



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
REGIONAL PARK AND  
OPEN SPACE DISTRICT



## Measure A Implementation

Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District

**Summary Meeting Notes**  
**Steering Committee Meeting #1**  
**April 27, 2017 9:30 am – 11:30 am**

**Steering Committee Members in Attendance:**

Alina Bokde	Hugo Enciso	Maria Chong-Castillo
Amy Lethbridge	Jay Duke	Mark Glasscock
Naomi Iwasaki	Jane Beesley	Max Podemski
Belinda Faustinos	Jean Armbruster	Nicole Jones
Bonnie Nikolai	Jeff Rubin	Reyna Diaz
Brad Bolger	Joel Ayala	Ronda Perez
Bruce Saito	John Bwarie	Reuben De Leon
Bryan Stiger	John Jones	Scott Chan
Cara Meyer	Karen Ginsberg	Stefan Popescu
Cheryl Davis	Kim Lamorie	Stephanie Stone
Clement Lau	Lacey Johnson	Sussy Nemer
Delia Morales	Linda Lowry	Teresa Villegas
Dilia Ortega	Lylwyn Esangga	Tori Kjer
Esther Feldman	Lynda Johnson	Sylvia Arredondo
Francine Choi	Manal Aboelata	Robin Mark

**RPOSD Staff in Attendance:**

Agie Jordan, Ani Yeghiyan, Arcelia Navarrete, Arni De La Paz, Sara Keating, Tammy Lam, Warren Ontiveros

**PlaceWorks Staff in Attendance:**

David Early, C.C. LaGrange, Jessica Wuyek

**Agenda Item: Measure A Overview**

1. *Request:* Please share the PowerPoint presentation with the Steering Committee.  
*Response:* PowerPoint will be emailed and posted to [rposd.lacounty.gov](http://rposd.lacounty.gov)

**Agenda Item: Measure A Implementation**

1. *Question:* What is the difference between a competitive and non-competitive grant?  
*Response:* The non-competitive grants are allocated through an administrative process. The largest non-competitive grant categories are Category 1, which all Study Areas are eligible for, and Category 2, which only those Study Areas with High or Very High need are eligible for. Competitive grants are

open to all eligible entities, and grants will be awarded on a competitive basis; that is, not all applicants will receive these grants.

2. *Question:* What will technical assistance entail? Does that mean assistance throughout the application process?

*Response:* Yes, technical assistance can include assistance with grant application processes. The Steering Committee will help identify who needs technical assistance, when and how it should be offered, and what it will include.

3. *Question:* What will be the process for issuing bonds?

*Response:* We don't know yet. We know that it will be appropriate for some communities and not for others. It's unlikely that an individual city will be able to bond against their Measure A allocation. It is most likely that any bonding will be done through the County. We are developing a white paper on bonding to serve as a background memo on the process. Any Steering Committee members interested in contributing to this background memo should contact the PlaceWorks team.

4. *Comment:* We need to bring interest groups to the table early in the process to make sure the Steering Committee is vetting initiatives that represent community needs.

*Response:* Yes, interest groups may be engaged and could be helpful in providing technical assistance. We may explore developing small working groups to discuss specific interests and issues.

#### ***Agenda Item: Steering Committee Overview and Brown Act***

1. *Question:* Please verify the correct meeting time.

*Response:* Steering Committee meetings will take place between 9:30-11:30 am.

#### ***Agenda Item: Implementing Measure A: Discussion of Key Points and Issues***

##### ***Grant Programs***

1. *Comment:* It would be helpful to circulate documents and guiding questions prior to each meeting so members be prepared for discussion

*Response:* Materials will be circulated before future meetings. This meeting is an introduction.

2. *Comment:* In consideration of veteran employment programs, we need to make sure programs support job training and placement to veterans can get and keep jobs.

3. *Comment:* It would be helpful to distribute the Needs Assessment data for members to review and become more familiar with the Needs Assessment data in order to think about how the data will inform this project.

*Response:* We will share links to Needs Assessment data.

4. *Comment:* Clarity in communications is very important when describing what defines an eligible program, what is included in technical assistance, and other specific details.

5. *Comment:* We need to be able to identify shovel-ready projects for feasibility to make sure projects actually get built.

6. *Comment:* We need to consider how we can integrate alternate services related to water use and irrigation. Projects that support water conservation could be identified in the grant application process.

### ***Maintenance and Servicing***

1. *Comment:* Members need time to process all the information prior to meetings so they will have more time to prepare thoughtful feedback. It will be important to consider public safety, interagency collaboration, and storage sites.

*Response:* Members will receive materials prior to future meetings. This meeting is an overview to introduce the Steering Committee to the scope of work that needs to be completed in the coming year and to hear initial thoughts on that work.

### ***Innovation and Oversight***

1. *Comment:* We should support multi-purpose, youth employment, and water quality/supply projects.

### ***Bonding and Forwarding***

1. *Comment:* We need a better understanding of the financial breakdown and have a realistic view of available money. We need to have bonding discussions sooner in the project timeline so we know constraints.

*Response:* We are in the process of developing detailed breakdowns for Study Areas and will share this information when it is available. Bonding and allocations will probably not be discussed next month as we will not have the final parcel data until late June.

### ***Community Engagement***

1. *Comment:* Most critical lesson learned during the Needs Assessment was that single-touch meetings weren't good enough.

2. *Comment:* We need to clearly define what is the intent of the community engagement and which organizations can be partners. Ensure that engagement is not scheduled around the holidays.

3. *Question:* Can we form subcommittees in next month's meeting?

*Response:* We may not have the time and budget for subcommittees.

*Response:* We can have small group break-out sessions at the end of meetings

*Response:* We can explore those options but subcommittees will not be formed in May.

4. *Comment:* We should utilize community based organizations and emphasize high need areas. It's important to pay CBO's for the work they do. Pacoima Beautiful can recommend some community organizations.

*Response:* To clarify, the community engagement written into this project is intended to be informational in nature.

*Response:* LANLT did the engagement for the Needs Assessment and can use that to build off of that. Emphasize high need areas.

5. *Comment:* We need to hold more than 1 meeting in an area, we can build on engagement from the Needs Assessment.

6. *Comment:* We need to wait until we have concrete information to present at the engagement meetings and should be careful not to hold premature meetings.

7. *Comment:* We need to consider overall livability, not just parks. Support for homelessness and transportation measures show that people are considering overall livability. We need to think creatively how these initiatives can work together.

8. *Comment:* Agencies in low-resource communities need plenty of lead time or they won't be prepared to apply.

9. *Comment:* The Asian Pacific Islander (API) community fell through the cracks during the Needs Assessment, we need to make sure we capture their voice. We also need to be prepared to explain to communities what happened to their 10 prioritized projects.

10. *Comment:* We need a way to determine community readiness by establishing performance metrics and preparing communities to get ready.

11. *Comment:* We need more money for outreach at the local community level.
12. *Comment:* Grant programs need to consider anti-displacement activities so that community members don't support park projects that will ultimately displace them from their community.

***Public Comment***

1. *There was no public comment.*

*Meeting Adjourned.*