

**LOWER LA RIVER IAG
PUBLIC REALM, ENVIRONMENT, WATER, & INFRASTRUCTURE
COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday, January 23rd, 2019
10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

**Conservation Corps of Long Beach
340 Nieto Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90814**

Summary

Objective: To develop a standard for committee functions and identify potential projects for committee review.

I. Introductions & Overall Objectives

Committee purpose

1. Provide opportunity for developing projects to receive feedback and connect with potential partners.
2. Additionally, allow projects already submitted to RMC for grant funding (through Prop 1 and Prop 68) that are related to the Lower LA River to present and receive feedback for use by the RMC Board.
 - a. All projects are meant to go through a public review process, encouraged to go through community engagement. The committee review contributes to this goal and increases transparency by providing stakeholder feedback that will be communicated to the Board.

Final guidelines for Prop 68 were posted by RMC yesterday, Tuesday 1/22.

Hoping more groups will use the Committees to screen projects before they go to their decision makers for approval, i.e. allowing the Committee to review projects at earlier stages of development.

II. Committee Standards

a. Establish process for adding Committee members

- If groups want to be involved, they can be invited. If the group becomes unwieldy, can then determine a process to manage membership, such as rotating committee members.
- Interest list for the committee is 34 people across 27 organizations.
- May want to schedule meetings in the evening to include other potential members and members of the public.
- All cities are invited to attend.

- Could be useful to have someone as a representative of a group of several organizations.
 - Public comments occur at the end of every meeting and typically members will participate in meetings. The committee may decide to establish stricter rules if meeting attendance grows.
 - Ongoing stakeholder engagement and facilitation
- b. Develop technical contact list**
Will discuss during next meeting.
- c. Posting of Committee materials**
There will be a section on LowerLARiver.org for posting committee materials, including project summaries and agendas/agenda minutes. Project comments are meant to come from the committee.

III. Discuss Project Review Process

a. Identifying potential projects

- Could look at Watershed Conservation Authority's (WCA) online platform as a guide for what information might be most relevant for project proponents to share in Project Information Packet. Eventually could potentially use WCA's platform to enter and store project info.
- Other database examples that went through rigorous processes to determine what type of data they would include: [WRAMPS](#) – LA County database, USACE [Silver Jackets](#) green infrastructure database.

b. Approaches to support project proponents

- The project review is meant to serve the project proponent. Therefore, the Committee shouldn't worry about being able to track a project's progress.
- The review process through this Committee should be marketed as a benefit for project proponents, e.g. funders may be at meetings.
 - The Committee is responsible for spreading the word so that project proponents will come to the meetings.
 - May be hesitancy from project proponents who don't want to share all details publicly.
- All Lower LA River projects are now required to go through the IAG process for RMC funding. This could be considered an extra hurdle for project proponents. The advantage is that permits and other project steps could be expedited because project proponents have gone through the IAG process.
- Applications submitted to RMC are not guaranteed funding, but if the project has gone through the IAG process the project could be improved and perhaps get boosted through other mechanisms, i.e. not just funding from RMC.
- The committee is another form of outreach for projects.

c. Developing project information packet/checklist

- Suggested edits were provided to the Project Information Packet. Specific suggestions are attached.
- Depending on where the project is at in its development, the project proponent may not be able to answer all questions on the review document. The questionnaire is meant to be a guide for collecting information.
- If a project proponent already has a project description or has filled out a grant application, they can include those with the Project Information Packet instead of filling out the form. The aim of the form is to collect project information, but if it is available in other ways, that is acceptable as well.
- Ideally, coming to the committee is the first step in project development.
- Instead of a long application, could use a checklist:
 1. Communicate how the project is consistent with the LLARRP.
 2. Beneficial for projects that haven't yet submitted applications.
 3. Clear for a project proponent what the Committee cares about and wants to include.
 4. show that a project has gone through the Committee review process.
- Some projects will not need to go through the Committee because they are so simple. Want the information provided to the Committee through the Project Information Packet or other means to be as thorough as possible so that project proponents do not have to present if unnecessary.
- Each project will have a list of comments. They can be summarized as consensus comments and then other comments can also be listed. The project will be tracked on the project database on the Lower LA River website. Will show the original packet submitted, list of comments, and will track implementation over time.

IV. Open Forum/Public Comment

V. If there is time remaining – Project Presentation(s)

- a. LLAR Community Center at Deforest Park, Conservation Corps of Long Beach
 - b. John Anson Ford Park Infiltration Cistern, CWE
- RMC has asked applicants to give presentations to IAG for general feedback.
 - Process for presenting to the group:
 - I. Joe Gonzalez, RMC, will be in communication with Kayla, Committee Chair, to get word out to presenters so everyone can be prepared.
 - II. First contact goes through LA County Flood Control District (LACFCD). Project proponents will fill out the Project Information Packet and LACFCD will do an initial review to ensure the form is complete. Next, LACFCD will share the packet with the applicable Committees who will decide to have the project proponent present or not. If the project team doesn't present at a Committee meeting, the project will get passed along to IAG and scheduled to present there.

- Project proponents should present how the project meets Lower LA River plan goals, not how the project meets the specific goals of various funders.
- Presentations will be posted online with meeting summary.

Next Steps

1. LACFCD will look back at rosters of attendance and will provide the list for review.
2. The next meeting should include discussion of how to compile information, process for presentations and discussion, and timing issues and focus more on presentations to help nuance the process.

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AGENDA

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- I. Introductions & Overall Objectives
- II. Committee Standards
 - a. Establish process for adding Committee members
 - b. Develop technical contact list
 - c. Posting of Committee materials
- III. Discuss Project Review Process
 - a. Identifying potential projects
 - b. Approaches to support project proponents
 - c. Developing project information packet/checklist
- IV. Open Forum/Public Comment
- V. If there is time remaining – Project Presentation(s)

For Discussion Only

Project Information Packet

Project Name: _____

Project Location: _____

Project Proponent: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Contact Person: _____ Email: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Location Info/Address _____

Project Description

The purpose of this document is to aid in the discussion and development of project review criteria. The proposed topics are suggestions and may be changed, removed, or added to. Each Committee is to review and shape the criteria to fit the goals of their Committee.

When reviewing this discussion document, please consider:

What should this document contain? Is it touching on all themes pertinent to the Committees and the Lower Los Angeles River?

Project Information Example Discussion

The intent of the project packet is to help proposed project remain consistent with the Lower Los Angeles River Revitalization Plan and identify areas of potential need where the committees can be a resource to aid in finding funding, project partners, innovation, etc.

General

- Discuss how the project is consistent with the Lower Los Angeles River Revitalization Plan.

Public Realm, Environment, Water, & Infrastructure

Multi-benefit Opportunities

Themes: Flood control, public use, ecosystem promotion, improved water quality

- Discuss how the project expands existing or creates new multi-benefit opportunities.

Water

Themes: Water supply, water quality

- Describe how the project will improve the overall water quality of the Los Angeles River.
- Describe how the project will implement stormwater capture, water conservation practices, and/or other methodologies.

Environment

Themes: Climate change, air quality, water quality

- Discuss what environmental documentation (CEQA, NEPA, etc.) will be required or has been completed for the project.
- Describe any activities associated with the project that will potentially impact the environment such as trash, pet waste, or chemicals.
- Discuss how the project will reduce or mitigate GHG emissions, improve air quality, and/or improve water quality.

Habitat & Ecosystem

Themes: Native plants, native species

- Discuss how the project creates habitat or improves ecosystem health within the watershed.
- List the native Los Angeles River riparian/wetland vegetation planned for the project.

Infrastructure

Themes: Flood control, public use, recreation, transportation

- Describe how the project will modify the existing infrastructure such as flood control channels, open space, and transportation corridors.

Programs & Policies

Funding Opportunities

Themes: Grants, cost estimate, partnerships

- Discuss the potential funding the project proponent is seeking for the project.
- Discuss any funding gaps identified in the project.
- Describe any project partnerships that have been identified.

Policy

Themes: Policy hurdles

- Discuss what environmental documentation (CEQA, NEPA, etc.) will be required or has been completed for the project.
- Describe how safety and security will be addressed within the project limits.
- Discuss any existing plans/policies (federal, state, local) in which the project identified or supported.

Equity Issues

Themes: Displacement, environmental justice, social justice, local workforce

- Discuss who is the project intended to serve (e.g., residents, youth, pedestrians, cyclists, artists, bird watchers) and how it will serve them.
- Discuss how the project addresses the concerns of equity, displacement, and environmental justice.

Public Advisory & Community Engagement

Community Engagement & Outreach

Themes: Affected communities

- Discuss who is the project intended to serve (e.g., residents, youth, pedestrians, cyclists, artists, bird watchers) and how it will serve them.
- Discuss how the project addresses the concerns of equity, displacement, and environmental justice.

Community Forum

Themes: Contribution from community members

- Describe how the project has been engaging the community in its development process.
- Discuss any future plans for community engagement.
- Describe the overall feedback that the project has received.

DRAFT

LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVER PUBLIC REALM, ENVIRONMENT, WATER, INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Meeting No. 2

January 23, 2019

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

	Name	Organization	Phone	Email
1	Riley James	LACFCD		rjames@DPW.LACounty.gov
2	JIM MEYER	TRAIL 4 ALL	310-344-9229	JMeyersTrail4All@aol.com
3	Traci Gleason	GWMA	949-300 7910	traci@koaconsulting.net
4	DAN KAMM	CELTB		
5	LEE ALEXANDERSON	LACFCD		
6	Chau Vu	City of Bell Gardens	562-334-1790	cvu@bellgardens.org
7	Kayla Kelly-Statten	CCLB		kkellystatten@cclb-corps.org
8	Debbie Enos	WCA	626-815-1019	denos@wca.ca.gov
9	DAVID NEVAREZ	LADWP	213-369-3621	david.nevarez@ladwp.com
10	Anthony Nercessian	"	213-367-8329	anthony.nercessian@ladwp.com

LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVER PUBLIC REALM, ENVIRONMENT, WATER, INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Meeting No. 2

January 23, 2019

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

	Name	Organization	Phone	Email
11	Joseph Gonzalez	AMC	.	JGonzalez@fmc.ca.gov
12	Amanda Wagner	Heal the Bay		awagner@healthebay.org
13	Karl Eggers	Walk Bike LB		karl@walkbike16.org
14	Shea Thornbury	ESA	858 780 6186	shea ^{sthornbury@} esaassoc.com
15	Gerry Greene	CWE /LARURZ/WMA		ggreene@cwecorp.com
16	Melissa You	City of Long Beach	(562) 570-5524	Melissa.You@longbeach.gov
17	James Vernon	Port of Long Beach		James.Vernon@polb.com
18	SHEELA MATHAI	DPR	626-588-5307	Smathai@parker.lacounty.gov
19	Kelsey Jessup	TNC		kelsey.jessup@tnc.org
20	Dan Sharp	LACTCD		