

January 25, 2007

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO: CITY MANAGERS  
LOS ANGELES RIVER WATERSHED**

**FROM: STEERING COMMITTEE  
LOS ANGELES RIVER METALS TMDL**

**SUBJECT: LA RIVER METAL TMDL – FUNDING OF PROJECT  
MANAGEMENT - VOTE**

**Background:**

Beginning in July of 2006, thirty-six of the forty Cities in the Los Angeles River watershed, along with the County of Los Angeles, Caltrans and the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts recommended formation of a committee to assess the feasibility of undertaking special scientific studies related to the Los Angeles River Metals TMDL (TMDL).

The Steering Committee was formed in August of 2006 to discuss the studies, their management needs and develop a funding formula. Independently, the Los Angeles River Watershed Management Area Committee (LARWMAC) decided at its July 17, 2006 meeting to form a Los Angeles River Metals TMDL Compliance Subcommittee, which has subsequently become known as the Los Angeles River Metals TMDL Technical Committee (TC). The TC is currently writing the required water quality monitoring plan, which is due for submittal to the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) by April of this year.

This memorandum summarizes the Steering Committee's recommendations on the special studies, management and funding needs. After careful review, the Committee recommends two special scientific studies. These studies will be expensive – estimated at \$3.97 million over the next three-years. However, the Steering Committee strongly believes that these studies should be completed in order to provide the science necessary to properly support this TMDL and, if necessary, to modify the assigned TMDL waste load allocations based on the results of these studies. This report also outlines a proposal by the City of Los Angeles to complete one of the major scientific studies, which the Steering Committee supports.

Based on this memorandum and detailed information previously sent to you, we seek to develop consensus among the Cities on these recommendations and project manager funding. We believe that the proposed funding formula shares the project management costs in a fair and equitable manner.

**Recommendations:**

- 1) The Steering Committee recommends undertaking a Site Specific Objectives/Water Effects Ratio (SSO/WER) Study and an Atmospheric Deposition/Watershed Runoff (AD/WR) Study on the Los Angeles River and its major tributaries. The study costs are estimated at \$2,180,000 for the SSO/WER Study and \$1,460,000 for the AD/WR Study. To avoid technical misunderstandings, the Water Board, US EPA and the environmental community staff would be invited to participate in the work plan development of the special studies. These costs are preliminary and could change as the work plans are finalized.
- 2) The Steering Committee recommends retaining a Project Manager to coordinate the special studies and monitoring teams, interact with the Technical and Steering Committees, provide technical expertise, interface with the regulatory agencies and assist in the preparation of the final report. The project management costs are estimated at \$338,700 over the next three years, with the following breakdown- Year I - \$108,000, Year II - \$99,360 and Year III - \$131,340.
- 3) The Steering Committee recommends the attached cost allocation formula to fund the Project Manager, the TMDL required monitoring and scientific studies. For each \$100,000 of costs, the funding formula assesses a \$500 base amount for each participating entity (cities, County, Caltrans and the County Sanitation Districts). The balance is then allocated based on the square mileage of each entity in the watershed (See attached funding formula).
- 4) The Steering Committee recommends that the Gateway Cities Council of Governments (GCCOG) serve as the fiduciary agent, by providing invoicing and auditing services to the participating entities. Each entity will be required to enter into an implementation agreement with the GCCOG in order for the GCCOG to contract for project management.
- 5) The City and County have expended funds in ongoing monitoring of the Los Angeles River. The City of Los Angeles has been monitoring the Los Angeles River since 2001 at an estimated cost of \$100,000 per year. The City began monitoring the tributaries in 2005, at an additional annual cost of \$70,000. The cumulative cost of this monitoring has now exceeded \$700,000. In addition to monitoring, the City of Los Angeles has expended approximately \$400,000 in a copper SSO/WER study (conducted jointly with the City of Burbank) for the reaches of the Los Angeles River that receive treatment plant discharges.

The Steering Committee recommends that the City of Los Angeles expand the copper SSO/WER study to apply to the entire Los Angeles River in an amount equal to the City's portion of the special studies cost allocation. The study may include other metal pollutants, such as zinc, lead and cadmium. The scope of this study would be subject to Steering Committee approval. This recommendation allows the City of Los Angeles to manage and complete this study.

**Estimated Project Management and Special Studies Budgets**

As summarized below, the total costs of the Los Angeles River Metals TMDL Special Studies and Project Management, is estimated at \$3.97 million, over a three-year period. These cost estimates assume that there will be some overlap with the sampling for the TMDL required monitoring plan and the sampling necessary for the studies. The costs of the TMDL required monitoring plan are not included in these estimates. These costs will be finalized later this year, upon review and approval of the plan by the Water Board.

**Estimated Project Management and Special Studies Budget**

Project Management	\$338,700
SSO/WER Study	\$2,180,000
Atmos/Dep/WS Survey	\$1,460,000
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$3.97 million</u>

**Summary:**

It is hoped that this memorandum provides you with sufficient information to vote on the Steering Committee's five recommendations. Please do not hesitate to contact any of the listed Steering Committee members if you have any questions.

We have attached a ballot for your decision on the committee's recommendations. **Please return the ballot by February 21, 2007.** Completed ballots should be returned to Richard Powers, Executive Director, GCCOG by FAX at 562-634-8216.

cc: Mr. Donald Wolfe, Director, LACDPW  
Mr. Doug Failing, Director, Caltrans District 7  
Mr. Jonathan Bishop, Executive Officer, LARWQCB  
Dr. Mark Gold, Heal the Bay  
Mr. Mark Pestrella, Assistant Director, LACDPW

Attachment: Ballot; Funding Formula/ Funding Schedule;  
Steering Committee Membership List

**Steering Committee Recommendations and  
Project Management Funding Proposal – City Vote.**

City of \_\_\_\_\_

Please mark your choice on the following committee recommendations and fax your ballot to Richard Powers, Executive Director, GCCOG at (562) 634-8216. Ballots are due by Wednesday, February 21, 2007.

**Recommendation # 1 – Special Studies**

- Support the Steering Committee's recommended special studies.
- Do not support the recommendation.

**Recommendation # 2 – Project Management**

- Support the Steering Committee's project management recommendation.
- Do not support the recommendation.

**Recommendation # 3 - Project Management Funding Formula**

- Support the Steering Committee's proposed funding formula.
- Do not support the proposed funding formula.

**Recommendation # 4 – GCCOG as Fiduciary Agent**

- Support the Steering Committee's recommendation for the GCCOG acting as the fiduciary agent.
- Do not support the Steering Committee's recommendation.

**Recommendation # 5 – City of Los Angeles – SSO/WER Study**

- Support the Steering Committee's recommendation to allow the City of Los Angeles to complete the SSO/WER study in an amount equal to the City's portion of the special studies.
- Do not support the recommendation.

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Funding Schedule

### Special Studies for L.A. River Metals TMDL

Year 1 (2007-2008 Fiscal Year)		
Study #	Cost Item	Cost (\$)
2	SSO, one-time cost	\$ 146,714
2	SSO, Year 1 cost	\$ 506,457
3	Paired atmospheric deposition - stormflow monitoring, Year 1 cost	\$ 365,400
PM	Project Management, Year 1	\$ 108,000
<b>Year 1 total cost</b>		<b>\$ 1,126,571</b>
Year 2 (2008-2009 Fiscal Year)		
Study #	Cost Item	Cost (\$)
2	SSO, Year 2 cost	\$ 1,012,914
3	Paired atmospheric deposition - stormflow monitoring, Year 2 cost	\$ 730,800
PM	Project Management, Year 2	\$ 99,360
<b>Year 2 total cost</b>		<b>\$ 1,843,074</b>
Year 3 (2009-2010 Fiscal Year)		
Study #	Cost Item	Cost (\$)
2	SSO, Year 3 cost	\$ 506,457
3	Paired atmospheric deposition - stormflow monitoring, Year 3 cost	\$ 365,400
PM	Project Management, Year 3	\$ 131,340
<b>Year 3 total cost</b>		<b>\$ 1,003,197</b>

Note: Funding schedule assumes that two complete years of annual costs would be spread approximately over three years to accommodate normal lags between field data collection, laboratory analysis, and data evaluation/reporting.

**EXHIBIT B****LOS ANGELES RIVER METALS TMDL SPECIAL STUDIES**  
**COST ALLOCATION FORMULA**

Name	Area in sq miles	Percentage	Base Rate	Allocation on Sq Miles	Total
Alhambra	7.6	0.012258262	500	968.40	1,468.40
Arcadia	10.93	0.017629317	500	1,392.72	1,892.72
Bell	2.74	0.004419426	500	349.13	849.13
Bell Gardens	2.48	0.004000065	500	316.01	816.01
Bradbury	1.4	0.002258101	500	178.39	678.39
Burbank	17.35	0.027984322	500	2,210.76	2,710.76
Caltrans	11.24	0.018129325	500	1,432.22	1,932.22
Calabasas	5.58	0.009000145	500	711.01	1,211.01
Carson	0.88	0.001419378	500	112.13	612.13
Commerce	6.56	0.010580816	500	835.88	1,335.88
Compton	8.6	0.013871191	500	1,095.82	1,595.82
Cudahy	1.12	0.001806481	500	142.71	642.71
Downey	5.66	0.00912918	500	721.21	1,221.21
Duarte	2.3	0.003709737	500	293.07	793.07
El Monte	6.97	0.011242117	500	888.13	1,388.13
Glendale	30.62	0.049387893	500	3,901.64	4,401.64
Hidden Hills	1.57	0.002532299	500	200.05	700.05
Huntington Park	3.03	0.004887176	500	386.09	886.09
Irwindale	1.89	0.003048436	500	240.83	740.83
La Canada Flintridge	8.57	0.013822804	500	1,092.00	1,592.00
Long Beach	16.66	0.026871401	500	2,122.84	2,622.84
Los Angeles	281.44	0.453942806	500	35,861.48	36,361.48
Lynwood	4.85	0.007822707	500	617.99	1,117.99
Maywood	1.18	0.001903257	500	150.36	650.36
Monrovia	10.34	0.016677688	500	1,317.54	1,817.54
Montebello	8.36	0.013484088	500	1,065.24	1,565.24
Monterey Park	7.66	0.012355038	500	976.05	1,476.05
Paramount	4.34	0.007000113	500	553.01	1,053.01
Pasadena	22.7	0.036613494	500	2,892.47	3,392.47
Pico Rivera	3.12	0.005032339	500	397.55	897.55
Rosemead	5.14	0.008290456	500	654.95	1,154.95
San Fernando	2.41	0.003887159	500	307.09	807.09
San Gabriel	4.12	0.006645268	500	524.98	1,024.98
San Marino	3.76	0.006064614	500	479.10	979.10
Sierra Madre	2.99	0.004822658	500	380.99	880.99
Signal Hill	1.13	0.00182261	500	143.99	643.99
South El Monte	2.09	0.003371022	500	266.31	766.31
South Gate	7.48	0.012064711	500	953.11	1,453.11
South Pasadena	3.43	0.005532347	500	437.06	937.06

Temple City	4.01	0.006467846	500	510.96	1,010.96
Vernon	5.08	0.008193681	500	647.30	1,147.30
Unincorporated Areas	80.61	0.130018226	500	10,271.44	10,771.44
	619.99	1	21,000	79,000	100,000

**Notes:** The square miles in the watershed is based on GIS information supplied by the Regional Water Quality Control Board. The percentage column is the percentage of square miles of each Participating Entity in the watershed. The base rate was established at \$500 per entity/per \$100,000 in study costs. This base rate was established to insure a minimum contribution from each Participating Entity, resulting in a total base of \$21,000. The allocation on square miles is the remainder of the study costs (\$79,000) divided by each Participating Entity's square mileage in the watershed. Each Participating Entity's total cost is the sum of the base (\$500/\$100,000), plus the Participating Entity's allocation based on square miles.

**LA River Metals TMDL**  
**Special Studies**

**Steering Committee Membership List**

Mark Pestrella, Assistant Public Works Director, Los Angeles County DPW  
[mpestrel@ladpw.org](mailto:mpestrel@ladpw.org)  
(626) 458-4300  
900 S. Fremont Avenue  
Alhambra, CA 91803-1331

Shahram Kharaghani, Division Manager, Watershed Protection Division, City of  
Los Angeles,  
[Shahram.Kharaghani@lacity.org](mailto:Shahram.Kharaghani@lacity.org)  
1149 So. Broadway, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90015  
(213) 485-0587

Bill Reagan, Deputy Director, Caltrans District 7  
[bill.reagan@dot.ca.gov](mailto:bill.reagan@dot.ca.gov)  
(213) 897-0362  
100 S. Main Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Andy Lazzaretto, City Manager, City of Rosemead  
[alazzaretto@cityofrosemead.org](mailto:alazzaretto@cityofrosemead.org)  
(626) 596-2100  
8838 E. Valley Blvd  
Rosemead, CA 91770

Chris Shippey, Assistant City Manager, City of Long Beach,  
[Christine\\_Shippey@longbeach.org](mailto:Christine_Shippey@longbeach.org)  
(562) 570-6811  
333 West Ocean Blvd  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Ken Farfsing, City Manager, City of Signal Hill,  
[kfarfsing@cityofsignalhill.org](mailto:kfarfsing@cityofsignalhill.org)  
(562) 989-7302  
2175 Cherry Avenue, Signal Hill, CA 90755

LA River Metals TMDL Special Studies  
Steering Committee Membership List  
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Tom Tait, Deputy Public Works Services Director, City of Arcadia,  
[ttait@ci.arcadia.ca.us](mailto:ttait@ci.arcadia.ca.us)  
(626) 305-1386  
240 West Huntington Drive  
Arcadia, CA 91007

Desi Alvarez, Public Works Director, City of Downey  
[dalvarez@downey.ca.us](mailto:dalvarez@downey.ca.us)  
(562) 902-7102,  
11111 Brookshire Avenue  
Downey, CA 90241-0607

Bob Asgian, Head of Water Quality and Soils Engineering, Los Angeles County  
Sanitation Districts  
[rasgian@lacs.org](mailto:rasgian@lacs.org)  
(562) 699-7411, Ext 2453  
1955 Workman Mill Road  
Whittier, CA 90601

Richard Powers, Executive Director, Gateway Cities Council of Governments  
[richardpowers@earthlink.net](mailto:richardpowers@earthlink.net)  
(562) 663-6850  
16401 Paramount Blvd  
Paramount, CA 90723

Jonathan Bishop, Executive Officer  
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board  
[jbishop@rb4.swrcb.ca.gov](mailto:jbishop@rb4.swrcb.ca.gov)  
(213) 576-6605  
320 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Dan Wall, City Engineer  
City of San Fernando  
[dwall@ci.san-fernando.ca.us](mailto:dwall@ci.san-fernando.ca.us)  
(818) 898-1225