CITY OF LOS ANGELES
One Water LA
Stakeholder Informational Meeting (Phase 2)
Thursday, May 11th, 2017 1:00 pm -3:30 pm
Media Center (Training Room)
Meeting Summary

This summary is not intended to be a transcription of the One Water LA Stakeholder Meeting. This summary generally expresses the sentiment and information provided by those that attended.

Please refer to attachments for additional information regarding this summary.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Hampik Dekermenjian (CDM Smith) was the meeting facilitator and he reviewed the agenda and meeting objectives. The Stakeholder Meeting agenda was organized as follows:

1. Wastewater Facilities Plan
    - Overview
    - Existing and Future Conditions
    - Q&A
2. Stormwater and Urban Runoff Facilities Plan
    - Overview
    - Existing and Future Conditions
    - Q&A

1. Wastewater Facilities Plan

Please refer to Informational One Water LA Overview PowerPoint Presentation (Slides 22-32)

The One Water LA Wastewater Facilities Plan approach was presented to attendees. Key items presented regarding each of the City's Water Reclamation Plants are summarized below:

- The Wastewater Facilities Plan is looking at the needs through 2040 and how to optimize the use of the City's water assets, specifically recycled water.
- The Wastewater Facilities Plan is being developed by leveraging previous plans, including:
    - 2016 Water Integrated Resource Plan
    - 2012 Recycled Water Master Plan
    - 2015 Urban Water Management Plan
    - FY 2015/16 Recycled Water Annual Report
- The Facilities Plan Table of Contents was presented (Slide 6)
- *Characterization of the Collection system is a significant technical memorandum being completed.*
- Background – City's four water reclamation plants and 7 sewersheds

    - Hyperion Sewershed *(includes DCT and LAG due to by-passing option)* has 6,000 miles of sewers
    - Terminal Island Sewershed has 240 miles of sewers
- Wastewater flows, existing and projected were presented (Slide 9)
- Climate resilient infrastructure – field visits to all four water reclamation plants were done to access the vulnerability of the City's infrastructure due to Climate Change. The research findings were presented (Slide 11).
- The City's Wastewater Reclamation Facilities (WRFs) will help the off-set the purchased water demand by supplying recycled water to industrial users and for irrigation water demand. The estimated reductions in MWD purchases (pie charts) was presented (slide 13)
- Key drivers of Wastewater Reclamation Plant decisions: regulations, triggers, Mayor's directives, climate resiliency.

Q&A

Question: How was the vulnerability of the treatment plants located in the coastal area addressed?

Response: The team used the EPA CREATE tool to evaluate City's stormwater and wastewater infrastructures over the next 50 years to determine what upgrades are needed for climate resilience. Through the One Water LA Climate Resiliency study, the team looked at a number of measures including elevating the electrical systems and pump stations to make sure the infrastructure is protected against flooding and sea level rise.

Question: How is the Los Angeles County involved in this effort?

Response: The City of LA has 29 contracting agencies, which include the County, that discharge their wastewater to Hyperion WRF. The wastewater flows are accounted for in the Wastewater Facilities Plan.

Question: Is the EPA CREATE pilot still ongoing?

Response: The pilot was initially for Terminal Island and it concluded last year. One Water LA expanded the research to all of the City's stormwater and wastewater facilities and we are expecting the final report sometime next month.

Question: Due to water conservation, how are you able to project the increased capacity when in fact you don't have enough water in the system? You don't need to expand facilities so much rather upgrade to meet future treatment requirements, more focus on upgrades.

Response: The recommended upgrades are mostly due to repairs, facility needs and future recycled water demands. The facilities plan also considers SCAG population projections to determine future needs and necessary upgrades.

Question: LA River needs a certain amount of water to maintain its viability for wildlife habitat and to keep Waters of the United States status. How far along is anyone in terms of modeling the LA River in

terms of what is a viable flow rate? Most of the water comes from the LAG and DCTWRP plant. Is anyone looking at the necessary flows to maintain the LA River?

Response: Several studies have been done including the ARBOR study by US Army Corp of Engineers, a UCLA Study, and a Nature Conservancy study. The One Water LA Flow Study is evaluating the historical low flows of the LA River and adaptive management strategies to balance water supply and river needs for the future. There is no comprehensive study that tells us how much water the river needs, that would need to be an extensive future biological study. We recognize that more studies are required.

Question: Where is the involvement of the EWMP partners? You are not addressing your partners.
Response: The EWMP partners are involved through the One Water LA Steering Committee (City Departments and Regional Agencies.

Question: It is not clear looking at 2040 horizon, how much water is still leaving Hyperion and going into the ocean? Have you looked at the feasibility of capturing all of the water and pumping higher in the watershed using alternative sources of energy?

Response: This is included in our One Water LA Long-term alternative analysis. In our Long-term alternative analysis we are looking at maximizing Recycled Water, IPR, DPR, Stormwater Capture and other types of concepts for the future. All are invited to attend the next stakeholder workshop where we will be discussing the alternatives in more detail.

Question: Why are only the four treatment plants shown in the plan? Is this plan only for the existing plants?

Response: Other concepts are considered in the long-term analysis.

- The goal of today is to review the Wastewater and Stormwater Facilities Plan.
- This presentation is in the context of the existing wastewater facilities and what needs to be done to plan for the future.

Question: Where are you getting the wastewater flow projections?

Response: Estimates on 2040 wastewater flows are based on future population projections. Water conservation is also being considered. The water conservation projections are from the 2015 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP).

The Water Balance Tool is also being used to consider wastewater flow projections. The tool uses existing and projected input data to see the flow balance in the future.

Question: For facility upgrades, will there be an increase in the quality of the water that is being treated?

Response: Terminal Island WRP already treats to advanced treatment. Donald C. Tillman WRP will move to advance treatment due to the Groundwater Replenishment Project. The two remaining plants, Los

Angeles-Glendale and Hyperion currently treat to a tertiary level and secondary level, but we looking for additional future opportunities. This will depend on the future regulations for what are the allowed uses of advanced treated recycled water. Pollutants of concern would be treated by using advanced treatment.

There is a small scale demonstration project that will take place at Hyperion that will treat 1-2 MGD and deliver advanced treated water to Los Angeles Airport and Scattergood. We are looking into other opportunities for the future for Hyperion WRP.

West Basin also does advanced treatment using Hyperion flows.

Question: How is Funding a Trigger?
Response: Funding is shown as a trigger because we are looking at outside funding opportunities to trigger some projects.

Question: If we are expecting additional flows into the system, how much of that water will be recycled?
Response: The UWMP goal is to recycle approximately 70 mgd for 2040. This is for non-potable uses and other environmental uses, but there may be other types of uses in the future.

Question: What's missing in the map is the projection of how much water goes into groundwater. This needs to be shown as part of your future flow projections.

Response: One Water LA is considering the GWR project and other planned projects as part of the long-term alternative analysis and the flow impacts of those projects.

Recommendation: It would be great to see the breakdown of the effluent flows from Hyperion, and as you evaluate the future conditions, showcase what the options are for the remaining effluent.

2. Stormwater and Urban Runoff Facilities Plan

Please refer to Informational One Water LA Overview PowerPoint Presentation (Slides 33-83)

The One Water LA Stormwater and Urban Runoff Facilities Plan approach was presented to attendees. Key items presented are summarized below:

- Purpose: To address future Stormwater system needs for 2040. This includes Grey and Green Infrastructure.
- Stormwater Facilities Plan looks to address water supply, water quality, flood protection, and sustainability. This includes stormwater flows from outside the City's boundary.
- The plan is leveraging existing efforts, which include:
    - Stormwater Capture Master Plan
    - Enhanced watershed Management Plans
    - LA Basin Stormwater Conservation Study
    - LA River Ecosystem Restoration Integrated Feasibility Report
    - And More (slide 37)

- Presented examples of both grey and green infrastructure
- The results presented in today's meeting are still draft and are in the process of being finalized.
- Established a Dynamic 5, 10, and 25 year Stormwater Improvement program by using 1,201 planned/potential projects from other CIPs. 308 projects out of the 1,201 meet the "three-legged stool" criteria (water quality, water supply, flood risk mitigation)
- Project Cost and Operation and Maintenance Cost were presented (Slides 48 and 49)
- Funding Assumptions were also presented; projected funding sources may include:
    - $28M/YR SPAF - Stormwater Pollution Abatement Fee
    - $2M/YR in grant funding
    - $1.2M/YR developer plan review fees
    - Upcoming LA County funding measure - LA County Fee $54/parcel/year, 1.4M parcels (escalated with inflation)
    - Measure A for parks, G.O. general obligation bond for open space projects
    - Measure M
    - Other: Taxes (sales, Gas, etc.), Volunteerism, Private Property Participation and more.

Q&A

Question: How many of the Stormwater Facilities Plan projects are associated with the LA River revitalization program? Some of the Army Corp grants or other federal grants can help fund those types of projects.
Response: Many of the projects impact the LA River because of the tributary component. The projects listed are primarily from LADWP, LASAN, BOE, and LA County. Some of the projects from BOE are from the LA River Revitalization Plan.

State government could help fund some LA River related projects. One Water LA will add other federal funding opportunities as a potential funding source.

Question: Has there been a study that looks at what the needs are for the LA River, besides TMDL water quality requirements, to help sustain the wildlife in the LA River.
Response: There are actual targets for the LA River's water quality, but habitat and recreational targets need to be more defined. More research needs to occur to properly define those targets and goals.
Question: Is the City planning to take advantage of the local return funds from Measure M for green street projects and to what degree?
Response: Yes, the City will continue the conversation and increase those negotiations. The numbers presented today are still in draft form, but the final document will clarify the percentage of funds that will be spent for regional, local, and green infrastructure make sure to clarify how we arrived at $20 Million.

Question: Why is the funding amount for Measure M a fixed amount? As the City grows, transportation efforts will also expand, the amount funds for Measure M should not be fixed.

Response: The numbers will most likely be revised to provide a range of funding instead of a fixed amount. The assumptions will be clearly defined in the final document. We will take your input from today and return the information to those working on this section of the Stormwater Facilities Plan.

Question: Are all the projects that were presented needed to meet compliance requirements or just potential projects? Are you looking alternative scenarios? Will you also look at how the cost will end up when you look at the different scenarios?
Response: Not all projects are for compliance. Some also achieve multi-benefits including water supply.

Projects will have varying alternatives, and as plan evolves, it will be revisited every 5 years. The cost will change as the plan gets revisited.

Question: Please clarify your statement on Measure A and Measure M. Will you be tracking the location, benefits, design, objectives, etc. so that we are maximizing the benefits of the park bond (Measure A)? The park bond is a big opportunity to help meet the City's objectives but it will require cross-sector collaboration.
Response: Measure A is for parks and parks can help meet water quality and water supply needs. We anticipate that about $5M/year could go into these projects and help meet the obligations of the projects.

Measure M will also help decrease the overall obligations. As these transportation projects are constructed they will be required to add LID or greenstreet to capture stormwater under the upcoming public right-of-way LID Ordinance. We are collaborating with other agencies related to Measure M, Measure A or any other effort, to identify opportunities for stormwater capture in the public right of way and develop new standard plans. If there is opportunity to add green elements, then we will work with them to have an integrated approach.

Comment – It is hard to make comments without seeing the project details. Measure A has great potential but it needs time and attention from the City to make sure it happens.

Response: Most of the projects have been seen before as they are part of the EWMPs or the Stormwater Capture Master Plan.

Question: Will there be a live map of all of the projects for the public to see the location, type and impacts of the projects?
Response: Yes, we are looking into the feasibility of having an online interface with all of the projects. One of the recommendations is to add performance metrics so you can see the amount of acres captured, location, sub- watershed, progress, and more of each project. This will be for the public to see where green street projects are needed and we can approach it as a City effort all together.

Question: Operations and Maintenance looks like a constant amount, why is that bar not increasing?
Response: O&M should be increasing with time. The graph will be updated to display that more clearly.

Question: Interest rates are still at historic lows, you are currently using 4.5% - 5% as the assumption, is there any option to frontload the debt to take advantage of the current interest rate climate?
Response: That is a good point. We will take your input and bring it up with the economist working on the plan.

Comment: EWMPs are voluntary programs that cost over $7B dollars for beneficial uses; Regional Board; modeling poor, data is incomplete, legal quagmire, will be shot down by the end of the year; let's spend our money, MICLA, O&M costs except for special parcel tax will come out of the general fund. Where is the analysis of the budget? We really can't afford this. Most of it isn't necessary. We can just pick up trash. Our City doesn't manage itself well. We need infrastructure that works.

Question: How is sustainability playing into the Stormwater Facilities Plan? Will you be ranking the projects based on the carbon footprint (Neutral/positive/negative)?
Response: We are evaluating potential policies in the overall plan that considers the types of materials used for construction.

We are considering the projects energy use in the long-term alternatives analysis of One Water LA.

Question: Appreciated financing discussion. There are only 800, 000 parcels in the City of Los Angeles and there are 2.3 million in the County per the County Assessors report. Where is the $7.3 Billion number coming from? And where is the O&M coming from?
Response: Not all of the $7.3 Billion is in the stormwater facilities plan. The EWMPs are being included in the One Water LA long-term analysis, but the $5.6 Billion ($5.6 out of the $7.3 Billion) is in the Stormwater Facilities Plan.

We are currently in the phase of optimization, and by definition that is the capital expenditure coming from Prop O. The general fund pays for cost recovery associated with Operations and Maintenance, it is a non-accessible fund.

Question: How are public-private partnerships going to be structured to support this program? Which contractors? What is the structure for public bidding process?
Response: One of the One Water LA's potential policy recommendations is to develop a framework for public-private partnerships.

Question: Does the Operations and Maintenance budget include money for training and design development support? Also, will the funding strategies actually include strategies or will you just identify them as funding options?
Response: Operations and Maintenance considerations are part of the design development process. Workforce training is also one of One Water LA's potential policy recommendations. There are several policy ideas recommending an increase in training and education programs for green infrastructure.

Question: Education and Outreach should be included as part of the O&M cost. In regards to volunteerism, is there any basic data on how much has been contributed now due to volunteerism with corporations or non-profits?
Response: We are not aware of any studies that qualify the value of volunteerism in Los Angeles.

Question: How are the policy changes in the upcoming General Plan and Zoning Code update being considered in the One Water LA plan?
Response: The Re:Code LA team is orchestrating departmental workflow changes to frontload the design of LID requirements into a project. One Water LA Team working with Re:Code and General Plan Team to incorporate water resiliency elements into the update.

3. Next Steps & Upcoming Events

Next Steps for the One Water LA Plan:

- Publish a high-level "Progress Report"
    - Report consists of approximately 50 pages of highlights explaining what the Plan is.

Upcoming Events

- Stakeholder Workshop – Implementation Strategy (June 19, 2017)
- Young Citizens Artist Project – Presentation to Schools (June 1, 2017)
- LA River Informational Meeting (July 2017)

ADDITIONAL ATTACHMENTS

- Informational One Water LA PowerPoint Presentation