

1 **San Diego Regional Stormwater Copermittees**
 2 **Land Development Workgroup**

3 **Meeting Notes**

Date	Location	Agenda Summary
July 25, 2017 Start time: 9:00 a.m. End time: 12:00 p.m.	County of San Diego 5510 Overland Avenue, Room 372 San Diego, CA 92123	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes • Announcements and Future Events • Non-Agenda Public Comment • Visit and presentation from SCCWRP • Maintenance Funding for BMPs in the Public Right-of-Way • LDW Program Updates • FY 16-17 Updated Workplan and Budget • Project Clean Water Website

Meeting Attendance:

Number of Voting Copermittees Represented: 9

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Carlsbad
Jeremy Riddle | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Chula Vista
Boushra Salem
Chris Bauer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Coronado
Jessie Powell | <input type="checkbox"/> City of Del Mar
Francesca de Leon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> City of Escondido
Elizabeth Lopez
Juan Magdaraog | <input type="checkbox"/> City of Lemon Grove
Malik Tamimi | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Oceanside
Ryan Rodman
Mike Strizic
Marty Eslambolchi | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Poway
Tracy Beach |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of San Diego
Eric Mosolgo | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Santee
Scott Johnson | <input type="checkbox"/> City of San Marcos
Doug Dowden | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County of San Diego
Jon VanRhyn
René Vidales
Sheri McPherson
Nancy Richardson
Charles Mohrlock
Diana Perez
Ryan Taylor |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Port of San Diego
Christian Braun | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Baker Int'l*
Scott Cartwright
(Secretary)
Miguel Avalos
(Secretary) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of National City
Tad Nakatani | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contech*
Noel Thurston |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geosyntec*
Venkat Gummadi | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amec Foster Wheeler*
David Arthur | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCCWRP*
Ken Schiff
Abuil Nafrooz | |

One vote per Copermittee.

**Indicates non-voting representative*

1 **1. Introductions**

2 Attendees introduced themselves.

3 **2. Approval of the Minutes for the May 23, 2017 meeting**

4 Group has no edits to meeting minutes from May 23, 2017 meeting.

5 *MOTION:* Approve of the May 23, 2017 meeting minutes **(APPROVED)**

- 6 ♦ Moved by: Tracy Beach (City of Poway)
- 7 ♦ Seconded by: Boushra Salem (City of Chula Vista)
- 8 ♦ Vote: 7-0 in favor, 0 abstention (note that two voting representatives arrived after the
- 9 vote)

10 **3. Announcements & Future Events**

11 None.

12 **4. Non-Agenda Public Comments**

13 None.

14 **5. Visit from SCCWRP (Southern California Coastal Water Research Project)**

15 Ken Schiff and Abuil Nafrooz, from Southern California Coastal Water Research Project
16 (SCCWRP) were in attendance at the meeting. Sheri McPherson (County of San Diego) provided
17 a brief overview of the history of the Land Development Workgroup to acquaint the new guests
18 with the group. Following her introduction, SCCWRP commenced with their PowerPoint
19 presentation. Concluding the presentation, SCCWRP opened the floor to questions and
20 discussions.

21
22 The County expressed some difficulty they have been having regarding the necessary
23 percentage over vegetative cover for proper BMP function.

24
25 Chris Bauer (City of Chula Vista) asked about the availability of biochar. According to Abuil
26 Nafrooz (SCCWRP), there are a few vendors in California, who primarily serve the agricultural
27 market. That gave rise to a question from the County, asking about the historical use of biochar
28 in the agriculture industry and if there are agricultural studies that provide more information on
29 bacteria and nutrient discharge. SCCWRP mentioned that although there are some studies
30 conducted, they do not relate to storm water treatment.

31
32 Discussion shifted to the general cost of biochar when compared to traditional media. SCCWRP
33 explained that the material is definitely more expensive than traditional compost. They plan to

1 perform a cost benefit analysis which would consider some of the long-term advantages. They
2 explained that the cost depends on the source material. In their study, they analyzed biochar
3 samples composed of eucalyptus and pine. The County posed the possibility of recycling sludge
4 from waste water plants as a source material. SCCWRP considered the idea as a possibility.

5
6 SCCWRP is asked if carbon reduction and carbon sequestration are quantifiable. They answer
7 that it is measurable; their study found approximately 22% carbon reduction.

8
9 A Copermittee asked if the use of biochar could reduce the size of BMP necessary to meet MS4
10 Permit requirements. SCCWRP responded that they believe that could be possible due to the
11 increased ability to remove some pollutants compared with standard bioretention soil mixes
12 currently used.

13
14 A Copermittee inquired about the maintenance frequency of BMPs that use biochar. SCCWRP
15 responded that although they do not have details regarding that matter, the topic will be
16 evaluated in future field studies.

17
18 A Copermittee circled the discussion back to removal efficiency, asking if the removal results are
19 similar for metals and nutrients. According to SCCWRP, the results are mostly comparable, with
20 the exception of phosphorus, which exhibits much less reduction than other pollutants like
21 nitrate. SCCWRP believes the forthcoming research shows promising metal removal efficiency.
22 When asked how these results are different for nutrients, SCCWRP explained that they are
23 highly variable depending on saturated versus unsaturated zones.

24
25 A Copermittee commented to the possibility of combining the biochar material with compost.
26 SCCWRP explained how this would be ineffective as the biochar retains the leakage from the
27 compost. An alternative combination is currently proposed in the City of Long Beach and consist
28 of a 1" top layer of mulch, not to be mixed with the biochar. A Copermittee asked to relate that
29 amount to the total BMP structure depth. Abuil Nafrooz (SCCWRP) estimates the mulch layer
30 compromises about 5%, or 1/18th, of the total soil depth.

31
32 A Copermittee commented that, in regards to top soil composition and vegetation, cooperation
33 with other groups that are analyzing plant health would be beneficial. This point touched back
34 to earlier discussion about required percent cover; SCCWRP accepted they have not fully
35 considered the requirements but will do so in future studies, particularly in California which
36 requires drought tolerant species

37
38 Jeremy Riddle (City of Carlsbad) inquired whether studies considered dry periods longer than
39 seven days. SCCWRP explained that they did not and they understand how that might not be
40 representative of the County's environments. They will consider a longer dry period in a future
41 study.

1
2 An Ad-Hoc group may be organized which would aim to further the discussion in the topic and
3 identify potential studies that SCCWRP could conduct to provide valuable information for local
4 development standards. René Vidales (County of San Diego) will be the main point of contact for
5 establishing the group. Sheri McPherson (County of San Diego) recommends for SCCWRP to
6 further review the local storm water performance standards.

7 **6. Maintenance Funding for BMPs in the Public Right-of-Way**

8 Jon VanRhyn (County of San Diego) presented on future funding for the operation and
9 maintenance of BMPs in the right-of-way. The PowerPoint presentation was not available due to
10 technical difficulties. Often times, BMPs within the right-of-way become part of the
11 municipality's maintenance responsibility. In summary, municipalities are left with limited
12 options in terms of maintenance and typically act in one of the following ways:

- 13 1. *Not accept*
- 14 2. *Accept in R/W,*
- 15 • without funding.
 - 16 • with interim funding.
 - 17 • with permanent funding (community facilities district – CFD).
 - 18 • through EMRA (Encroachment Maintenance and Removal Agreement)
- 19 3. *Other*

20 The County opened the discussion to other issues and solutions the municipalities in attendance
21 have experienced. The City of Oceanside provided some insight stating that their Public Works
22 department extremely dislikes BMPs in the right-of-way and only allows them through EMRAs.
23 Agencies often find it difficult to accurately track their BMP maintenance responsibility.

24 Boushra Salem (City of Chula Vista) inquired about the concept of a county wide CFD. It was
25 noted that the best method of approach would be to annex projects in one at a time.

26
27 Jon VanRhyn (County of San Diego) brought up the issue of maintenance for a broadening range
28 of BMPs. The County has a list of BMPs they currently accept and are familiar with. Boushra
29 explained that the City of Chula Vista contracts out the maintenance and inspection reporting of
30 these BMPs. Jon asked how unanticipated repair or replacement costs are handled. Boushra
31 replied that they include an allowance for that when establishing the CFDs. However, the
32 County expressed their concerns that municipalities without CFDs must independently assume
33 these responsibilities. Jon VanRhyn will send out an email soliciting feedback and will determine
34 if there is a need for future discussion.

1 **7. LDW Program Updates**

2 *a. BMP Sizing Tools Task (SDHM)*

3 The latest trainings for the SDHM were held on May 24th and May 25th of 2017. The sessions
4 have been well received, with upwards of 180 attendees. The County asked Clear Creek
5 Solutions to post the PowerPoint presentation from the training on their website. As last
6 reminder, the County urged everyone to use the updated 3.1 version of SDHM, rather than the
7 outdated 3.0 version.

8 *b. BMP Design Manual & Help Desk Task*

9 The Ad-hoc BMP Design Manual group is still meeting. The current draft circulated last fiscal
10 year. New updates include the removal of HMP sizing factors. The County also identified the
11 need for additional work on geotechnical guidance. Lastly, the bioretention soil media survey is
12 now in draft form.

13 Help desk questions were distributed for review. No immediate comments were presented; any
14 other comments need to be sent to Nancy Richardson (County of San Diego) by next week. The
15 Help Desk questions and answers will be posted to the Project Clean Water (PCW) site.

16 *c. Alternative Compliance Tools*

17 Charles Mohrlock (County of San Diego) presented the same update as in the last meeting. The
18 next TAC meeting will be held on August 29th to discuss equivalency and other topics yet to be
19 covered. Material for the meeting will be sent out one week prior to the meeting. Eric Mosolgo
20 (City of San Diego) hopes to have the City of San Diego program framework by June 2018 and
21 implementation by January 2019.

22 **8. FY 16-17 Updated Workplan and Budget**

23 René Vidales (County of San Diego) provided a status update on the FY 16-17 workplan and
24 budget.

25 The County discussed what do with unallocated funds from the FY 16-17. All attendees agreed
26 that they would prefer to return the funds if there is no high priority project in need of it. It was
27 agreed that the group will hold a formal vote on the matter at the next meeting after the FY 16-
28 17 expenditures are distributed.

29 **9. Project Clean Water Website**

30 The HMP exemption map has been updated on the website. The BMP Sizing Tools (SDHM)
31 training slides have also been uploaded under "Land Development Workgroup".

1 **10. Action Items**

Action Item		Responsible Party	Timeline
1.	Review the draft of the Help Desk Q&A Log and send any comments to Nancy Richardson (County of San Diego) by August 1, 2017.	All Copermittees	08/01/2017
2.	Send out an email soliciting feedback from Copermittees on maintenance funding for BMPs in the public Right-of-way and will determine if there is a need for future discussion.	Jon VanRhyn	ASAP

2 **11. Next Meeting**

3 The next LDW meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 19, 2017.