

**LOWER LA RIVER
IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORY GROUP MEETING**

**Wednesday, August 22, 2018
9 a.m. to 11 a.m.**

**The Clearwater Building (2nd Floor)
16401 Paramount Blvd., Paramount CA 90723**

MINUTES

Objective: To establish roles and guidelines, discuss project review process, and schedule the first committee meetings.

- I. How we got here and where are we going?**
 - a. Lower LA River Revitalization Plan**
 - b. IAG Purpose and Charge**

Mark Stanley (San Gabriel and Lower LA Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC)) and Dan Sharp (LA County Flood Control District (District)) shared about the process to create the Lower LA River Revitalization Plan and the IAG's purpose and charge:

- Provide a public venue for discussion of proposed projects/programs related to the Lower LA River;
- Ensure proposed projects/programs are consistent with the goals and objectives of the Lower LA River Revitalization Plan; and
- Maximize multi-use opportunities and community benefits by encouraging collaboration among the many project proponents and organizations in the project area.

The IAG consists of the District as the chair, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the fifteen Lower LA River cities and the chairs of the committees. The IAG and the committees will each meet quarterly. All meeting materials and schedules will be posted on the website – www.LowerLARiver.org.

Alf Brandt (State Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon's Office) stated Speaker Rendon's support for implementation of projects and programs in the Lower LA River with \$20 million already secured by their office for funding projects.

II. Discuss draft roles and guidelines

Dan Sharp walked through the roles and guidelines for the IAG as follows:

Member Roles

- To represent the interest of their agencies/committees;
- To help guide the project implementation process; and

- To assist proposed projects/programs in meeting the overall LLARRP goals and objectives.

Guidelines

The public is welcome at all IAG meetings and reminders will be sent to identified interested stakeholders.

- IAG Members will provide general guidance and recommendations.
- Public project-related comments will follow project related discussions.
- Public comments not related to discussed project can be discussed during open forum at the end of the meeting.
- Public comments will be limited based on available time as determined by the Chair.

The IAG is intended to be an advisory body to start the process of developing projects and give guidance to project proponents. Instead of providing formal approvals for incoming projects, the IAG will foster discussion to ensure a successful project that meets the vision of Lower LA River Revitalization. The IAG members and committees will work together to further define the roles and guidelines of the IAG in the upcoming months. Alf Brandt confirmed this from the State's perspective and recognized that a more formal governance structure may emerge in the future through efforts such as the LA River Master Plan Update.

III. Discuss project review process

Dan Sharp presented the proposed project review process as follows:

- Project Team to provide information to LACFCD for project to be reviewed by the IAG;
- LACFCD staff to conduct preliminary review of the project and provide to the appropriate committee to be the lead;
- Project Team to present the project to the lead committee;
- A proposed project package to be circulated among the committees for review and comment;
- Optional: Project Team to revise and resubmit to committees
- Project Team to present the project at IAG meeting(s);
- IAG members to provide comments and recommendations to Project Team; and
- Project Team to submit permit request to the appropriate agencies.

Note: A project list to be posted and updated on the website to track the IAG project process.

This process will apply to all proposed projects, programs, policies and other efforts related to the Lower LA River. Even though such efforts may not be

required to go through the IAG process, project proponents will be highly encouraged by all permitting agencies along the Lower LA River to consult with the applicable agencies early in their project development and submit their project to the IAG to receive guidance.

IV. Call for committees

a. Identify hosts/facilitators for first meetings

Dan Sharp gave an overview of the anticipated committees to be formed and gave the call for a host/facilitator for the first committee meetings. The committee meetings will first be comprised of members of the Lower LA River Revitalization Plan Working Group; however, the committees may choose to invite representatives of other agencies and organizations as needed to address committee needs.

The facilitator and future chair should be an organization other than the IAG members. The following organizations volunteered:

Programs/Policies and Community Engagement

- Host: Dan Knapp (Conservation Corps of Long Beach), Wendy Macias (Paramount)
- Facilitator: TBD

Public Realm, Environment, Water, Infrastructure

- Host: Dan Knapp, Wendy Macias
- Facilitator: Debbie Enos (Watershed Conservation Authority), Jim Meyer (Trails4All)

Public Advisory

- Host: Gladis Deras (South Gate), Dan Knapp, Wendy Macias
- Facilitator: mark! Lopez (East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice)

The District will follow-up with the organizations that showed interest during the meeting to coordinate the first committee meetings. The District will be involved in the committees and assist with some overall coordination.

The first committee meeting's primary objectives will be to determine the roles and responsibilities, define the structure, identify a chair, and set procedures for inviting additional members. While the committee meetings are intended as technical working meetings, the public will not be excluded from attending and observing.

V. Next Steps

- a. Committee Meetings**
- b. Next IAG Meeting**

The first committee meetings will be scheduled in September or October 2018 (check the website – www.LowerLARiver.org for updates).

The next IAG meeting will be scheduled in November 2018.

VI. RMC Grant Program

Mark Stanley shared about upcoming funding from the State available for capital improvements.

- Proposition 1
 - \$50 million for the Lower LA River
 - Guidelines to apply to be released in the next few weeks
- Proposition 68
 - \$67.5 million for Lower LA and San Gabriel Rivers
 - Public meetings to be scheduled this Fall
 - Guidelines to apply to be released January 2019

When asked about the Speaker's position, Alf Brandt stated that Speaker Rendon is opposing Proposition 3 set to be on the November 2018 ballot for a variety of reasons.

A discussion came up about stipends for non-profits or the public to participate in the IAG or committees. Stipends are not available at this time.

VII. Other River Activities

Several organizations shared events coming up in the next couple of months.

VIII. Open Forum/Public Comment

No comments received during open forum