



Roundtable of Regions

Disadvantaged Community & Tribal Involvement Work Group Meeting

Wednesday, February 9, 2022
1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Action Items:

1. Maria will contact Anecita Agustinez, DWR, regarding tribal interest in the DACTI Workgroup and the status of the Tribal Caucus.
2. Jodie will send out a Doodle Poll to find a date to convene a subcommittee of DACTI volunteers to further discuss the future of the DACTI Subcommittee and make recommendations to the full Workgroup at the May 11th meeting.

Meeting Highlights:

Jodie welcomed the workgroup and reviewed the agenda. Participants were asked to type their name and organization into the chat. The main purpose of this meeting is to discuss the future of the DACTI Workgroup.

DWR Updates

Maria Lorenzo-Lee, DWR, shared a PowerPoint on the DACI Program. She provided an update on:

- DWR just completed the third of three Prop 1, Round 2 workshops. The recordings will be posted and links to the postings will be emailed to the participants.
- Prop 1 IRWM Disadvantaged Communities and Tribal Involvement Grant: About half of the \$52 million has been invoiced, funding just about 150 projects.
- Nine of the twelve Needs Assessments have been completed. The Statewide Needs Assessment Report will be a progress report with the 12 Funding Area Needs Assessment linked to the Statewide Report.
- There is a \$50 million set aside for DACTI in the Drought Funds as part of the 2021 Urban and Multi-benefit Funding Program. Awards are expected to be announced in March. Maria confirmed that this funding is currently over-subscribed. Additional funds are being proposed in the 2022-23 budget.
- Small Communities Drought Relief Program: <https://water.ca.gov/Water-Basics/Drought/Small-Community-Drought-Relief>. For questions regarding the Small Community Drought Relief Program, please contact (559) 230-3309 or by email at SmallCommunityDrought@water.ca.gov.

Maria encouraged everyone to subscribe to the California grants portal at: <https://www.grants.ca.gov> New grants are posted weekly. She also suggested looking at:

- DWR Grants and Loan page: www.water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans
- California Financing Coordinating Committee website (for funding fairs): www.cfcc.ca.gov

Other opportunities include:

- Cal OES has announced a program: PrepareCA Jumpstart – an update to the 2021 FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. There is \$15 million available in State funds and \$255 million available in federal funds.
- The public comment period is now open for the Regional Climate Collaborative Program through the Strategic Growth Council.
- The federal government has published tips for local entities to get ready to apply for the 1.2 trillion Federal Infrastructure funds. To access the press release go to: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/01/31/biden-administration-releases-bipartisan-infrastructure-law-guidebook-for-state-local-tribal-and-territorial-governments/>. The Guidebook is at: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/build/>

Workgroup members shared additional websites with funding information including:

- <https://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/grant-programs/Pages/Transformative-Climate-Communities-Program.aspx>
- <https://www.fundingresource.org/>
- <https://sierranevada.ca.gov/funding/funding-opportunities-newsletter/>

The Future of the DACTI Workgroup

The group engaged in a discussion of the future of the DACTI Workgroup. Lynn Rodriguez, Watershed Coalitions of Ventura County, and Roundtable Co-Chair provided a brief history of the Workgroup. Key milestones include:

- DWR announced the DACI program in 2016. DWR was looking for a forum for Funding Areas to share information and provide feedback to DWR.
- The Roundtable held a Summit in January 2017. Discussions were held about addressing underserved communities. There was agreement to form two working groups: One would be focused on the Needs Assessments for underserved communities as part of the DACI program; the second would concentrate on evaluation criteria for success.
- Both groups started meeting separately but merged later in 2017. The leadership of the quarterly meetings rotated among the participants.
- At some point, DWR asked the Roundtable of Regions to take on the DACI Workgroup with support from DWR. The DACI Workgroup became a partnership with DWR.
- The inclusion of “Tribal” into the DACI program name developed organically. The group is now referred to as the DACTI Workgroup.

The DACTI Workgroup has been meeting quarterly. Attendance has been declining of late. The purpose of today’s discussion is to determine the best way for the DACTI Workgroup to move forward to benefit attendees. Also, the group is asked to consider the needs of underserved communities and Tribes. Can Tribe and underserved communities be represented appropriately

in the DACTI workgroup? Who should be invited to participate in the Workgroup – representatives of IRWM regions? Stakeholders who are part of underserved communities within IRWM regions? Any interested parties? How often should the Workgroup meet?

The following comments were recorded:

- The value of the DACTI Workgroup is getting more information about what's going on in the other regions.
- Case studies are more beneficial than a roll call of regions asking for successes and challenges.
- It is useful to hear from other regions.
- A suggestion was made to spotlight a region at each meeting.
- Sharing best practices and insights on leveraging technical assistance would be beneficial.
- Outreach and engagement are a challenge for some regions. Group brainstorming and problem-solving would be more beneficial to participants.
- Collaboration to leverage what we've already done would be useful.
- Funding information is critical.
- Tribes are stretched thin and not able to attend the myriad of meetings they are invited to. A suggestion was made to hold tribal Ad Hoc meetings.
- Funding should be for community groups and tribes to participate – not funding for consultants.
- Discussions within geographic areas are beneficial.
- A suggestion was made to meet 4 times a year.
 - The 1st and 3rd meetings would include the entire Workgroup
 - The 2nd and 4th meetings would be subgroups either geographically based or topically based (e.g., urban vs. rural).
- The DACTI Google Docs developed by EJCW should be posted to the Roundtable website.

The group decided to form a subcommittee to further discuss the future of the DACTI Workgroup. Jodie will send out a Doodle Poll and convene one or two meetings before the next DACTI Workgroup meeting on May 11th. The Subcommittee will formulate a recommendation for the Workgroup to consider at the May 11th meeting. Subcommittee volunteers include:

- Maddie Duda, SF-Bay Area (Bay Area Rep)
- Margarit Movsesian, GLAC (So Cal Rep)
- Katie Burdick, Yuba IRWM (Nor Cal Rep)
- Tim Carson (or other rep), Santa Cruz IRWM (Central Cal Rep)
- Angelina Cook, Upper Sacramento IRWM (DAC Rep)
- Sonia Sanchez, Self-Help Enterprises (DAC Rep)
- Michael Prado, Sultana CSD (DAC Rep)
- Sherri Norris, CIEA (Tribal Rep)
- Cristina Torres, Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians (Tribal Rep)
- Soua Lee, Kings Basin Water Authority (DACTI Lead, Roundtable Steering Committee)

- Maria Lorenzo-Lee, DWR
- Anecita Agustinez, DWR