



**Coordinating Committee
San Francisco Bay Area
Integrated Regional Water Management Plan
c/o San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
525 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102**

June 3, 2016

Re: Invitation to Partner in Water Management to Benefit Disadvantaged and Underrepresented Communities

Dear Potential DAC Stakeholder Engagement Partner:

The Bay Area Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) Coordinating Committee (CC) seeks public agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) interested in or currently engaging with underserved communities (disadvantaged (DACs), underrepresented, economically distressed, and tribes) on water-related issues and/or project development (please see attached Bay Area IRWM Factsheet for descriptions of communities that may meet these definitions). This is in anticipation of Round 1 grant solicitation for Proposition 1 (2014 Water Bond) grant funding from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). Of the \$65 million in IRWM grants to be available for the San Francisco Bay Area, \$6.5 million (requiring no minimum local match) will be dedicated to increasing the participation of these communities on issues and projects related to water supply, water quality, wastewater, recycled water, flood management, stormwater, watershed management, and habitat protection and restoration.

An important outcome of this funding program is project identification and development within these underserved communities. If you have a project that addresses the needs of these communities and/or are able to perform one or more of the DAC involvement activities listed in the table below, **please complete the accompanying *Proposition 1 – DWR Proposal for DACs project form***. After saving the form with a name to identify the project, please e-mail it as an attachment to projects@bairwmp.org. The form can be completed with as much information as available and doesn't need to be complete in order to qualify for funding. A grant submittal is expected in fall 2016 with funding for the identified tasks expected approximately one year later. In order to meet the grant submittal deadline, **project forms must be submitted by July 31, 2016**, in order to be considered for the first round of funding.

The CC also has partnerships with the Environmental Justice Coalition for Water (EJCW) and the California Indian Environmental Alliance (CIEA) to support community engagement, and is open to additional outreach partners **or** for requests to support your organization with their expertise. **Please follow the link to the [Community Partner Survey](#)** to let us know what your agency/organization may offer or need to better serve and include these communities. Given the nature of the outreach and project development activities, we anticipate more than one round of funding for this grant allocation. Based on interest and needs, the CC will determine a process to include new communities and identify or develop projects for disadvantaged, economically distressed, and underrepresented communities.

DWR has developed the following objectives for this grant round:

1. Work collaboratively to involve DACs, community-based organizations, and stakeholders in IRWM Planning efforts to ensure balanced access and opportunity for participation in the IRWM planning process,
2. Increase the understanding, and where necessary, identify the water management needs of DACs on a Funding Area basis, and
3. Develop strategies and long-term solutions that appropriately address the identified DAC water management needs.

Additional information is available in the attached Bay Area IRWM information sheet and on [DWR's website](#). A variety of tasks can be supported with this funding beyond the typical IRWM implementation grants. From the [DWR Draft Guidance](#):

Table 3 – Eligible DAC Involvement Activities		
General Activity	Examples of Activity	Desired Outcome
Technical assistance	Service provider trainings, local circuit rider programs to train water and wastewater staff	Technical, financial or managerial assistance that results in community staff that are able to support local water resource decision making, gain knowledge, and retain technical skills within the Funding Area
Needs assessments	Surveys or meetings with community members to identify water management needs	Needs assessments provide a better understanding of water management needs of the community to help direct resources and funding
Project development activities	Planning activities, environmental compliance, or pre-construction engineering/design activities	Project development activities for future implementation/ construction funding
Site assessment	Water quality assessments, median household income surveys, data and mapping activities	Site assessment that results in extensive knowledge gained by staff and DAC members on specific water management needs, data, and development for future water-related project(s)
Engagement in IRWM efforts	DAC regional engagement coordinator role, DAC Advisory Committee to Regional Water Management Groups (RWMG), DAC representatives in governance	Engagement activities should result in increased activity and roles of DACs in RWMG decision making and increased participation in IRWM efforts
Governance Structure	Evaluation of existing governance structures and related plan financing efforts, assessments of the level of DAC involvement in decision making processes	Development or implementation of RWMG governance structures that ensure participation in IRWM efforts regardless of the ability to contribute financially to the IRWM plan

Community outreach	Public project meetings open to community members, door-to-door outreach	Outreach should result in increased participation of DACs in project development activities and IRWM planning activities
Education	Translation or interpretive services for information sharing, water education campaigns for community members, education for RWMGs on DAC needs	Education and interpretive services should result in the better understanding by community members of their water management needs
Facilitation	Facilitated RWMG meetings, facilitated project development meetings	Facilitation services should result in community participation and stakeholders being able to resolve or overcome obstacles in communicating water management needs
Enhancement of DAC aspects in IRWM Plans	Development of Funding Area-wide DAC plan to be utilized as a unified approach for all IRWM plans	IRWM Plan DAC-related changes should result in tangible changes to the IRWM plan that support the IRWM's understanding of their DAC water management needs in the region

[Click here](#) to add your name to the Bay Area IRWM listserv. You will receive updates on the Bay Area IRWM process and future funding rounds. If you have any questions on the process, please contact projects@bairwmp.org. We look forward to hearing your ideas for the next round of IRWMP funding.

Sincerely,



Carl Morrison, Chair
 Bay Area Stakeholder Engagement Committee
 760-724-9580
cmorrison@morrisonassociates.com



What is the Bay Area Integrated Regional Water Management Plan?

The Bay Area Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (Bay Area IRWMP) is a multi-stakeholder, nine-county effort to coordinate a strategic approach to regional water resources management. The Plan builds on water resources needs and planning strategies identified throughout the Bay Area, and leverages regional cooperation to more effectively address the needs identified.

The Bay Area IRWMP informs future water resource planning by creating a road map that helps to enhance water supply reliability, protect water quality, manage flood protection, maintain public health standards, improve habitat conditions, and enhance the overall health of San Francisco Bay.

The Bay Area IRWMP is important because it fosters regional planning and cooperation, which in turn creates more efficient and effective management of water resources and improves the region's competitiveness for funding.

WORKING TOGETHER TO ENHANCE SUSTAINABLE WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT TO SUPPORT A HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE BAY AREA

BAY AREA IRWMP BACKGROUND

Who is involved in the Bay Area IRWMP?

The Bay Area IRWMP is a living document and involves a diverse group of water supply, water quality, wastewater, stormwater, flood management, watershed and habitat agencies, local governments, environmental groups, business groups, and community based organizations.

The Bay Area IRWMP defines the Bay Area region according to the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board's (Region 2) jurisdiction. This region includes all or major portions of the nine counties which surround the Bay.

Stakeholders from the nine counties developed four Functional Areas in order to identify specific needs and challenges related to each specific Functional area, describe water man-



agement strategies to address these needs, and develop a list of potential strategies and implementation projects that maximize benefits and enhance opportunities for regional cooperation within a given functional area. The four Functional Areas are:

- Water Supply and Water Quality
- Wastewater and Recycled Water
- Flood Protection and Stormwater Management
- Watershed Management-Habitat Protection and Restoration

Previous IRWM Grant Rounds

The Bay Area IRWMP has had four rounds of Proposition 84 grant funding, where the Bay Area received a total of \$136 million. For information on previously funded projects, see the [Bay Area IRWMP Funded Projects List](#).

Since Prop 84 funds have been fully allocated, the Bay Area IRWMP is now focusing on Prop 1 grant funding opportunities (see reverse side).

You're Invited to Participate in the Prop 1 IRWM DAC Outreach Round

If you have a project that addresses the needs of disadvantaged communities and/or are able to perform one or more of the eligible DAC involvement activities, please contact the Bay Area IRWMP Coordinating Committee at projects@bairwmp.org. The following types of activities are eligible for funding:

- Technical Assistance
- Needs Assessments
- Project Development
- Site Assessment
- Engagement in IRWM Efforts
- Governance Structure
- Education
- Facilitation
- Enhancement of DAC aspects in IRWM Plans

Timeline for Prop 1 DAC Involvement Program*

- DWR released the Draft DAC Involvement RFP in January 2016.
- Public workshops on the Draft RFP were held in February and March 2016.
- The public comment period closed in April 2016.

Release of Final DAC Involvement RFP **JUNE 2016**

DWR Accepting Grant Proposals **JUNE - DEC 2016**

Grant Awards **UPON PROPOSAL APPROVAL**

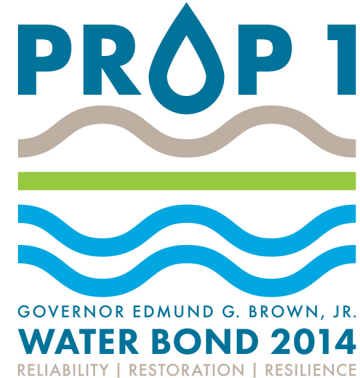
* Tentative dates

What is Proposition 1?

Background

In November 2014, voters passed Proposition 1, the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act, which provided \$510 million in IRWM funding for Implementation, Planning, and Disadvantaged Community Involvement efforts. The San Francisco Bay Area was allocated \$65 million, which will be disbursed through three IRWM Grant Programs - the Planning Grant Program, the Disadvantaged Community (DAC) Involvement Program, and the Implementation Grant Program.

The IRWM Grant Programs are managed within the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Division of IRWM by the Financial Assistance Branch. DWR is currently soliciting proposals for the Planning Grant Program and the DAC Involvement Program.



Prop 1 DAC Involvement Program

The DAC Involvement Program's goal is to ensure the involvement of disadvantaged communities, economically distressed areas (EDAs), and underrepresented communities (URCs) in the IRWM planning process. The Bay Area was allocated \$6.5 million to perform activities that involve DACs in IRWM planning, including helping define, understand, and address DAC water management needs through a collaborative process. The Bay Area will submit one grant proposal to DWR that addresses the water-related needs of [DACs](#), [EDAs](#), and URCs in this region.

The Bay Area defines URCs as groups that have a history of disproportionately less representation in water policy and/or projects which include, but are not limited to: African American, Asian/Pacific Islanders, Native Americans, California Indian Tribes, Hispanic, Middle-Eastern, LGBTQ, homeless, new immigrant, youth and elderly populations, unincorporated communities, and small independent organizations.

Additional Information

For information on the Prop 1 DAC Involvement Program, visit: http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/grants/p1_dac_involvement.cfm

For more information on the Bay Area IRWMP, visit: www.bairwmp.org