



**Los Angeles County Public Works  
2020 Floodplain Management Plan Update**

2nd Steering Committee (SC) Meeting  
 Wednesday, August 14, 2019, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. PT.  
 Los Angeles County Public Works HQ – Conference Room C  
 900 South Fremont Ave, Alhambra, CA 91803



**Meeting Participants**

1. Government	Araiza, Martin	PW Stormwater Eng.-Hydrology/Hydraulics
2. Government	Benavides, Marcella	<i>Alternate-</i> PW Stormwater Planning
3. Government	Escobar, Eduardo	<i>Alternate-</i> PW Stormwater Engineering
4. Government	Godoy, David	<i>Alternate-</i> Los Angeles County Fire Department
5. Government	Guerrero, Jolene	PW Community Government Relations Grp.
6. Government	Hachiya, Patricia	<i>Alternate-</i> LA County Regional Planning
7. Government	Husted, Jack	<i>Alternate-</i> PW Disaster Services Group
8. Government	Naslund, Lisa	PW Building & Safety
9. Government	Tong, Glen	<i>Alternate-</i> PW Building & Safety
10. Government	Walker, Neonika	<i>Alternate-</i> PW Community Government Relations Group
11. Government	Wood, Patricia-Chair	PW Stormwater Engineering
1. Non-Government	Blalock, John	Antelope Valley Resident
2. Non-Government	Chang, Lin	<i>Alternate-</i> City of Los Angeles
3. Non-Government	Ellis, Dr. Andre	California State University, Los Angeles
4. Non-Government	Sharpton, Debbie	Environmental Restoration Group
5. Non-Government	Shu, Susan	City of LA Bureau of Engineering
6. Non-Government	Garcia-Ruiz, Joselito	American Red Cross Los Angeles
1. Core Planning Team	Chen, Michael	Los Angeles County Public Works
2. Core Planning Team	Tran, Larry	Los Angeles County Public Works
3. Core Planning Team	Win, Thu	Los Angeles County Public Works
4. Core Planning Team	Artz, Ira	Tetra Tech, Inc.
5. Core Planning Team	Flaner, Rob	Tetra Tech, Inc.
6. Core Planning Team	Parker, Steve	Tetra Tech, Inc.
7. Core Planning Team	Schloss, Melissa	Tetra Tech, Inc.



## **Planning Process**

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Pat Wood, Los Angeles County Public Works welcomed attendees and went around the room so attendees could introduce themselves.

### **Review Agenda**

Rob Flaner, Tetra Tech welcomed attendees and noted this is the first meeting to start the Floodplain Management Plan (FMP) planning process and the previous meeting was for organizational purposes. All SC meetings starting at this meeting will be open to the public and upcoming agendas will be organized this way; New and Old Business.

### **Meeting #1 Summary**

Rob Flaner asked the SC if they had any edits to the June 25, 2019 meeting minutes. Nothing heard.

**MOTION made by Jolene Guerrero to approve the June 25, 2019 meeting minutes and seconded by Pat Wood. Motion passed unanimously.**

### **Review / Approve Final Charter**

Rob Flaner asked the SC if they had any edits to the Charter. Debbie Sharpton noted that the name of her organization is Environmental Restoration Group rather than Environmental Restoration Trust.

**MOTION made by Pat Wood to approve the Charter with the correction of Environmental Restoration Group name and seconded by Joselito Garcia-Ruiz. Motion passed unanimously.**

### **Receive Public Comment**

Rob Flaner asked members of the public if they wished to address the committee. No public comments were expressed.

## **New Business**

### **Review Table of Contents for Proposed Plan**

Rob Flaner reviewed the proposed Table of Contents (TOC) for both FMP and Repetitive Loss Area Analysis (RLAA) plans. He noted the FMP TOC is written to provide commonality between the FMP and Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) so that the FMP can be used as a functional annex to the HMP. Rob explained that much of the RLAA will be a private county document due to the Privacy Act but may create a forward-facing executive summary (public document) to post on the newly created website.

There was discussion about how the County compares nationally within the CRS system.



There was discussion regarding what changes in the TOC were coming due to CRS revisions. Changes noted were in program review. There was also a desire expressed to create a stronger public facing executive summary to summarize the FMP.

General agreement was made to include bookmarks and hyperlinks to allow readers to jump from a section, to a map or appendix, and then hyperlink back, if possible.

### **Review Prior Action Plan**

Rob Flaner stated the Action Plan must be completed annually and we will use last year's Action Plan as a baseline for the next one.

### **Review Progress Report**

Rob Flaner stated that the progress report is a functional component of the plan as part of the public outreach strategy. For this update, Tetra Tech will merge the Program for Public Information (PPI), RLAA, and FMP components into one progress report.

Rob Flaner highlighted the future of FEMA funding through the new Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant program. The FMP identified actions/objectives can be used to go after this expanded pot of money.

### **Goal Setting: Review Mission Statement**

Rob Flaner reviewed the previous FMP's mission statement and the SC had a discussion on how to update it. The SC agreed on the following mission statement: *"Protect life, property, the economy and the environment of Los Angeles County by identifying and communicating risks and sustainable actions to reduce flood hazards and thus enhance community resilience."*

**MOTION by Jolene Guerrero to approve the above mission statement and second by Joselito Garcia-Ruiz. Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Goal Setting: Review Goals**

Rob Flaner reviewed the previous FMP's goals and the SC had a discussion on how to update them. After debate, the new goals were finalized as follows:

1. Enhance community resilience from the impacts of flood hazards
2. Protect life, safety, property and economy.
3. Communicate to residents and stakeholders flood risk based on best available data and science.
4. Increase resilience of infrastructure and critical facilities from flood hazards.
5. Account for flood risk in land use and planning.
6. Preserve, enhance or restore the natural environment's floodplain functions.



7. Encourage the development and implementation of long-term, cost-effective and environmentally sound flood hazard mitigation projects.

**MOTION by Lisa Naslund to approve the above goals and second by Jolene Guerrero.  
Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Goal Setting: Review Objectives**

Rob Flaner reviewed the previous FMP’s objectives and the SC had a long discussion on how to update them. It was noted the new HMP draft should be out at the end of August from the Office of Emergency Management (OEM). The FMP should link up with and be coordinated with the new HMP.

Of note was whether to include “resiliency” as a goal, which would necessitate a cascading update throughout all the objectives and subsequent action items, or to include it as an objective, to which certain action items would be impacted. After debate, the new objectives were partially finalized as follows:

1. Work cooperatively with public agencies with responsibility for flood protection, and with stakeholders in planning for flood and inundation hazards.
2. Utilize best available data, science, and technologies to improve understanding of the location and potential impacts of flood hazards.
3. Provide state, county and local agencies and stakeholders with updated information about flood hazards, vulnerabilities, and mitigation measures.
4. Create a public outreach strategy.
5. Discourage new development in known flood hazard areas or ensure that, if development occurs in those areas, it is done in a way to minimize flood risk.
6. Consider open space land uses within known flood hazard areas.
7. Provide the highest degree of flood hazard protection at the least cost by working with environmentally friendly natural systems and by using prevention as the first priority.
8. Promote the retrofit, purchase and relocation of structures in known flood hazard areas, especially those known to be repetitively damaged.
9. Provide flood protection by maintaining flood control systems.
10. Sustain reliable local emergency operations and facilities during and after a flood event.
11. Consider climate change implications in managing flood risk.

Further discussion on the objectives was tabled. Homework for Tetra Tech to send the SC the County sustainability report’s definition of resilience. Each SC member will create a recommended objective regarding resilience to flood risk based on that definition. Tetra Tech will consolidate all recommendations into one document and send back to the SC for review and finalization at the next meeting.

### **Public Outreach Strategy**

Rob Flaner explained that each subsequent SC meeting will discuss public outreach strategy and the next meeting will discuss content for the public survey as well as decide how many public meetings the SC

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wants to hold. The first public meeting/workshop needs to be held within two months of this SC meeting. Timing and location to be discussed by the SC. Captive audience opportunities are preferred, such as safety fairs, etc. Also noted was that the RLAA outreach needs to be begun as well, though it does not need to coincide with the first public meeting/workshop.

#### **Action Items and Next Steps**

- Larry Tran to post the approved mission statement and goals onto the new website.
- Tetra Tech to send the SC the County's definition of resilience so they may create a 12<sup>th</sup> objective.
- Tetra Tech to send out the Agenda for the following meeting.

#### **Next Meeting Date**

- The next SC meeting date will be September 11, 2019 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. PT. The meeting location is the Traffic Management Center Conference Room, Los Angeles County Public Works HQ Annex Building, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor. 900 S. Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91803.

#### **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m. PT.