



# Western Riverside Council of Governments Technical Advisory Committee

## AGENDA

Thursday, May 18, 2023  
9:30 AM

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

### Remote Meeting Locations:

Beaumont Civic Center  
550 East 6th Street, Room 4  
Beaumont, CA 92223

3593 Eastfield Court  
Carmel, CA 93923

City of Temecula  
City Manager's Office  
41000 Main Street  
Temecula, CA 92590

**Committee members are asked to attend this meeting in person unless remote accommodations have previously been requested and noted on the agenda. The below Zoom link is provided for the convenience of members of the public, presenters, and support staff.**

[Public Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 848 1479 0321  
Passcode: 685915

Dial in: (669) 900 9128 U.S.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Government Code Section 54954.2, if special assistance is needed to participate in the Technical Advisory Committee meeting, please contact WRCOG at (951) 405-6706. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to meeting time will assist staff in assuring that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility at the meeting. In compliance with Government Code Section 54957.5, agenda materials distributed within 72 hours prior to the meeting which are public records relating to an open session agenda item will be available for inspection by members of the public prior to the meeting at 3390 University Avenue, Suite 200, Riverside, CA, 92501.

In addition to commenting at the Committee meeting, members of the public may also submit written comments before or during the meeting, prior to the close of public comment to [lfelix@wrcog.us](mailto:lfelix@wrcog.us).

Any member of the public requiring a reasonable accommodation to participate in this meeting in light of this announcement shall contact Lucy Felix 72 hours prior to the meeting at (951) 405-6706 or [lfelix@wrcog.us](mailto:lfelix@wrcog.us). Later requests will be 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 (Rob Johnson, 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. 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 April 20, 2023, Technical Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Requested Action(s):** 1. Approve the Summary Minutes from the April 20, 2023, Technical Advisory Committee meeting.

**B. 2023 Western Riverside County TUMF Regional Arterial List Update**

**Requested Action(s):** 1. Recommend that the WRCOG Executive Committee approve the six projects identified for RCTC Regional Arterial TUMF Funding.  
2. Recommend that the WRCOG Executive Committee provide a recommendation to the RCTC Budget and Implementation Committee to approve the six projects identified for RCTC Regional Arterial TUMF Funding.

**6. REPORTS / DISCUSSION**

**A. I-REN Public Sector Program Updates**

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

**B. Housing Element Compliance**

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

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

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

**7. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Dr. Kurt Willson

**8. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

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

**9. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

**10. NEXT MEETING**

The next Technical Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, XXX xx, 2023, at 9:30 a.m., in WRCOG's office at 3390 University Avenue, Suite 200, Riverside.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

# Technical Advisory Committee

## Minutes

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the WRCOG Technical Advisory Committee was called to order by Chair Rob Johnson at 9:31 a.m. on April 20, 2023, in WRCOG's office.

### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

### 3. ROLL CALL

- City of Banning - Doug Shulze
- City of Calimesa - Will Kolbow
- City of Canyon Lake - Nicole Dailey
- City of Corona - Jacob Ellis\*
- City of Eastvale - Mark Orme
- City of Hemet - Mark Prestwich
- City of Menifee - Rochelle Clayton\*
- City of Moreno Valley - Michael Lloyd
- City of Murrieta - Kristen Crane\*
- City of Perris - Clara Miramontes
- City of Riverside - Mike Futrell
- City of San Jacinto - Rob Johnson (Chair)
- City of Temecula - Betsy Lowrey
- City of Wildomar - Dan York\*

\*Arrived after Roll Call

### 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Arnold San Miguel from SCAG reported that Connect SoCal is conducting public outreach events throughout the region. A pop-up event will be held in Western Riverside County at the Temecula Rod Run on May 5, 2023, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Committee members and staff are encouraged to fill out a survey, and share it with other staff and members of the public.

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR** – (Banning / Perris) 14 yes; 0 no; 0 abstention. Items 5.A through 5.E were approved.

#### **A. Summary Minutes from the February 16, 2023, Technical Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Action:**

1. Approved the Summary Minutes from the February 16, 2023, Technical Advisory Committee meeting.

**B. Summary Minutes from the March 16, 2023, Technical Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Action:**

1. Approved the Summary Minutes from the March 16, 2023, Technical Advisory Committee meeting.

**C. 2022 Fee Comparison Analysis Update - Final Report**

**Action:**

1. Received and filed.

**D. SCAG Activities Update: March 2023**

**Action:**

1. Received and filed.

**E. Finance Department Activities Update**

**Action:**

1. Received and filed.

**6. REPORTS / DISCUSSION**

**A. Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget**

Andrew Ruiz, WRCOG Chief Financial Officer, reported that Agency-wide revenues are budgeted at approximately \$19.5M against \$19.2M in expenditures.

The PACE Commercial Program is comprised of two providers, Twain and Nuveen, with a total budget of approximately \$110k. Actual revenues are currently at \$68k. It is difficult to make predictions for PACE because there is no consistency in the Program's activities. Proposed changes are to consolidate the PACE Commercial Program while tracking vendor activity, aligning revenues with fixed costs, primarily salaries at a proposed budget of \$148k, and finally, adjusting revenues and variable costs based on actual activity.

TUMF collections are split five ways: RCTC, WRCOG Zones, RTA, RCA, and WRCOG Administration. Based on WRCOG auditor recommendations, only 4% of TUMF collections will be considered revenue. Compared to last year, excluding the TUMF revenues, the Program has seen approximately a \$2M increase. TUMF revenues will be reclassified as an alternative revenue source based on recommendations from the WRCOG auditors, following GASB 84. TUMF Administration revenue will be approximately \$52k due to the Beaumont Settlement Agreement, which is 4% of the \$1.3M expected collections. Remaining funds will be distributed as outlined in the Settlement Agreement.

Environmental Program budgets include the Solid Waste Program, Love Your Neighborhood Program, and the Used Oil Program. Energy Program budgets include the SoCal Gas Partnership, Streetlight Program, and the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN), all of which have increased from Fiscal Year

(FY) 2022/2023.

The I-REN budget is \$65M over a 6-year period. Funds may be rolled over to subsequent years within those six years. An Advice Letter will be sent to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to increase the budget and allow rolling the remaining funds over into later years.

The HERO Program anticipates \$764k in revenues for FY 2023/2024, which is a decrease from the \$1.1M in FY 2022/2023. This is primarily due to various changes in the market and interest rates. Anticipated expenditures are \$1.15M, leaving a deficit of approximately \$388k.

The Administration budget is \$2.87M, including the overhead, member dues, and interest. The Fellowship Program has a budget of \$100k based on five Fellows. It will continue to operate with its current funding structure; however, additional options, such as fundraising, sponsorships, or support from philanthropic entities require further discussion to extend the life of the Program.

Over the past few years, the General Fund housed many of the WRCOG Programs. WRCOG staff are working to break out those programs and create their own separate funds.

Dr. Kurt Wilson, WRCOG Executive Director, stated that discussions with Executive Committee members reinforced the idea of having a longer-term view of the budget instead of year-by-year. WRCOG revenues are generally program-based, and are thus more volatile than with traditional public agency revenues that come from sales taxes or property taxes which are more predictable. Also, programs were implemented during different times of the WRCOG cycle, and money was not the main focus. Going forward, the consensus was that the programs should be able to pay for themselves.

Four guiding principles are being used as a part of the FY 2023/2024 budget process:

1. Fair distribution of funds and funding requests
2. Requiring all programs to be self-sustaining
3. Focusing on the long-term health of each fund
4. Incrementally moving towards these goals when full-scale immediate changes are impractical.

Dues for WRCOG general membership, Solid Waste, and Clean Cities were discussed. Changes for all three were proposed; however, only dues for Solid Waste and Clean Cities are being proposed for the FY 2023/2024 budget, with a phase-in for the Clean Cities dues. There were no proposed changes to the current year member dues, but an evaluation of the components of the dues structure and amount will begin immediately, which will then be presented to the Committee for approval.

The Solid Waste Program is an opt-in program, and increases will only apply to those member agencies that choose to participate. The Clean Cities Program is another opt-in program, and is partially funded by AB 2766 funds from the South Coast Air Quality Management District. The WRCOG energy team is actively pursuing grants, but these funds are not guaranteed. Other funding sources include the Department of Energy, a West Virginia University partnership, and the Local Transportation Fund. There is a proposed increase of 10% for participating member agencies while the Program works toward self-sufficiency. Additional changes will be addressed over the next fiscal year after further analysis.

The Executive Committee did not have an interest to use General Fund dollars to continue the

Fellowship Program. It will run until or unless funds are either depleted. Staff is seeking additional grant funding, sponsorships, or support from philanthropic entities such as the WRCOG Supporting Foundation to extend the life of the Program.

I-REN has a unique structure, which is funded by the CPUC over multiple years, and operates on a calendar year as opposed to WRCOG's fiscal year. The I-REN Executive Committee makes programmatic budget decisions, which are then incorporated into the WRCOG budget, with half of the budget accounted for in the current fiscal year, and the other half for the following fiscal year. Furthermore, I-REN is not a Joint Powers Authority, so all budget decisions are delegated to the WRCOG Executive Committee for approval.

There were changes made to the Budget Resolution, which is approved by the Executive Committee, with regard to the WRCOG Executive Director's authority as well as City Managers' authority to make changes to the budget.

Committee member Will Kolbow asked to clarify Section 4, item B of the Budget Amendment, asking whether the Executive Director would have authority to amend only the grant revenues, or if it would apply the entire Program revenue structure.

Mr. Ruiz replied that it is specific to the grant revenue. WRCOG received additional funds in the amount of \$125k for SB 1383 implementation, and in this instance, the budget was amended on the revenues and expenditure side without having to go through the Committee process.

Dr. Wilson added that for programs that receive grant revenue, those funds would be incorporated through a budget amendment when they are received. There is a challenge with the amount of time that it takes for items to be approved through the typical process: first by TAC, then by the Administration & Finance Committee, and finally by the WRCOG Executive Committee. If all goes well, the entire process still takes approximately 3 months, but can be significantly longer. Some grants are time-sensitive and there is a deadline to accept the funding.

Committee member Kolbow asked if this applies to grants that are within existing programs, or if it also applies to other things.

Dr. Wilson stated that the Administration & Finance Committee will be addressing a documented process for new programs at its next meeting. The focus has mainly been on internal operations, but there is a plan to create a process for new programs, which will then be presented to the various WRCOG Committees for approval.

Committee member Kolbow expressed concern about not having a limited dollar amount, and suggested requiring approval from the Administration & Finance Committee if it were to exceed a specified amount. With regard to the Classification and Compensation salary adjustments, there may be issues with CalPERS if the adjustments were not approved by a governing board.

Dr. Wilson clarified that CalPERS is most concerned about the approval of the Salary Schedule itself, as opposed to the employee's location on that schedule (Step I, Step II, etc.). WRCOG recently underwent a Classification and Compensation study which was approved by the Governing Board.

Committee member Lori Sassoon asked about the fund balances, and if there is anything the Committee

can do to reduce the HERO Program deficit.

Mr. Ruiz responded that the fund balance has yet to be brought forward, but will be presented in the near future.

Dr. Wilson added that the HERO Residential Program was paused by the Executive Committee due to many factors, including the sole WRCOG partner declaring bankruptcy. The revenues are gone because nothing new is being done, but WRCOG has an obligation to continue until the last one is paid off.

Casey Dailey, WRCOG Director of Energy & Environmental Programs, stated that the main expenditures for the HERO Program were for litigation costs and salaries.

**Action:**

1. Received and filed.

**B. Riverside County Regional Broadband Efforts**

Tom Mullen, Chief Data Officer for Riverside County Information Technology (RCIT), provided updates on the County's broadband initiative. Rivco Connect has partnered with various Councils of Government with a goal to bring ubiquitous fiber connectivity to all cities and unincorporated communities. RCIT works primarily with three internet service providers - AT&T, Charter Spectrum, and Frontier - to make this vision possible, and focuses on three areas that it seeks to address to close the digital divide:

1. Availability of broadband infrastructure;
2. Affordability; and
3. Adoption needs / digital literacy.

The County continues to encourage service providers to build more infrastructure to meet availability needs of the subregion, specifically in unserved and underserved communities. RCIT has conducted extensive geospatial mapping to identify those unserved and underserved areas of Riverside County and has hired a contractor to complete a Gaps and Opportunities Assessment to understand the state of broadband across the County. The County of Riverside was awarded a Local Agency Technical Assistance grant to update its Broadband Master Plan.

To address affordability needs, RCIT has launched an extensive Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) Outreach Campaign to make the community aware that the Program is available for eligible households. The ACP is a subsidy from the Federal Government, which provides a monthly discount of \$30 on internet service. There is a large population that qualifies for the Program, nearly one out of two households in Riverside County. Although the registration is through the Federal Government, Riverside County assists with the sign-ups through a call center hotline, (866) 922-1016, by helping residents enroll in the ACP. The subsidy also applies to cellphone bills, but the main focus is on broadband. RCIT has identified a need for digital literacy training in Riverside County and is seeking additional funding to assist with that effort. RCIT has a database of grant opportunities and is currently tracking over 70 broadband grant programs.

**Action:**

1. Received and filed.



#### **D. Good Neighbor Guidelines for Siting New and/or Modified Warehouse / Distribution Facilities**

This item was heard out of order.

Chris Gray, WRCOG Deputy Executive Director, reported that the Guidelines were developed in 2003 by the Regional Air Quality Task Force and endorsed in 2005 by the WRCOG Executive Committee. The document includes recommendations and strategies for reducing the negative impacts associated with warehouse and distribution center operations. It has not been updated since its creation even though newer guidance, regulations, and requirements have been developed, but it is still being used and cited by various entities. Additionally, many member agencies have developed and adopted their own guidelines as it pertains to its community.

This item was presented to the WRCOG Planning Directors Committee, which were asked to consider either updating the current Guidelines, rescinding the document altogether, assisting agencies to develop their own guidelines, and waiting to see the result of currently proposed legislation (AB 1000 & AB 1748).

Issues may arise if regional guidelines conflict with local guidelines. Additionally, warehouse siting is a very contentious issue, primarily in relation to sensitive receptors (homes, parks, schools, etc.). Standard setbacks can range from 300 feet or less, to 1,000 feet or more, and are often the subject of litigation. While there are objective criteria, agencies evaluate that criteria differently.

Bill Blankenship from the Inland Empire Commercial Industrial Association expressed his opposition for updating the Guidelines, which may conflict with some member agencies' own guidelines. WRCOG should allow jurisdictions that are impacted by this issue work through it themselves.

Committee member Doug Schulze is also opposed to updating the Guidelines, as what may be good for one community may not work for another.

Committee member Will Kolbow agreed that the update is not worth doing, but supported the idea of WRCOG helping individual member agencies create their own guidelines.

Committee member Lori Sassoon suggested creating a decision matrix to assist communities when dealing with contentious issues and questions regarding siting standards and long-term impacts. Each community is different, so the guidelines would not be a one-size-fits all.

Committee member Clara Miramontes stated that the City of Perris recently adopted its own guidelines, which were developed using WRCOG's current Guidelines as well as guidelines developed by other surrounding cities. Instead of guidelines, perhaps a toolkit could be developed that member agencies can use to develop their own guidelines or use as a resource.

Mr. Gray added that if the Guidelines are withdrawn, WRCOG staff can still develop alternative documents or resources to help member agencies address different issues, without calling it "guidelines."

**Action:**

1. Recommended that the Executive Committee either withdraw the WRCOG Good Neighbor Guidelines for Siting New and/or Modified Warehouse / Distribution Facilities.

(Banning / Calimesa) 13 yes; 0 no; 0 abstention. Item 6.D was approved.

### **C. I-REN Energy Fellowship Update: Member Agency Participation**

Tyler Masters, WRCOG Program Manager, introduced the I-REN Energy Fellowship. One of the primary sectors of the I-REN Program is the Workforce and Education Sector. Through a partnership with CivicSpark, the Program is dedicated to building capacity and energy comprehension within the subregion. Staff anticipates placing up to 27 Fellows within Riverside and San Bernardino Counties to support energy initiatives, at no cost to participating host agencies.

Some energy projects include building energy benchmarking, developing building inventories, and conducting facility audits. Interviews will be conducted in May 2023 with the Fellowship beginning in September, 2023.

#### **Action:**

1. Received and filed.

### **7. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Dr. Kurt Wilson reminded the Committee of the upcoming WRCOG General Assembly (GA) and asked Committee members to register the names and information of all attendees. The GA will be held on June 29, 2023, at Pechanga Resort Casino, and an Executive Committee meeting will be held on June 30, 2023. The guest speaker will be Presidential historian and Pulitzer prize winning author, Doris Kearns Goodwin, who will reflect on the challenges faced by various Presidents throughout history, and how it relates to experiences Committee members may have had. Sponsorship opportunities and tickets for the event are still available for those who would like to contribute.

### **8. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

WRCOG staff were asked to return to a future TAC meeting with information regarding approaches member agencies could use when evaluating potential logistics projects or to develop their own localized guidelines.

### **9. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Committee member Lauren Sotelo announced that the SoCal Airshow will be held this weekend at March Air Reserve Base. Admittance is free and parking is at the main entrance on Cactus Street.

Committee member Mike Futrell announced that the City of Riverside is holding an insect fair; UC Riverside is the largest entomology school in the world. Attendees can see, hold, and even eat bugs.

### **10. NEXT MEETING**

The next Technical Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 18, 2023, at 9:30 a.m., in WRCOG's office located at 3390 University Avenue, Suite 200, Riverside.

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee adjourned at 11:07 a.m.



# Western Riverside Council of Governments Technical Advisory Committee

## Staff Report

**Subject:** 2023 Western Riverside County TUMF Regional Arterial List Update

**Contact:** Jillian Guizado, RCTC Director of Planning and Programming, [JGuizado@rctc.org](mailto:JGuizado@rctc.org), (951)787-7923

**Date:** May 18, 2023

### **Requested Action(s):**

1. Recommend that the WRCOG Executive Committee approve the six projects identified for RCTC Regional Arterial TUMF Funding.
2. Recommend that the WRCOG Executive Committee provide a recommendation to the RCTC Budget and Implementation Committee to approve the six projects identified for RCTC Regional Arterial TUMF Funding.

### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this item is to provide an overview of the RCTC Regional Arterial TUMF Program Call for Projects and request the recommendation of approval of the six projects recommended for RCTC Regional Arterial TUMF Funding.

### **WRCOG 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal:**

Goal #2 - Identify and help secure grants and other potential funding opportunities for projects and programs that benefit member agencies.

### **Background:**

*The 2009 Measure A Expenditure Plan includes funding to widen existing roads and construct new roads on the regional arterial transportation system in Western Riverside County. Based on this, the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) released a Regional Arterials Call for Projects in February 2023 that provides funding from local Measure A Regional Arterials (MARA) revenues and TUMF revenues. RCTC indicates that approximately \$50M is projected to be available in the TUMF Regional Arterials account for this Call for Projects: Fiscal Year (FY) 2023/2024 \$45,750,000 and FY 2024/2025 \$4,250,000. Applications were due to RCTC on April 5, 2023, and evaluations of the applications have taken place. There is a need for this Committee to make a recommendation for the projects that are to receive TUMF funding.*

### **Approval Process**

Based on a 2008 Memorandum of Understanding, the development and updating of the RCTC Regional Arterial TUMF Program will require the recommendation of approval from an entity known as the "TUMF

Public Works Committee” (TPWC). This Committee is a single Committee that combines the western jurisdictions of the RCTC Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the WRCOG Public Works Committee. The TPWC met on May 11, 2023, to review and make a recommendation for review and approval by the WRCOG TAC.

The TPWC made recommendations regarding the RCTC Regional Arterial TUMF Program to the WRCOG TAC and RCTC Budget and Implementation Committee. The WRCOG TAC will review the TPWC recommendations and forward recommendations on the RCTC Regional Arterial TUMF Program with any revisions to the WRCOG Executive Committee for action. The WRCOG Executive Committee will review the RCTC Regional Arterial TUMF Program along with the WRCOG TAC recommendations and any additional information from the RCTC Budget and Implementation Committee and forward a recommendation to the RCTC Commission.

### **Application Evaluation**

Applications were evaluated based on the following criteria: Project Readiness, Regional Significance, Safety, Matching Funds, and Parity. Applications that scored higher on the Project Readiness category displayed that the project had completed, or was near 100% completion of its Project Approval / Environmental Document, Plans, Specifications and Estimates, and Right-of-Way phases. Applications that scored higher on the Regional Significance category displayed the project’s regional significance based on quantitative data, such as Level of Service and Average Daily Traffic. Applications that provided accident information to justify project safety benefits and included a qualitative discussion of the facility’s safety challenges and the project’s proposed safety benefits scored higher on the Safety category.

The RCTC Regional Arterial TUMF Program is funded through the 45.7% of TUMF that is allocated to RCTC for programming improvements to the arterials of regional significance on the Regional System of Highways and Arterials. It is important to note that only projects designated as being on the “TUMF backbone” Network are eligible to receive funding through the RCTC Regional Arterial TUMF category. These projects are identified on the TUMF Network as “backbone” and are deemed regionally significant. Projects that are on the TUMF Network that are not categorized as “backbone” are considered “secondary” and are eligible to receive funding through the TUMF zone allocation.

### **Projects Recommended for RCTC Regional Arterial TUMF Funding**

Eight project applications were received for projects on the TUMF backbone Network. After reviewing and scoring the applications, the evaluation committee is recommending RCTC Regional Arterials TUMF funding be awarded to six of the projects. Two of the six projects are near their TUMF Maximum (Max) Share so the remaining funds requested is recommended to come from MARA funds.

It is important to note that the funding requests from these agencies are in addition to the monies that the WRCOG TUMF Program has already programmed in its 5-year Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP).

1. Beaumont - Potrero Interchange Phase II: \$8M
2. Wildomar - Clinton Keith Rd. Widening Project: \$3,396,221 (Project is near TUMF Max Share so remaining \$2.25M requested will come from MARA).
3. Perris - Ethanac Rd. Bridge over San Jacinto River & Roadway Extension, East of the River: \$8,798,000

4. Menifee - Bundy Canyon Road / Scott Road Widening Project: \$9,367,560 (Project is at TUMF Max Share with requested amount so remaining \$632,440 requested will come from MARA).
5. Riverside County - Cajalco Road Widening and Safety Enhancement Project: \$15M
6. Calimesa - Realignment of Calimesa Boulevard at Cherry Valley Boulevard: \$5,200,000

### **Applications to Receive MARA Funding**

The two projects below were submitted in the Regional Arterials Call for Projects and are eligible to receive funding from the RCTC Regional Arterial TUMF Program since they are designated as TUMF backbone Network projects. However, these projects have reached their TUMF Max Share so they are being recommended to receive MARA funds.

1. Wildomar - Bundy Canyon Rd. Improvement Project, Segment 2: recommended for MARA since project is at TUMF Max Share.
2. Wildomar - Bundy Canyon Rd. Improvement Project, Segment 3: recommended for MARA since project is at TUMF Max Share.

### **Prior Action(s):**

**May 11, 2023:** The TUMF Public Works Committee recommended that the Executive Committee approve and recommend approval of the six projects identified for RCTC Regional Arterial TUMF Funding to the RCTC Budget and Implementation Committee.

### **Fiscal Impact:**

This item is for informational purposes only; therefore, there is no fiscal impact. All TUMF-related reimbursements associated with these projects will be made by RCTC.

### **Attachment(s):**

None.



# Inland Regional Energy Network Technical Advisory Committee

## Staff Report

**Subject:** I-REN Public Sector Program Updates  
**Contact:** Benjamin Druyon, Program Manager, [bdruyon@wrcog.us](mailto:bdruyon@wrcog.us), (951) 405-6727  
**Date:** May 18, 2023

### Requested Action(s):

1. Receive and file.

### Purpose:

The purpose of this item is to provide updates on the I-REN Public Sector programs and activities.

### Background:

*Initiated in 2019, the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) is a consortium of the Western Riverside Council of Governments, the Coachella Valley Association of Governments, and the San Bernardino Council of Governments (I-REN COG partners) that serve the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino in the implementation of energy efficiency programs and services to support member agencies and the public. These partners joined together and submitted a Business Plan to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) in order to establish locally administered, designed, and delivered energy efficiency programs. I-REN's Business Plan was approved by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) in 2021 for three sectors: Public, Codes and Standards, and Workforce Education & Training.*

I-REN's Public Sector Program objectives are to 1) ensure local governments have the support and resources to develop and implement their strategic energy plans and energy efficiency projects, and 2) help local governments afford and finance a range of energy efficiency upgrades through innovative financing options. Following a competitive bidding process for I-REN's Public Sector, The Energy Coalition (TEC) was selected to develop and implement the following scopes:

1. Public Sector Technical Assistance and Strategic Energy Planning Program Implementation.
2. Public Buildings Normalized Metered Energy Consumption (NMEC) Incentive Program Implementation.
3. Public Sector Financing Services.

For each of the three scopes, TEC will provide leadership for program design activities in collaboration with the I-REN team, coordinate outreach and engagement activities, be responsible for program implementation, and provide other services as needed.

The Scope of Work for these Public Sector Programs are listed below.

## **Scope 1: Public Sector Technical Assistance (TA) and Strategic Energy Planning Program Implementation**

Task 1.1: Program Design: The consultant will provide leadership for program design activities in collaboration with the I-REN team. The Program's design must be aligned with the I-REN Business Plan and all other applicable requirements for REN energy efficiency programs. The consultant will be responsible for each activity listed below:

- Develop a concierge-style program delivery model that supports I-REN's goals for the TA Program, overcomes public sector participation barriers, and prioritizes service to vulnerable communities.
- Support I-REN in engaging with local and regional stakeholders to ensure the program design fits the needs of local governments in the region.
- Define program eligibility guidelines and program team roles; document program processes and procedures, and develop participant forms and other collateral.
- Establish coordination process with other I-REN energy efficiency programs, staff, Energy-Efficiency Fellows, services, and implementers, e.g., the Public Buildings NMEC Program and Public Sector Financing Services included in this SOW, to maximize program participation and benefits to customers.
- Identify other public sector energy efficiency programs and related offerings in the region and establish a coordination process with program administrators to identify eligibility requirements and participation processes, and to inform resources and assistance provided to I-REN public sector customers.
- Develop regionally-focused tools and resources to increase energy efficiency and distributed energy resource program participation in the public sector, and allow I-REN to serve as a clearinghouse for relevant information.
- Coordinate with BUC software provider to inform solution design and ongoing enhancements.

### Deliverables:

1. Kick-off meeting agenda and notes.
2. Program Manual.
3. Implementation Plan content, e.g., program process flow, diagram, logic model.
4. Participant forms and other collateral.
5. Coordination process documentation.
6. Regionally-focused tools and resources to increase awareness of and participation in energy efficiency and distributed energy resource program participation in the public sector.

Task 1.2: Outreach & Engagement: Program-specific marketing, outreach, and stakeholder engagement activities will be led by the consultant in collaboration with I-REN staff, I-REN's marketing consultant, and other I-REN program implementers as applicable. The consultant will be responsible for each activity listed below:

- Review existing I-REN branding, marketing strategies, templates, and other relevant materials.
- Recommend and develop marketing and outreach collateral in various formats targeted to public sector customer audiences.
- Develop culturally specific strategies to reach communities where language, socio-economic status, race, ethnicity, etc., have historically been a barrier.



- Identify and implement strategies for outreach to local jurisdictions and agencies to educate them about the program offerings, e.g., providing presentations at meetings and with key decision makers.
- Collaborate with local governments, tribes, and special districts to design and deliver messaging to the community to promote local leadership in energy efficiency by highlighting success stories from local strategic energy plans and projects.
- Set targets and milestones for outreach and engagement, and report on progress.

Deliverables:

1. Outreach plan with targets and milestone schedule.
2. Content for an e-newsletter targeted to local government audiences.
3. Comprehensive website content including a listing of events, resources and tools for local governments.
4. Content and strategy for targeted use of social media, and other channels to promote public sector resources.
5. Case studies highlighting local project success stories.
6. Other outreach materials as recommended by consultant.

Task 1.3: Program Implementation: The consultant will lead all program implementation activities in coordination with the I-REN team, with responsibility for each activity listed below:

- Establish and actively manage communication with local governments, special districts, and tribal communities; identify energy efficiency champions, department decisionmakers, and facility staff and build relationships with them.
- Provide concierge-style, person-to-person support via phone, email, and in person for public sector customers to assess jurisdictions' needs and get higher levels of assistance and support for their energy efficiency projects.
- Assist participants through multiple stages of engagement: strategic energy planning and benchmarking, project opportunity scoping, incentive program identification and participation, contracting and procurement, installation, and ongoing operations and commissioning.
- Develop or enhance strategic energy plans to connect local government goals related to climate, resilience, and economic development to energy efficiency programs and adoption.
- Coordinate with Energy-Efficiency Fellows for public sector work where appropriate, in collaboration with I-REN Workforce Education & Training (WE&T) initiatives.
- Deliver resources for the public sector to tap into energy efficiency and distributed energy resources programs offered by I-REN and other program administrators.
- Maintain communication to monitor status and encourage progress; follow up on completed projects to ensure efficient operations and ongoing maintenance, and address facility staff turnover and retraining needs.
- Document and report on program implementation activities and participant interactions.
- Conduct regular (e.g., weekly or biweekly) meetings with I-REN to provide status updates.

Deliverables:

1. Documentation of participant interactions.
2. Monthly and quarterly status reports.

### 3. Meeting agendas and status updates.

**Task 1.4: Other Services:** The consultant will also be responsible for the activities listed below:

- Provide program-specific content and/or review of content as needed for I-REN regulatory documents and filings, e.g., Joint Cooperation Memorandum (JCM), Annual Report, Portfolio True-Up and Mid-Cycle Review Advice Letters, and responses to evaluator and intervenor data requests.
- Collect program data to inform CPUC reporting, program metrics, targets, indicators, and other measures of program performance.
- Contribute to program performance analysis and evaluation, measurement and verification (EM&V) activities for tracking program achievements and informing continuous improvement.

**Deliverables:**

1. Program-specific content and edits or updates to content for I-REN regulatory filings.
2. Program data in alignment with CPUC reporting templates, metrics, indicators, and other performance measurements.
3. Analysis of program performance and recommendations for future program improvements.

## **Scope 2: Public Buildings Normalized Meter Energy Consumption (NMEC) Incentive Program Implementation**

**Task 2.1: Program Design:** The consultant will provide leadership for program design activities in collaboration with the I-REN team. The Program's design must be aligned with the I-REN Business Plan and all other applicable requirements for REN energy efficiency programs. The Program must also comply with any and all applicable CPUC guidance regarding NMEC, such as the current version of the NMEC Rulebook. The consultant will be responsible for each activity listed below:

- Conduct a kick-off meeting with the I-REN team within two weeks of final contract.
- Develop an NMEC program delivery model that supports I-REN's goals for the program, overcomes public sector participation barriers, and prioritizes service to vulnerable communities.
- Support I-REN in engaging with local and regional stakeholders to ensure the program design fits the needs of local governments in the region.
- Define and document program eligibility guidelines and verification process, program team roles, and other relevant program processes and procedures.
- Design NMEC incentive structure and payment process.
- Document NMEC savings calculation methodology and develop a Measurement and Verification (M&V) Plan in compliance with all relevant CPUC guidance and requirements.
- Establish close coordination processes with the other I-REN Public Sector offerings included in this RFP.
- Coordinate with the I-REN Public Sector TA Program to develop a seamless participation pathway for customers from the TA program into the NMEC Program.
- Coordinate with the Public Sector Financing Services to provide concierge-style services to customers for layering financing with their NMEC projects.
- Develop participant forms, agreements, and other program collateral.
- Coordinate with BUC software provider to inform solution design and ongoing enhancements.

Deliverables:

1. Kick-off meeting agenda and notes.
2. Eligibility guidelines and verification process.
3. NMEC incentive structure and payment process.
4. Documentation of NMEC savings calculation methodology.
5. Program Manual.
6. Implementation Plan content, e.g., program process flow, diagram, logic model, NMEC M&V Plan.
7. Documentation of coordination process with the TA Program and Public Sector Financing Services.
8. Participant forms, agreements, and other collateral.

Task 2.2: Outreach & Engagement: Program-specific marketing, outreach, and stakeholder engagement activities will be led by the consultant with support from and in collaboration with I-REN staff, I-REN's marketing consultant, and other I-REN program implementers as applicable. The consultant will be responsible for each activity listed below:

- Review existing I-REN branding, marketing strategies, templates, and other relevant materials.
- Recommend and develop marketing and outreach collateral in various formats targeted to public sector customer audiences, in close coordination with I-REN marketing consultant and TA Program implementer as applicable.
- Develop culturally specific strategies to reach communities where language, socio-economic status, race, ethnicity, etc., have historically been a barrier.
- Coordinate with I-REN's TA Program implementer and financing services provider as applicable to identify and implement strategies for outreach to local jurisdictions and agencies to educate them about the program offerings, e.g., providing presentations at meetings and with key decision makers.
- Coordinate with I-REN's TA Program implementer and financing services provider as applicable to collaborate with local governments, tribes, and special districts to design and deliver messaging to the community to promote local leadership in energy efficiency by highlighting success stories from local projects.
- Set targets and milestones for outreach and engagement and report on progress.

Deliverables:

1. Outreach plan with targets and milestone schedule.
2. Content for an e-newsletter targeted to local government audiences.
3. Comprehensive website content describing programs.
4. Content and strategy for targeted use of social media, and other channels to promote public sector incentives.
5. Content for case studies highlighting local project success stories.
6. Other outreach materials as recommended by consultant.

Task 2.3: Program Implementation: The consultant will lead all program implementation activities in coordination with the I-REN team, with responsibility for each activity listed below:

- Coordinate closely with the TA Program to guide customers seamlessly from technical assistance

into NMEC Program participation.

- Also, in coordination with the TA Program, establish and actively manage communication with local governments, special districts, and tribal communities, identify energy efficiency champions, and build relationships with them.
- Provide concierge-style, person-to-person support for public sector customers entering the NMEC Program.
- Assist participants through multiple stages of engagement: project opportunity scoping, contracting and procurement, installation, M&V, and incentive payment.
- Document and report on program implementation activities, e.g., participant interactions, project pipeline, active project statuses, risk mitigation, etc.
- Conduct regular (e.g., weekly or biweekly) meetings with I-REN to provide status updates.

Deliverables:

1. Documentation of program implementation activities.
2. Monthly and quarterly status reports.
3. Meeting agendas and status updates.

Task 2.4: Other Services: The consultant will also be responsible for the activities listed below:

- Develop and perform quality assurance and quality control (QAQC) processes to ensure participant eligibility, avoid double-dipping with other ratepayer-funded programs, prevent program “gaming,” etc.
- Request and collect data from IOU program administrators sufficient to support baseline and savings calculation methodology, as applicable.
- Collect and provide I-REN program data to inform CPUC reporting, program metrics, targets, indicators, and other measures of program performance.
- Provide program-specific content and/or review of content as needed for I-REN regulatory documents and filings, e.g., JCM, Annual Report, Portfolio True-Up and Mid-Cycle Review Advice Letters, and responses to evaluator and intervenor data requests.
- Contribute to program performance analysis and EM&V activities for tracking program achievements and informing continuous improvement.

Deliverables:

1. Documentation of QAQC processes.
2. Program-specific content and edits or updates to content for I-REN regulatory filings.
3. Program data in alignment with CPUC reporting templates, metrics, indicators, and other performance measurements.
4. Analysis of program performance and recommendations for future program improvements.

**Scope 3: Public Sector Financing Services**

Task 3.1: Financing Services Design: The consultant will be responsible for developing a financing offering consisting of one or more financing mechanisms that can be layered with the TA and NMEC Public Sector Programs, to overcome upfront-cost financial barriers for public sector jurisdictions pursuing energy efficiency and climate resiliency projects. Financing services proposed must be aligned with the I-REN Business Plan and all other applicable requirements for REN energy efficiency and

financing programs. The consultant will be responsible for the following:

- Conduct a kick-off meeting with the I-REN team within two weeks of final contract.
- Develop financing offering and delivery model that layers with I-REN's TA and NMEC Programs, overcomes public sector participation barriers, and prioritizes service to vulnerable communities.
- Support I-REN in engaging with local and regional stakeholders to ensure the financing offering fits the needs of local governments in the region.
- Define eligibility guidelines, terms and conditions, and other processes and procedures for participation in financing services.
- Establish coordination process with I-REN's TA and NMEC Programs to ensure a seamless experience for customers in layering financing with the projects they pursue in other programs.
- Develop participant forms, agreements, and other collateral.
- Provide financing-related content for inclusion in other I-REN program manuals, IPs, etc.
- Coordinate with BUC software provider to inform solution design and ongoing enhancements.

Deliverables:

1. Kick-off meeting agenda and notes.
2. Financing offering documentation and procedures.
3. Participant forms, terms and conditions, and other collateral.
4. Program manual and IP content.

Task 3.2: Marketing & Outreach: Financing-specific marketing, outreach, and stakeholder engagement activities will be led by the consultant with support from and in collaboration with I-REN staff, I-REN's marketing consultant, and other I-REN program implementers as applicable. Messaging regarding financing services should be incorporated in I-REN's TA and NMEC Program outreach collateral wherever applicable. The consultant will be responsible for each activity listed below:

- Review existing I-REN branding, marketing strategies, templates, and other relevant materials.
- Develop financing marketing and outreach plan, set targets and milestones, and report on progress.
- Recommend and develop standalone collateral and/or content to add to other I-REN program collateral for marketing and outreach targeted to public sector customer audiences.
- Collaborate with TA and NMEC Program implementers as applicable to include financing content in outreach to local jurisdictions and agencies to educate them about the program offerings, e.g., providing presentations at meetings and with key decision makers.

Deliverables:

1. Outreach plan with targets and milestone schedule.
2. Standalone and/or added content for various outreach formats, e.g., e-newsletter, website, social media, and other channels.
3. Content for case studies highlighting local project success stories and other outreach materials as recommended by consultant.

Task 3.3: Financing Implementation: The consultant will lead all financing implementation activities in close coordination with the TA and NMEC Programs and I-REN team, with responsibility for each activity listed below:

- Coordinate closely with the TA and NMEC Programs to guide customers in layering financing with their projects in the other programs.
- In coordination with I-REN staff, Energy-Efficiency Fellows, and the TA and NMEC Programs, establish and actively manage communication with local governments, special districts, and tribal communities, and identify energy efficiency champions and build relationships with them.
- Provide concierge-style, person-to-person support for public sector customers to assist them through multiple stages of engagement: navigating the financing options available to them, the decision process, and the follow-through to implement the financing mechanisms selected for projects.
- Document and report on financing implementation activities, e.g., participant interactions, financed projects and statuses, risk mitigation, etc.
- Conduct regular (e.g., weekly or biweekly) meeting with I-REN to provide status updates.

**Deliverables:**

1. Documentation of financing implementation activities.
2. Monthly and quarterly status reports.
3. Meeting agendas and status updates.

**Task 3.4: Other Services:** The consultant will also be responsible for the activities listed below:

- Provide financing-related content and/or review of content as needed for I-REN regulatory documents and filings, e.g., Joint Cooperation Memorandum, Annual Report, Portfolio True-Up and Mid-Cycle Review Advice Letters, and responses to evaluator and intervenor data requests.
- Collect financing-related data as applicable to inform CPUC reporting, program metrics, targets, indicators, and other measures of program performance.
- Contribute to financing-related performance analysis and evaluation, measurement and verification (EM&V) activities for tracking I-REN public sector portfolio achievements and informing continuous improvement.

**Deliverables:**

1. Financing-specific content and edits or updates to content for I-REN regulatory filings.
2. Financing-related data in alignment with CPUC reporting templates, metrics, indicators, and other performance measurements.
3. Analysis of financing-related performance and recommendations for future improvements.

The Energy Coalition will provide a presentation on the Public Sector Programs at the May 18 Technical Advisory Committee meeting.

**Prior Action(s):**

None.

**Fiscal Impact:**

This item is for informational purposes; therefore, there is no fiscal impact. All costs associated with the

development of the I-REN Public Sector activities are included in WRCOG's adopted Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Agency Budget under the Energy & Environmental Department.

**Attachment(s):**

None.



# Western Riverside Council of Governments Technical Advisory Committee

## Staff Report

**Subject:** Housing Element Compliance  
**Contact:** Colin Drukker, Principal, PlaceWorks, [cdrukker@placeworks.com](mailto:cdrukker@placeworks.com), (714) 966-9220  
**Date:** May 18, 2023

### **Requested Action(s):**

1. Receive and file.

### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this item is to provide information on Housing Element compliance.

### **WRCOG 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal:**

Goal #2 - Identify and help secure grants and other potential funding opportunities for projects and programs that benefit member agencies.

### **Background:**

*WRCOG is utilizing Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) grant funding to provide member agencies a closer look into the implications and potential impacts of Housing Element compliance and non-compliance.*

Colin Drukker, Principal with PlaceWorks, will provide a brief overview of current Housing Element law, with a focus on implications of compliance (today and throughout the planning period). This includes timelines, requirements, penalties, triggers related to other state laws, and an overview of recent litigation. PlaceWorks will also be available to provide limited assistance to jurisdictions, with strategies to achieve compliance and certification.

### **Prior Action(s):**

**April 13, 2023:** The Planning Directors Committee received and filed.

### **Fiscal Impact:**

This item is for informational purposes only; therefore, there is no fiscal impact. Transportation & Planning Department activities are included in the Agency's adopted Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Budget under the Transportation Department. This item is covered by REAP funding that has been approved by SCAG; this funding source is identified in the Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Budget.

### **Attachment(s):**

None.





# Western Riverside Council of Governments Technical Advisory Committee

## Staff Report

**Subject:** Santa Ana Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit Compliance Program Activities Update

**Contact:** Darcy Kuenzi, Government Affairs Officer, Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, [dkuenzi@rivco.org](mailto:dkuenzi@rivco.org), (951) 955-1688

**Date:** May 18, 2023

### **Requested Action(s):**

1. Receive and file.

### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this item is to provide a presentation regarding the current status of Regional (MS4) Permit Renewal for the Santa Ana River Watershed.

### **WRCOG 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal:**

Goal #5 - Develop projects and programs that improve infrastructure and sustainable development in our subregion.

### **Background:**

*The Cities and County of Riverside, as well as the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and the Coachella Valley Water District (Permittees), are jointly regulated by National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permits issued by the Santa Ana, Colorado, and San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Boards. These permits, issued pursuant to the federal Clean Water Act, are designed to protect local lakes, rivers, and streams from pollution associated with urban runoff. The NPDES MS4 Permits require Permittees to take action to regulate business and new developments, as well as residential areas and Permittee facilities in order to minimize the potential for pollutants to be mobilized by runoff and conveyed through the storm drain system to local lakes, rivers, and streams. Enhanced programs are required to address waterbodies that may be impaired by pollutants in urban runoff.*

In January 2010, the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board adopted the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permit (MS4 Permit) for stormwater discharges from areas in unincorporated Riverside County, the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District), and from the Cities of Beaumont, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Corona, Eastvale, Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Norco, Perris, Riverside, and San Jacinto. The District is designated as the Principal Permittee under the MS4 Permit and represents the co-permittees to implement area-wide programs required by the MS4 Permit through an Implementation Agreement. The 2010 MS4 Permit expired in January 2015 and was administratively

extended by the Regional Board. It will remain in effect until a new permit is adopted by the Santa Ana Water Board.

In late 2018, the Regional Board indicated that the next MS4 Permit will be a regional permit, naming all 60 permittees in Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties. On December 24, 2021, the Regional Board released a Staff Working Proposal of a regional permit to the 60 permittees of San Bernardino County, Riverside County, and Orange County. Flood Control staff will provide an update on the Tri-County Permit.

**Prior Action(s):**

**May 19, 2022:** The Technical Advisory Committee received and filed.

**Fiscal Impact:**

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

**Attachment(s):**

None.