

**Proposition O Citizen's Oversight Advisory Committee (COAC)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 18, 2008**

Committee Members

Adi Liberman (Vice-Chair)	Mark Gold
Mary Nichols	Francine Diamond
Craig Perkins	Tiger Kang
Gideon Kracov	Teresa Villegas
Cynthia McClain-Hill	

City

Charles Modica (CLA)
Mark Tullai (CAO)
Shahram Kharaghani (BOS)
Kendrick Okuda (BOE)
Chris Westhoff (City Attorney)

Bold indicates members present.

The meeting was called to order at 2:10 P.M.

I. Approval of Minutes:

The minutes from May 21, 2008 were approved.

II. City Administrative Officer/Chief Legislative Analyst/Citizens Oversight Advisory Committee (COAC) representative update on Proposition O (Prop O) issues and Administrative Oversight Committee (AOC) meeting

Administrative Oversight Committee report:

During the regular meeting held on May 29, 2008, the AOC approved two recommendations presented by the Bureau of Engineering (BOE) regarding the La Cienega/Fairfax Stormwater BMP project, which was opposed by the community and Council District (CD) 10.

First Recommendation: Direct the BOE to stop work on the project.

Second Recommendation: Direct the BOE to work with CD 10 and the Department of Recreation and Parks (DRP) to address community concerns and incorporate beneficial rain water management elements into the project.

The BOE will report back to the AOC in 60 days.

The AOC approved a transfer of \$938,055 from project accounts for the completed Catch Basin Screens and Inserts projects (Phases I and II) to six active project accounts for the purpose of expending the remaining Prop O funds from the first bond sale to avoid arbitrage penalties.

III. Discussion:

- Presentation on green solutions for water improvement by Dr. Shelley Luce of the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission.

The presentation was postponed to the next meeting.

IV. Discussion:

- La Cienega/Fairfax Stormwater BMP project update

The BOE will meet with DRP staff to discuss incorporating rainwater elements into the project design, which will be followed by another meeting with CD 10. This effort will also include the Bureau of Sanitation (BOS). The COAC suggested inviting the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission to the next public meeting to voice their support for the project.

The next COAC meeting should include Councilmember Herb Wesson's Office for further discussion on this project. The BOE stated that CD 10 is aware that Prop O funds are at risk if water quality benefits are removed from the project.

V. Discussion:

- Bureau of Engineering Monthly Report - May 2008
- Bureau of Sanitation
 - Reimbursable grants/issues update

As requested, the BOE modified the monthly report to include a list of public meetings on Prop O projects. The list includes meetings held during the month of May, as well as those scheduled for June. The BOE also highlighted the design kick off meeting for the Echo Park Lake Rehabilitation project. The meeting was well attended with approximately 30 attendees, including COAC member Gideon Kracov. The BOE will likely hold a groundbreaking event for the Grand Boulevard Tree Wells project.

The COAC requested that BOE's report for next month include a briefing on all TMDL-related projects (re: schedules, scope changes, compliance progress, and TMDL impacts).

The BOS provided an update on front-funding and reimbursement issues. Prop O has front-funded a number of projects, including Grand Boulevard Tree Wells, Mar Vista Recreation Center Stormwater BMP, and LaCienega/Fairfax Stormwater BMP. The BOE is considering a request that the South Los Angeles Wetlands, and Peck Park projects be allowed to use Prop O funds to front-fund grants awarded to these projects. The COAC resolved that Prop O can front-fund approved projects. The City Attorney noted that a number of grant funded projects were front-funded by Prop O.

VI. Discussion and Possible Actions:

- Update of field meetings and potential project sites for 2008:
 - Echo Park Lake Rehabilitation
 - Cesar Chavez Ground Water Improvement
 - South Los Angeles Wetlands
 - Machado Lake

A COAC meeting at Machado Lake will be scheduled in August or September 2008. A tour of Machado Lake will occur prior to the start of the meeting. The CAO and the BOE will coordinate this effort.

VII. Discussion and Possible Action:

- Annual Report to City Council

A draft table of contents for the next annual report to Council was presented and discussed. The City Attorney suggested that one report cover both years. The COAC decided that the report will cover two years, FY 2006-07 and FY 2007-08, and be about 10 pages in length.

A draft of the report should be completed in approximately two months. Once the draft is complete, the report will be reviewed by the COAC chair and subcommittee members, followed by a distribution to all members for comment.

VIII. Future Agenda Items:

1. TMDL-related projects' progress including schedules and scope changes.
2. Update on the status of the Water Quality Compliance Master Plan.
3. Presentation on green solutions for water quality improvement by Dr. Shelley Luce of the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission.

IX. Public Comments:

A public comment was made by Joyce Dillard, who expressed a concern that the main message of the bond measure was not getting out to various City departments. Joyce stated that she reviewed a Mitigated Negative Declaration for a project that had no mitigation measures for water quality.

There was discussion by COAC, City staff attendees and Prop O staff regarding the City's progress toward including water quality in departmental policies and project review processes, and of the potential role of COAC in that effort.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 P.M.