

South Central Action Area Caucus Group Meeting

February 9, 2015

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Renton City Hall (Chambers)

Attendees:

Members and Alternates

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Brandy Reed	King Conservation District	Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz	WRIA 8
Bruce Wulkan	PSP	Jean White	King County
Dana DeLeon	City of Tacoma	Kathy Minsch	City of Seattle
Dave White	King County DNRP	Nancy Toska	Sound Cities Association
Dennis Robertson	WRIA 9	Susan Saffery	City of Seattle
Doreen Booth	Sound Cities Association	Tom Kantz	Pierce County and WRIA 10/12
Doug Osterman	WRIA 9	Sara Hemphill	King Conservation District
Fred Jarrett	King County		

Other Attendees

Name	Affiliation
Dana Golden	Cascadia Consulting
Laura Blackmore	Cascadia Consulting
Mike Mactutis	City of Kent

Welcome and Introductions

Fred Jarrett welcomed everyone to the meeting, and introduced Laura Blackmore, the new facilitator for the group. All attendees introduced themselves and explained their connection to the LIO.

Review of the Meeting Summary

Tom Kantz made a motion to approve the November 3rd, 2014, meeting summary, and Dennis Robertson seconded. All were in favor. Laura Blackmore will make additional grammatical corrections as soon as a Word version is available.

Fred Jarrett requested that the meeting summaries be reduced to key decisions. The group agreed, and requested to include any other key points or controversies that are relevant to the key decisions.

EPA Funding Model Update

Tom Kantz, Jean White, Fred Jarrett, and Laura Blackmore participated in a discussion last week on the EPA Funding Model at the EPA Region X office, along with representatives of other LIOs. The EPA is

looking at decoupling funding decisions and implementation strategies. They are receptive to the idea of a single lead organization. They are working with the EPA headquarters on the possibility of giving an allocation directly to the LIOs.

- How do you establish the buckets between LIOs? Are they competing with each other?
 - The salmon recovery funding model is being used as a model to help develop a local credible process to distribute the money.

2015 Work Plan

Laura Blackmore presented the draft 2015 work plan, which included ideas for using the LIO as a forum for sharing information, implementing a research project, working at the regional level to ensure the LIO's voice is heard, and fulfilling contractual obligations. This last category includes developing a process to prioritize NTAs, and prioritizing the pressures operating within the LIO geography. Generally, the group approved these proposals as a draft work plan, with specific discussion about the two elements below.

NEP Grant Round

Applications for the NEP grant round are due April 20th. Seven people expressed interest in being a part of the subcommittee to review applications.

Laura Blackmore will send the NTAs out to the group so that LIO members can send the NTAs to their constituencies. She also will consider comparing the LIO priorities and NTAs with the priorities in the grant request.

Survey on Stormwater Operations and Maintenance Best Practices

Laura Blackmore suggested working with the LIO's Coordinating Group (a subgroup of the Caucus Group that meets monthly via conference call on LIO issues) to develop this survey. The Caucus Group discussed potential goals of the survey which include:

- Best practices for education and communication to people at the ground level.
- Go beyond sharing best practices.
- Help reach elected officials that are making decisions about stormwater.
- Identify low hanging fruit actions (such as creating street sweeping programs
- Coordinate with other entities, such as King County (which is conducting a direct implementation survey), and the regional ROADMAP group of NPDES stormwater permittees that coordinates on operations and maintenance issues.

Good of the Order

- Fred Jarrett asked for questions that he should bring to the ECB meeting for discussion.
 - What is happening with the implementation of the finance strategy?
 - What are their federal priorities for dealing with aging infrastructure?
- All members of the group stated their legislative priorities:
 - Sara Hemphill: Senate Bill 5311 proposed by Pierce and Spokane Conservation Districts

- Fred Jarrett: Lift the property tax cap to make it equal to inflation plus population growth. Also the transportation package to fund roads, Metro, and Sound Transit
- Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz: Supporting PSAR (Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration) and the Floodplains by Design capital request at the full levels that were requested.
- Dave White: PSAR, Floodplains by Design, continued focus on the funding strategy with PSP.
- Doug Osterman: PSAR, Floodplains by Design, \$20 million ESRP (Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program) request.
- Kathy Minsch: PSAR, SRFB, Floodplains by Design, Governor's Toxics legislation.
- Nancy Toska: Transportation package and marijuana funding to cities.
- Tom Kantz: Floodplains by Design, PSAR, and Governor's Toxic Control Act.

Laura Blackmore noted that the Puget Sound Partnership holds regular legislative calls on Fridays to update people on key issues and developments.

PSP Updates

Bruce Wulkan presented updates from PSP.

- Building Cities in the Rain, one of the Near Term Actions, is trying to target growth in smart areas and protect greenfields from development.
- The State of the Sound report is due in October to report on how we're doing implementing actions and recovering the sound.
- Dave White will send a link to the completed WRIA 9 stormwater retrofit project, a recent King County research project funded by an EPA grant.

Decisions and Next Steps

- The November meeting summary was unanimously approved.
- The work plan can move forward as written.
- Laura Blackmore will distribute NTAs to the constituents of the LIO members and put together a process to produce endorsement letters. The dates are to be determined.
- Laura Blackmore will work to schedule future meetings.