

# Stakeholder Meeting Notes

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## Stanislaus Multi-Agency Regional Storm Water Resource Plan

**Subject:** Stakeholder Outreach Meeting 1  
**Prepared By:** Jennifer Kidson / Woodard & Curran  
**Date/Time:** October 23, 2017, 1:00pm–3:00pm  
**Location:** Ceres Community Center  
2701 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Ceres, CA 65307

**Attendees:** Hawkeye Sheene, Brian Van Lienden, Leslie Dumas, Jennifer Kidson (W&C); Jim Alves, Miguel Alvarez (City of Modesto); Tom Orvis (Stanislaus County Farm Bureau); Vance Kennedy (area citizen); Keith Boggs, Walt Ward, Miguel Galvez (Stanislaus County); Kevin Kauffman (Eastside Water District); Darryl Jordan, Sarah Kuo, Kathleen Falk (City of Ceres); Dave Pratt (Ceres resident); Tony Marshall (Oakdale); Maria Encinas (City of Patterson); Karen Morgan (City of Waterford); Victoria Drake (Engeo); Rafael Rodriquez (Empire Community); Josefina Ojeda, Martha Garcia, Sandra Anaya, Bertha Torres (Airport Community); Edgar Garibay (Tuolumne River Trust/Airport)

**Project Number:** 0635001.00

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### 1. Meeting Objectives

- Familiarize stakeholders with the Storm Water Resource Plan (SWRP) purpose and process
- Introduce project solicitation
- Review project prioritization approach
- Provide instructions for project submission
- Answer stakeholder questions

### 2. Discussion Summary

- Hawkeye Sheene from Woodard & Curran (W&C) provided background on the Stanislaus Multi-Agency Regional SWRP (Stanislaus SWRP), the SWRP schedule, SWRP goals and objectives, and watershed boundaries and priorities.
  - Stanislaus County received a Proposition 1 Storm Water Grant from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to complete a SWRP by July 2018.
  - Major SWRP requirements include watershed/planning area identification; water quality compliance; organization, coordination, collaboration; quantitative methods; identification and prioritization of projects; implementation strategy and schedule; and education, outreach, public participation.
  - The project schedule calls for an Administrative Draft SWRP to be completed by March 2018 and a final SWRP by July 2018. The July 2018 date was originally set in anticipation of a summer 2018 date for Storm Water Grant Program Round 2 funding, but a date for Round 2 funding has not yet been set.
  - The role of the SWRP in the grant funding process was reviewed (i.e., all storm water and dry weather runoff capture projects must be included in a SWRP in

order to receive future state grant funding, including funding from other state grant programs).

- Hawkeye Sheene (W&C) gave an overview of the Tasks that W&C will undertake in order to meet the grant requirements. Hawkeye reviewed the role of the TAC, monitoring, technical studies, and next stakeholder meeting. The state timeline and expected public comment period were also covered.
- Hawkeye Sheene (W&C) reviewed the SWRP goals and objectives, watershed/planning area identification, and watershed/planning area priorities.
  - The SWRP goals and objectives include providing watershed-based planning to address challenges and opportunities for managing storm water and dry weather runoff; and identifying and prioritizing storm water and dry weather runoff projects that provide multiple benefits to help achieve watershed and regional planning goals.
  - The SWRP planning area is Stanislaus County, which includes portions of the East Stanislaus and Westside San Joaquin IRWM areas.
  - Stanislaus County includes 6 watersheds, 2 of which cover most of the County: 1) Middle San Joaquin – Lower Merced – Lower Stanislaus; 2) Panoche – San Luis Reservoir
  - Water quality priorities, based on existing TMDLs and 303(d) lists, were reviewed. Hawkeye provided a brief explanation of TMDLs and the 303(d) list for the stakeholders.
  - Question: What would be considered a “dry-weather runoff” project? Answer: Examples of dry-weather runoff include flow from overwatering, leaky pipes, and groundwater seepage. The group discussed how agricultural runoff would be addressed; Leslie confirmed that agricultural watering would not fall under dry-weather runoff. Attendees noted that the SWRP should incorporate a discussion of the Irrigated Lands Program.
- Brian Van Lienden (W&C) led a discussion on the SWRP project solicitation and prioritization.
  - The project solicitation and prioritization process needs to be complete by December 2017, per the funding agreement schedule.
  - Project solicitation will utilize the OPTI data management system developed for the East Stanislaus IRWMP, with additional fields added that are specific to the Stanislaus County SWRP.
  - The SWRP will utilize SWRP Main Benefits and Additional Benefits specified in the SWRCB’s SWRP Guidelines.
  - The first step in project prioritization is project eligibility, which specifies the requirements that all projects must meet to be included in the SWRP. These include being sponsored by an eligible applicant, being a storm water or dry weather runoff project, and providing at least 2 Main Benefits and 1 Additional Benefit.
  - Eligible projects will be prioritized using a scoring system that follows the guidance provided in the SWRP Guidelines. The scoring system assigned points for having funding in place; addressing regional watershed priorities; and providing SWRP Main and Additional Benefits. Credit is also provided for projects located on public land or that have an easement in place, benefiting a Disadvantaged Community, and readiness.

- Question: Is possible to put together the grant application with a draft plan? Answer: Hawkeye confirmed that this is acceptable, since the final plan would be completed and reviewed before funding is distributed.
- Brian confirmed that the project solicitation period will be open starting this week and will extend into December.
- Brian reviewed the scoring process using example projects. There were no questions from attendees on how the scoring itself works. One attendee asked about the weight that the scores carry. Brian and Hawkeye noted that the scores are not expected to be taken into account by the SWRCB in funding grant applications, however; scores help give an overall idea of what projects may be higher priority or more “fundable”.
- The group discussed the need for multi-benefit projects in order to improve fundability. One attendee noted that it would be beneficial to get County Parks on the stakeholder list since they may have project ideas. Additionally, it was noted that Irrigation Districts should be contacted as they likely have applicable projects.
- Rafael Rodriquez, Empire Municipal Advisory Council Member, presented a letter (attached) expressing the need for a storm drain system in the Empire community. The project would offer multiple benefits and is expected to be included in the SWRP project list.
- Martha Garcia representing the Airport community (along with Josefina Ojeda, Sandra Anaya, Bertha Torres, and Edgar Garibay) presented a letter (attached) expressing the need for a storm drain system in the Airport community. The project would offer multiple benefits and is expected to be included in the SWRP project list.
- Question: Are there other eligibility requirements, such as general plans and housing elements? Answer: W&C confirmed that inclusion in the SWRP is not contingent upon that type of requirement, but that Proposal Solicitation Packages (PSPs) may vary.
- Question: How should long-term projects be addressed? Answer: A phasing approach may be best, since the project needs to be completed within five years.
- Question: What is the shelf life of the SWRP? Answer: There are no scheduled plan updates, though the revisions may be needed if the SWRCB modifies the guidelines. However, the project list associated with the SWRP will be updated regularly, so that it will allow the SWRP to be a living document.
- Question: What post-funding requirements are there? Answer: Quarterly progress reports, final reports, records retention, performance monitoring, etc. These requirements can be funded by the grant. O&M costs are not included in grant funding.
- The importance of multiple benefits to the state was reiterated.
- Eligibility requirements were reviewed.
- Suggested metrics were reviewed, along with the role of metrics in the scoring. Quantitative metrics also play an important role in quantifying the overall benefit of the SWRP.
- Question: How would community benefits be quantified? Answer: Examples could include number of visitors to a park, pedestrian trips on a sidewalk, etc.

One project example would be a sidewalk installation as part of a curb and gutter system.

- Question: Can anyone see what projects have been submitted in OPTI? Answer: Yes, just need to make an account.
- Brian van Lienden (W&C) walked through the project submission project in OPTI.
  - Question: What if project proponents do not have all the information being requested in OPTI? Answer: Put in everything possible in order to get the best score. Even if a project is conceptual, the proponent likely has an idea of the benefits, if not quantifications.
  - Question: Can a study be a project? Answer: Yes.
  - Attendees requested that a link to OPTI be sent out via email and that they have access to the meeting presentation; Hawkeye will follow up on this.
  - Question: Where do the DAC and EDA designations come from? Answer: They are defined by DWR and used by many other agencies. DAC and EDA maps are available online.
  - Question: Who should spearhead the entry of DAC projects in “County pockets?” Answer: Likely the County, but the City of Modesto and County may need to work together to determine who would be the lead.

### 3. Action Items

The following table summarizes the action items resulting from the meeting.

Item No.	Responsible Party		Due Date	Task/Action Item
	Organization	Name		
1	Multiple	Multiple	12/8/2017	Submit projects to OPTI
2	W&C	Hawkeye Sheene	10/30/2017	Distribute OPTI link and presentation to attendees
3	W&C	Brian van Lienden	10/30/2017	Open project solicitation period in OPTI

### 4. Next Scheduled Meeting

The next SWRP meeting is yet to be scheduled, but will occur after the release of the Public Draft of the SWRP.