

# L.A. River and Ballona Creek Stakeholder-Led TMDL

## TMDL Steering Committee Meeting of July 14, 2004 Meeting Notes

### ACTION ITEMS

#### Each Steering Committee Member to:

- Provide comments on Draft MOU, June 9 meeting notes, and any hand-outs from the July 14 meeting to Donna Chen by August 1, 2004.
- Nominate members of Technical Committee to Donna Chen by 8/1/04.
- Consider and recommend a name for the group/stakeholder effort based on an acronym – potential acronyms to work from listed below. Provide comments to Donna Chen by August 1.
- Review section of MOU describing the Committee Roles and Responsibilities (section 4) and the Stakeholder Charter (section 5). Provide comments to Donna Chen by August 1.
- Attend the next Steering Committee meeting on August 24, 2004 from 10:00am to 12 noon.
- Attend future Steering Committee meetings scheduled to occur on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month from 10:00am to 12 noon.

#### City and Consultant Team to:

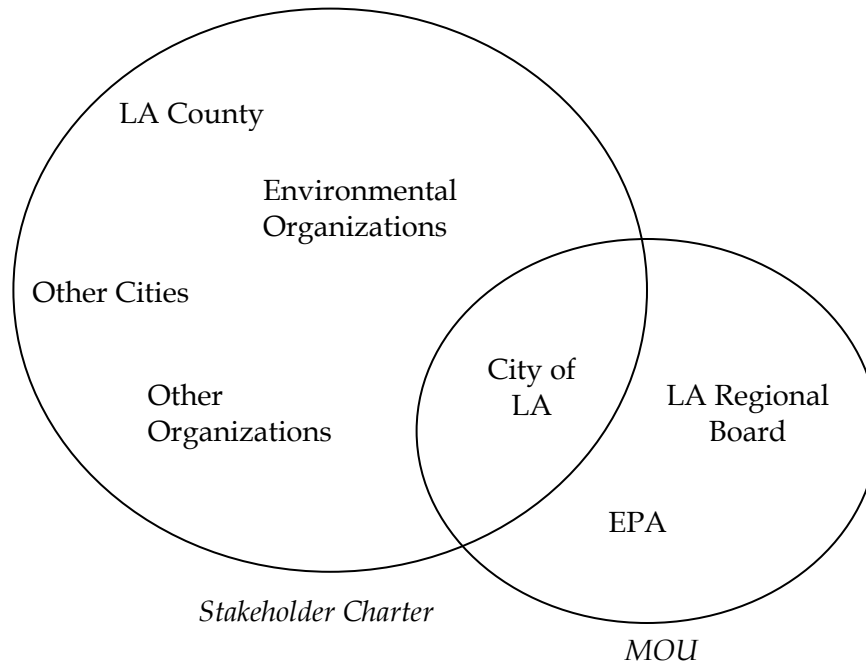
- Check on Federal Regulations, i.e., Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), for Watershed Stakeholder Committee - similar for City? Based on role of committee, e.g., advisory? Decisions?
- Make sure to comply with EPA/RWQCB strategy document for Stakeholder-Led TMDL efforts for public participation, peer review, and other items.
- Address liability, i.e., indemnification and hold harmless issues, as part of the MOU and Stakeholder Charter Agreement. Are they needed to protect members of the signatory parties? Check with legal counsel.
- Document Water Quality Standards discussion to educate broader audience
- Define why City of LA is the Lead Stakeholder to other cities and agencies that are new to the process.
- Revise TMDL Development Framework to remove the WQS Review box from the middle of the flow diagram.
- Change "Adaptive" Implementation to indicate adaptive, iterative, phased, refined
- Process Framework is continuous - show effect of revisiting TMDL in light of additional, future information (data, research, etc.)
- Add "Executive Subcommittee" to Process Framework diagram
- Add standing agenda item for discussion on pertinent, parallel efforts.
- Prepare strawman draft of Stakeholder Charter

**"WATER QUALITY STANDARDS (WQS) REVIEW" DISCUSSION**

- What do we mean by “reviewing WQS?”
  - Is the beneficial use appropriate and attainable? (Use attainability assessment)
  - Do we have the right objectives to protect the beneficial use? (Site specific objective)
- Will WQS review be part of every TMDL development process?
  - No, sometimes not necessary, often may have to be done through phased attainment actions, after TMDL adoption.
- Is development of a copper water effect ratio (WER) equivalent to changing the copper standard?
  - Two schools of thought – one says it is, one says that the definition of water quality objectives for metals includes the WER with a default value of 1, so revising the default value with measured values is not changing the objective.
  - For Basin Planning purposes, a site specific objective (SSO) should be treated as a standard setting action (i.e., 13242 analysis) in order to be legally defensible
  - For communication purposes, need to continue emphasizing that we are simply implementing existing California Toxics Rule objectives according to State Implementation Policy, no “relaxing a standard”
- Consider seasonal (wet/dry weather) issues in several phases of TMDL development
- Incorporate interpretations of narrative water quality objectives (WQOs)
- Need to Consider new WQOs -- New science and emerging technology (i.e., sediment quality objectives under development by State Water Resources Control Board may change the way we view metals TMDLs).
- Get Agreement along the way
  - Have dialogue now, then move forward
- Clarify in work plan phase
  - Allow to happen during Implementation Phase
  - Direction /suggestion to get “WQS Review” out of middle of process diagram – review happens either at the outset, or after adoption

**"STAKEHOLDER CHARTER" DISCUSSION**

Relationship between MOU and Stakeholder Charter:



- "Implementation Plan" is part of TMDL prepared by RWQCB.
- Local Government takes TMDL Implementation Plan and prepares detailed Implementation Plan ("Project Work Plan") to Implement TMDL requirements
- Regional Board described 2 levels of implementation
  1. Authority to enforce TMDL, e.g., permits
  2. Physical achievement (means and methods)
    - Local government is key
    - Inter-Agency Agreements often needed
- Two (2) phases of commitment
  - Now for collaboration amongst the key stakeholders
  - Later at time of Implementation - firm program amongst permittees
- Stakeholder group should be open to all, but it may depend on the decision-making process; consider when draft Stakeholder Charter is prepared/reviewed.
- Separate Charter agreements may be needed for the LA River and for Ballona Creek. Some issues will be specific to each water body; some special studies may apply to both.
- Indicate how the Charter fits into the overall TMDL Development Organization Chart

<b>EXERCISE: NAMING OURSELVES</b>	
<b>WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH?</b>	<b>CATCHY POTENTIAL ACRONYMS</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PROTECT</li> <li>- IMPROVE</li> <li>- RESTORE</li> <li>- WQ ATTAINMENT</li> <li>- WATER BODY</li> <li>- COLLABORATION</li> </ul>	<p>SPLASH</p> <p>SWIM</p> <p>CLEAN</p> <p>WATER</p> <p>FUTURE</p> <p>LABABY</p> <p>LAWMN</p> <p>RESTORE</p> <p>PROTECT</p> <p>STEWARDSHIP</p> <p>ATTAIN</p> <p>ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>COLLABORATE</p> <p>COMMUNITY</p> <p>FISH</p> <p>RIVER</p> <p>BENEFIT</p> <p>QUALITY</p> <p>QALIFE</p> <p>QALIFE</p> <p>QUEST</p> <p>CWEST</p>