

Environmental Cleanup Allocation Committee

**October 9, 2008
Meeting Minutes**

Committee Members Present:

Chairman, Garry Brown, Orange County Coast Keeper
Vice-Chair Mary Anne Skorpanich, County of Orange-Watershed and Coastal Resources Program
Mark Adelson, Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board
John Bahorski, City of Cypress
Karen I. Baroldi, Orange County Sanitation District
Tim Casey, City of Laguna Niguel
William Cooper, UCI
Paul D. Jones, Irvine Ranch Water District
Hector B. Salas, Caltrans
James Smith, San Diego Water Quality Control Board
Dick Wilson, City of Anaheim

Committee Members Absent:

Joe Parco, City of Santa Ana
Sat Tamaribuchi, The Irvine Company

Orange County Transportation Authority Staff Present:

Monte Ward
Ellen Burton
Hal McCutchan
Marissa Espino
Janice Kadlec
Charlie Larwood

Members of the Public

Marilyn Thoms, Richard Boone, Orange County Watershed & Coastal Resources Program
Daniel Apt, RFB Consulting
Dave Hunt and Katie Wilson, Willdan
Brock Bernstein, Facilitator

1. Welcome

Garry Brown welcomed committee members and started the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

2. Summary of Sept. 11, 2008 Workshop – Targeted Areas & Pollutants for Mitigation

Dr. Brock Bernstein gave a summary of the Workshop A – “Targeted Areas & Pollutants for Mitigation, which was presented on Sept. 11, 2008”. Dr. Bernstein summarized the

presentations on problematic water quality areas within the County and the transportation pollutant loading nexus, which were made by the San Diego Regional Water Quality Board, the County Watershed & Coastal Resources, and the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project..

3. Module 3: Targeted Capital Water Quality Projects

Marilyn Thoms, Orange County Watershed & Coastal Resources Program, made a presentation on Targeted Capital Water Quality Projects in Orange County and talked about the three Watershed Management Areas (North, Central, and South Counties). A description was given on each watershed areas and how capital projects were derived for funding purposes based on their unique characteristics.

Daniel Apt, RBF Consulting gave a presentation on the Orange County Regional Retrofitting Opportunities Study. The primary objective of the project is to develop a logical approach to identify and prioritize potential BMP retrofitting opportunities in Orange County. The secondary objective is to develop a list of potential sites within the County where there appear to be opportunities to include a regional BMP to improve water quality.

4. Module 4: Facilitated Discussion on Decision Making and Next Steps

Based on the foregoing presentations, Dr. Brock Bernstein led a discussion on defining capital improvement projects and the next steps for the ECAC. Brock asked Garry Brown to give his perspective on decisions that needed to be made. Garry said after listening to the discussion it seemed like the Committee's consensus was to have a two-tier of level of funding; the first tier would target storm water pollutant mitigation through a catch basin BMP funding program and the second-tier would target new capital and operation projects identified in a the Watershed Management Area Plans or proposed by a Measure M eligible jurisdiction. Brock asked the Committee if this was consensus of the Committee.

Tim Casey said he would like to hear the opinion of the Regional Water Quality Control Boards representatives that were present Mark Adleson indicated he liked the idea of bringing a group of projects related to catch basin inserts forward. They would visibly resolve and address a known water quality problem. He also felt strongly in using all the planning resources available and done over the last several years to identify types of projects addressing water problems. Jimmy Smith indicated that funding should focus on 303(d) impaired water bodies, proposed TMDLs, and the County monitoring data as well as projects identified in the Watershed Management Area Plans. The Committee discussed how to prioritize programs, how to administer the grant program, how to allocate money, what level of control should be used, and different criteria to be used.

Dr. Brock Bernstein summarized the key points the Committee agreed upon.

- Two tiers of projects

- Tier 1, Small Capital Funding Program – more immediate projects with a small percentage of the overall budget. Cities that apply and meet the minimum standard would receive a small amount of money. These projects would not necessarily focus on trash. The emphasis - smaller projects that could be more widely distributed, and every city could participate.
- Tier 2, Large Capital Funding Program, which focuses on new capital and operation projects, which are more regional, and capital intensive projects, having a greater opportunity of fitting into the kind of regional planning processes and project prioritization discussed.
- Both tiers would focus on TMDL's an impaired water bodies.
- The criteria for a Tier 1 Grant or Project would be more of a checkpoint process for approval.
- The criteria for a Tier 2 Grant or Project would need a more elaborate and sophisticate set of planning tools.

Monte Ward suggested an Ad Hoc Sub-Group be formed to define the definition and criteria for what constitutes projects that have a transportation pollutant loading nexus. t

Tim Casey indicated utilizing the Watershed Area Management Plans and Orange County BMP Retrofit Study as guidelines to derive what projects have a transportation pollutant loading nexus as these projects have already been prioritized and deemed deserving.

5. Public Comments

No public comments.

6. Next Meeting – November 13, 2008

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 p.m.