443,294	1,202,745	240,549
Legal	285,600	878,983	(593,383)
Advertising Media	65,667	64,600	1,067
Audit Svcs - Professional Fees	35,000	27,825	7,175
Auto Fuels Expense	1,500	337	1,163
Auto Maintenance Expense	500	516	(16)
Bank Fees	33,885	20,706	13,179
Coffee and Supplies	3,000	3,007	(7)
COG HERO Share Expenses	5,000	793	4,207
Commissioner Per Diem	62,500	42,900	19,600
Communications - Web Site	8,000	12,144	(4,144)

Communications - Cellular Phones	13,500	10,397	3,103
Communications - Computer Services	53,000	33,564	19,436
Communications - Regular Phone	16,000	22,025	(6,025)
Computer Equipment/Supplies	13,000	3,729	9,271
Computer Hardware	10,000	8,143	1,857
Computer Software	80,500	57,481	23,019
Consulting Labor	2,268,780	1,438,144	830,636
Equipment Maintenance - General	8,000	1,250	6,750
Event Support	165,736	76,722	89,014
General Assembly Expenses	300,000	41,373	258,627
Insurance - Gen/Busi Liab/Auto	115,500	111,643	3,857
Meals	7,900	1,207	6,693
Meeting Support Services	9,250	490	8,760
Membership Dues	32,750	22,534	10,216
Office Lease	390,000	360,930	29,070
OPEB Repayment	110,526	110,526	-
Other Expenses	9,750	2,972	6,778
Parking Cost	20,000	32,786	(12,786)
Parking Validations	15,827	2,967	12,860
Postage	5,350	1,320	4,030
Printing Services	5,000	1,830	3,170
Program/Office Supplies	14,700	16,279	(1,579)
Recording Fee	173,525	70,253	103,272
Rent/Lease Equipment	20,000	7,698	12,302
Seminar/Conferences	10,650	492	10,158
Staff Recognition	1,000	1,979	(979)
Storage	9,500	6,228	3,272
Subscriptions/Publications	4,250	1,175	3,075
Supplies/Materials	75,478	13,340	62,138
Training	10,000	1,075	8,925
Travel - Airfare	4,250	9	4,241
Travel - Mileage Reimbursement	11,250	950	10,300
TUMF Project Reimbursement	30,892,416	17,721,297	13,171,119
Total Expenses	\$ 40,468,538	\$ 25,020,653	\$ 15,447,885



Western Riverside Council of Governments Technical Advisory Committee

Staff Report

Subject: Cal Cities Activities Update
Contact: Erin Sasse, Regional Public Affairs Manager, Cal Cities, esasse@cacities.org,
(951) 321-0771
Date: July 15, 2021

Requested Action(s):

1. Receive and file.
-

Purpose:

The purpose of this item is to provide an update of activities undertaken by Cal Cities.

Background:

This item is reserved for a presentation by Erin Sasse, Regional Public Affairs Manager for Cal Cities.

Prior Action(s):

None.

Fiscal Impact:

This item is for informational purposes only; therefore, there is no fiscal impact.

Attachment(s):

None.



Western Riverside Council of Governments Technical Advisory Committee

Staff Report

Subject: Update on Early Childhood Education Challenges and Opportunities in the WRCOG Subregion

Contact: Tammi Graham, Executive Director, First Five Riverside, tngraham@rivco.org, 800-266-3880
Susan Gomez, Chief Executive Officer, Inland Empire Community Collaborative, sgomez.iecc@gmail.com, (909) 693-7642

Date: July 15, 2021

Requested Action(s):

1. Receive and file.

Purpose:

The purpose of this item is to provide an update on Early Childhood Education Challenges and Opportunities in Western Riverside County.

Background:

One key regional issue which has received limited attention is Early Childhood Education in Western Riverside County. Having access to affordable childcare is a significant issue for many working families. In some instances, lack of access to childcare or the cost of childcare is a barrier to someone working outside of their home.

The benefits of Early Childhood Education are significant and include improved educational outcomes later in life and even improved social skills. Children in disadvantaged communities, which represent much of Western Riverside County, appear to benefit the most from having access to Early Childhood Education. Numerous studies have noted both short-term and long-term economic benefits from even minor investments in Early Childhood Education.

The Western Riverside County subregion has long struggled with childcare. In some communities, quality childcare is simply not available and if it is available, there are significant cost issues. COVID-19 has significantly worsened the situation because a number of centers, both large and small in-home facilities, were forced to close during the pandemic. With fewer facilities open, some workers are not able to find childcare for their children.

A representative of First Five Riverside along with a representative of the Inland Empire Community Collaborative will be presenting this issue and presenting potential ways in which WRCOG member agencies could address this challenge, both on a short-term and long-term basis.

Prior Action(s):

None.

Fiscal Impact:

This item is for informational purposes only; therefore, there is no fiscal impact.

Attachment(s):

None.



Western Riverside Council of Governments Technical Advisory Committee

Staff Report

Subject: UCR Presentation on OASIS Park
Contact: Rodolfo H. Torres, Vice Chancellor, University of California, Riverside,
vcrc@ucr.edu, (951) 827-4800
Date: July 15, 2021

Requested Action(s):

1. Receive and file.

Purpose:

The purpose of this item is to provide an update on the University California, Riverside's (UCR) Opportunities to Advance Sustainability, Innovation and Social inclusion (OASIS) Park, a cleantech and sustainability hub in the heart of the Inland Empire.

Background:

OASIS is a sustainability innovation park that builds on a century of industry and research strengths in the areas of agriculture, natural resource management, and cleantech logistics. The OASIS Park's intent is to:

- Anchor a diverse range of stakeholders and industries that leverage strengths and connection to the California Air Resources Board (CARB), agriculture, environment, health, and logistics industry partners.
- Strengthen partnerships with workforce development in both Riverside and San Bernardino Counties and with other cleantech incubators in the Cities of Los Angeles and San Diego.
- Provide a welcome and inclusive setting that inspires the next generation of diverse STEM and business leaders.

OASIS is uniquely positioned to create an impactful momentum to address major challenges in sustainability facing the state and the nation while building on a legacy of promoting innovation in air quality research, agriculture, natural resources, clean logistics, and climate change. Additionally, OASIS aims to:

- Leverage investments and relationships involving public, private, and philanthropic partners.

- Engage the region’s initiatives in Opportunity Zones and Innovation Districts.
- Build on the State’s commitments to sustainability, innovation, and social inclusion.

Next Steps

OASIS is entering Phase I of its efforts and has already taken its first steps with a preliminary study led by external consultants, Brailsford and Dunlavey. The consultants will help identify locations and potential funding for the project. UCR’s offices of Research and Economic Development and Government Relations have also been pursuing state and federal funding to support the project. A main goal of the program is to create skilled jobs for the Inland Empire. WRCOG seeks to support the OASIS development through its vast network and promote the project to its members as it aligns with a number of economic development and job creation opportunities relative to the subregion.

Member agencies can learn more about OASIS by connecting directly with UCR to get involved in the effort. WRCOG staff would also be happy to facilitate and amplify any potential partnerships to enhance job creation, capital investment, and industry relations between OASIS and WRCOG members.

Prior Action(s):

February 1, 2021: The Executive Committee received and filed.

Fiscal Impact:

This item is for informational purposes only; therefore, there is no fiscal impact.

Attachment(s):

None.



Western Riverside Council of Governments Technical Advisory Committee

Staff Report

Subject: Energy Department Activities Update
Contact: Daniel Soltero, Program Manager, dsoltero@wrcog.us, (951) 405-6738
Date: July 15, 2021

Requested Action(s):

1. Receive and file.

Purpose:

The purpose of this item is to provide activity updates from the Regional Streetlight Program and the Western Riverside County Energy Resiliency Plan.

Background:

WRCOG's Energy Department administers multiple regionally beneficial programs to support member agencies, including the Regional Streetlight Program and the Western Riverside County Energy Resiliency Plan.

Regional Streetlight Program

At the direction of the Executive Committee, WRCOG developed a Regional Streetlight Program that allowed 10 member agencies and a Community Service District to purchase streetlights within jurisdiction boundaries which were previously owned and operated by Southern California Edison (SCE).

Once the streetlights were owned by the member agency, the lamps were retrofitted to light-emitting diode (LED) technology to provide more economical operations (i.e., lower maintenance costs and reduced energy use). Local control of the streetlight system provides agencies with opportunities for future revenue generation such as digital-ready networks and telecommunications and information technology strategies.

In November 2019, the Bay Area Council announced the California Resilience Challenge (CRC), a statewide effort led by businesses and a diverse range of partners, that provides grants for local governments to build climate resiliency and to support a shared vision for a resilient California in the face of increasing climate threats. On February 3, 2020, the Executive Committee adopted a resolution authorizing WRCOG's submittal of a proposal to the CRC 2020 Grant Program to develop a Western Riverside County Energy Resiliency Plan to address local energy resiliency against power outage impacts on the subregion's power supply for critical facilities maintained and operated by member agencies. In April 2020, the Bay Area Council, through the CRC, awarded WRCOG a \$200,000 grant to develop the Plan to build resiliency against power shutoffs and/or power issues at subregional critical facilities by developing a blueprint for energy resiliency technologies, projects, and strategies for member

agencies. On February 8, 2021, WRCOG entered into an agreement with AECOM to develop the Western Riverside County Energy Resiliency Plan.

Rebate Presentations: In March 2021, WRCOG remitted the last of the \$3.6M in utility rebates to 10 participating agencies. From 2017 to 2018, WRCOG coordinated with SCE to secure LED rebates for member agencies that acquired SCE-owned streetlights and completed an LED conversion. Upon completion of the LED retrofit project in each member agency, WRCOG staff compiled the required information, prepared, and then submitted the rebate applications to SCE on the agency's behalf; the rebate application process was completed in December 2020.

Shortly after the rebate funds were remitted to member agencies, staff offered a rebate presentation to participating agencies' City Council. In late 2019 and early 2020, staff presented LED streetlight rebates to the Cities of Eastvale and Murrieta. Between March and May 2021, staff presented at City Council meetings for the Cities of Hemet, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Perris, San Jacinto, and Temecula.

Smart Streetlights Plan: By fall 2020, the Regional Streetlight Program entered the maintenance phase whereby all participating agencies had completed streetlight acquisitions and LED conversion projects. Taking local control of the streetlight system provides participating agencies with opportunities for future revenue generation such as digital-ready networks and telecommunications, as well as opportunities to increase public services by utilizing streetlights as smart city assets. In order to identify and elaborate on these new opportunities, WRCOG entered into an agreement with Michael Baker International (MBI) in February 2021 to develop a Smart Streetlights Implementation Plan (Smart Streetlights Plan) and Broadband Assessment that will include participants of the Regional Streetlight Program and all WRCOG member agencies.

Between February and May 2021, MBI and WRCOG staff completed a community assessment and coordinated interviews with peer agencies to learn of their smart streetlight and smart city programs. The community assessment was completed and has been used to support identification of readiness in agencies to utilize streetlights as smart city assets. Staff submitted a survey to each agency to gather information on a variety of smart city prerequisites such as number streetlights and traffic signals, types of networking / IT assets maintained by the agency, and if there are any existing policies or plans related to data collection, data privacy, or smart city technologies. At the conclusion of the community assessment a total of 12 agencies responded to the survey, including the Cities of Banning, Calimesa, Eastvale, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Murrieta, Perris, Riverside, San Jacinto, Temecula, Wildomar, and the Jurupa Community Services District.

Implementation of smart streetlight solutions should solve identified problems, rather than starting off with a solution in mind. The needs of each of WRCOG's member agencies will vary, and any implementation strategy will need to account for these needs. A review of how other locations, "peer agencies," have deployed smart streetlight solutions can provide context for WRCOG member agencies to assess the possibilities of smart city technologies addressing their individual needs. Since March 2021, Staff and MBI conducted online research on five peer agency implementations of smart streetlight technologies and completed four interviews with staff from the Cities of Los Angeles, San Diego, Las Vegas, and Kansas City. Staff are preparing for the final peer agency interview with the City of Atlanta. Additionally, staff and MBI are coordinating an upcoming workshop in July 2021 to provide an in-depth presentation on the research conducted to date, as well as gain agency feedback on community needs and discuss smart city technologies that will be evaluated.

Western Riverside County Energy Resiliency Plan

The purpose of the Western Riverside County Energy Resiliency Plan is to assess subregional critical facilities and identify feasibility of implementing future microgrids and/or other energy resiliency solutions to maintain power supply during environmental events that cause power outages or power issues. To determine if microgrids or other energy resiliency solutions are viable, an in-depth technical feasibility study will be conducted at three critical facilities across the subregion. The results from the feasibility study will be extrapolated and generalized to be applicable at similar critical facilities across the subregion. Additionally, the Plan will contain an implementation framework consisting of the technical feasibility study of the three critical facilities, as well as a financing plan that will identify available funding opportunities for member agencies to implement projects identified through the Plan.

Since February 2021, WRCOG staff have been coordinating with member agencies to gather a list of proposed facilities that can be considered for the Plan. Through this outreach staff are requesting pertinent information including the type of facility, its general or specialized purpose, frequency of use by the public, and general information on historical or frequent power outages. This initial list of subregional critical facilities will provide perspective on the types of facilities to focus on and which are most common across the subregion. As more information and data is gathered, the subregional facilities will be further assessed and prioritized based on a variety of factors, including each facility's criticality to its community, replicability across the subregion, technical compatibility, as well as its vulnerability to power outages. The goal is to overlay a variety of data to help prioritize the subregional facilities and identify three sites for the technical feasibility study that will provide the most impact to its community and is most compatible for implementation. To date, seven member agencies have submitted a response to the facilities' list request; however, staff will continue to follow up with member agencies.

During this data gathering phase of the Plan, staff believe it is important to identify existing and similar resilience plans or projects to gain perspectives on best practices, barriers, and general insight on energy resiliency planning. Additionally, it is important to identify and understand regional vulnerabilities that can result in power outages, such as wildfires, drought, extreme heat, and extreme storm events.

As such, Raimi + Associates and AECOM collaborated on a literature review of existing plans and assessments such as CAPtivate and Resilient IE, the City of Berkeley's Energy Assurance Transformation Project Report, CalAdapt, and the Emergency Management, Disaster Preparedness, and General Plan Safety Elements from each WRCOG member agency.

Key findings from the literature review are that resilience measures (energy efficiency, load management, PV, energy storage) have been implemented at facilities owned by local governments, school districts, and community-based non-profits. Most of the examples are of solar plus storage serving individual buildings. Several studies have been completed that address ways to link multiple buildings into a larger microgrid. Regulatory constraints and associated costs have been barriers to microgrid implementation. Good candidates are locations with large parcels owned by a single entity, such as civic centers, schools, or corporate campuses. Examples of current energy resilience projects were presented with a discussion of the associated positive and negative attributes.

Additionally, staff have held two workshops for member agencies as part of the outreach and engagement tasks of the Plan. The first workshop was held on April 29, 2021, to introduce the project to WRCOG members and other stakeholders, provide background on the subject of energy resiliency based on a review of literature and case studies, and conduct an initial discussion about the project goals and objectives. The initial findings from the first workshop show that many of WRCOG members

have facilities that have been impacted in the last year by power outages. Members would like the Plan to focus on public safety facilities, such as police and fire stations, and water infrastructure such as water wells, pump stations and sewers. The second workshop was held on July 29, 2021, to revisit the goals and objectives, and coordinate with members to identify key resilience issues and community resilience needs. Members identified resilience issues in their communities such as vulnerable populations including seniors and people dealing with homelessness, as well as infrastructure that is impacted by high wind events, wildfires, and drought, such as water wells and communications towers.

Prior Action(s):

None.

Fiscal Impact:

This item is for informational purposes only; therefore, there is no fiscal impact.

Attachment(s):

None.



Western Riverside Council of Governments Technical Advisory Committee

Staff Report

Subject: SAWPA OWOW Grant Funding Opportunity
Contact: Ian Achimore, Senior Watershed Manager, iachimore@sawpa.org, (951) 354-4233
Date: July 15, 2021

Requested Action(s):

1. Receive and file.

Purpose:

The purpose of this item is to provide information on the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority's (SAWPA) One Water One Watershed (OWOW) grant opportunity.

Background:

This item is reserved for a presentation by staff from the SAWPA.

California Proposition 1, passed in 2014, provides grant funding to 12 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) “funding areas” and 48 sub-areas, known as IRWM regions across the state. The OWOW Program facilitated by SAWPA represents one of those funding areas and regions — the Santa Ana River Watershed. Through Proposition 1, Round 2 IRWM funding includes \$25.7 million in grant funding for projects through the OWOW Program.

There is also a specific funding designation, a total of approximately \$4.1 million of the \$25.7 million, for areas within the Santa Ana River Watershed that are deemed “disadvantaged.” Projects are eligible for this funding if they directly benefit areas that meet the definition described in California Water Code Section 79505.5(a): “A community with an annual median household income that is less than 80 percent of the statewide annual median household income.”

The application period for Round 2 funding will likely open between October 2021 and January 2022. Major project eligibility criteria includes:

- Responding to climate change
- Contributing to regional water self-reliance
- Including multiple and quantifiable benefits

- Having a useful life of at least 15 years

Entities eligible to apply for funding (including the disadvantaged community-specific funding) are:

- Public agencies
- Non-profit organizations
- Public utilities
- Federally recognized Indian Tribes
- California State Indian Tribes listed on the Native American Heritage Commission's California Tribal Consultation List
- Mutual water companies

Further information about the OWOW process is available at <https://sawpa.org/owow/future-funding-opportunities/>

Prior Action(s):

None.

Fiscal Impact:

This item is for informational purposes only; therefore, there is no fiscal impact.

Attachment(s):

None.