

PROPOSAL EVALUATION

Proposition 50, Chapter 8 Integrated Regional Water Management Planning Grant

PIN	4898	COUNTY	Riverside
APPLICANT	Rancho California Water District	AMOUNT REQUESTED	\$375,000
PROJECT TITLE	Southern Riverside County Water Supply Augmentation Project	TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$950,000

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

To address local surface water, groundwater, imported water, & recycled water issues Rancho California Water District, in conjunction with Eastern Municipal Water District, Western Municipal Water District, & Metropolitan Water District is currently developing an IRWMP. The goal of the IRWMP is to guide the development of alternatives to reduce reliance on imported water & provide recommendations for policy decisions to improve water reliability & drought tolerance.

WORK PLAN - Scoring will be based on whether the applicant has a detailed and specific work plan that adequately documents the proposal. Weighting factor is 3.

Score: 6

Comment: The work plan consists of researching existing water supply, water demand, possible conservation projects such as water recycling, identifying potential water supply options, developing alternatives and project refinements and design. Criteria for determining conservation measures are not clear. Alternatives for the IRWMP will be evaluated against objectives that are not discussed. The applicant states objectives will be developed, but this is not listed in the work plan. The work plan is not clear and implemental. There are no agreements in place with the agencies involved expressing interest and/or showing roles and responsibilities. Deliverables have not been identified. In the budget, labor categories are not tied to hourly rates making it difficult to determine who is doing what and for how many hours. The number of hours allotted to some tasks seems to be on the high side.

DESCRIPTION OF REGION - Scoring will be based on whether the applicant has presented a detailed and specific description that adequately documents the region. Weighting factor is 1.

Score: 2

Comment: The region addressed by the IRWMP is bounded by the Rancho California WD, Eastern Municipal WD, and Western Municipal WD service areas. The communities are listed. The quantity and quality of regional water resources are not mentioned. This is a work plan item. There are two projects proposed for further study: storage and water recycling for agricultural users. There is no discussion of ecological processes, environmental resources, social makeup of the communities, cultural values, or economic conditions and trends within the region. The only benefits described relate to the two proposed projects and not to how the IRWMP will help the region. The benefits of regional water management versus individual efforts were not described.

OBJECTIVES - Scoring will be based on whether the applicant has presented detailed and specific planning objectives. Weighting factor is 2.

Score: 4

Comment: A partial list of primary objectives is listed. Once a complete list is developed, input from each agency will be used to determine priority. It is not clear who will be developing the complete list. It is noted that the focus of the application is to reduce reliance on imported water. The proposed IRWMP does not clearly include statewide priorities.

INTEGRATION OF WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES - Scoring will be based on whether the applicant has adequately documented how water management strategies will be integrated. Weighting factor is 2.

Score: 4

Comment: A mix of water management strategies is listed; however, there is no discussion on how these strategies work together to protect or improve water quality and achieve other objectives. There is no discussion of the added benefits of integration of multiple water management strategies. Not all the items listed in the Guidelines as minimum standards are included. There is no mention of ecosystem restoration or habitat improvement.

IMPLEMENTATION - Scoring will be based on whether the applicant has adequately detailed plan implementation. Weighting factor is 2.

Score: 4

Comment: Specific actions, projects, and studies by which the IRWMP will be implemented are not identified with the exception of refining the layout and design of the storage facilities and facilities associated with recycled water. The agencies responsible for project implementation are not identified, and linkages or interdependence between projects is not clearly stated. The economic and technical feasibility on a programmatic level is not discussed or demonstrated. The current status of each element of the IRWMP is not identified. The institutional structure that will ensure IRWMP implementation is not identified. There is no mechanism or process that allows for monitoring performance.

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IMPACTS AND BENEFITS - Scoring will be based on whether the applicant has adequately presented and documented the impacts and benefits of the Plan. Weighting factor is 2.

Score: 4

Comment: The proposal does not discuss including an analysis of potential benefits with the exception of storage and use of recycled water. There is no discussion what impacts having an IRWMP would have on the area. Environmental considerations will be looked at for one of the projects, but how CEQA will be addressed is not discussed.

DATA AND TECHNICAL ANALYSIS - Scoring will be based on whether the applicant has presented detailed and specific data and technical analysis components of the proposal. Weighting factor is 1.

Score: 2

Comment: The only discussion of data gathering is in relation to determining the water supply and demands. It was not clear if any data were available or if studies that may support the IRWMP have been conducted or planned. Additional studies to address treatment requirements associated with recycled water intended for crop irrigation are implied, and it is not clear they are part of this proposal. The data and planning is incomplete regarding data, roles and responsibilities, and technical analysis.

DATA MANAGEMENT - Scoring will be based on whether the applicant has presented detailed and specific data management procedures. Weighting factor is 1.

Score: 1

Comment: A response to this criterion was omitted. No information on how data will be managed and made available to the general public was found. The proposal also failed to demonstrate how data management will support statewide data needs.

STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT - Scoring will be based on whether the applicant has adequately documented stakeholder involvement concerns. Weighting factor is 1.

Score: 1

Comment: The proposal fails to identify processes for stakeholder involvement in IRWMP development and implementation, including how they may influence decisions. It is not clear if water related entities within the region are included in the IRWM planning process. The applicant did not address environmental justice concerns.

DISADVANTAGE COMMUNITIES - Scoring will be based on whether the applicant has adequately documented disadvantaged community concerns. Weighting factor is 1.

Score: 1

Comment: There is no discussion of DACs.

RELATION TO LOCAL PLANNING - Scoring will be based on whether the applicant has adequately documented the Plan's relationship to local planning efforts. Weighting factor is 1.

Score: 1

Comment: This criterion was not specifically addressed. Passive reference was made to a regional water master plan, no further details were given and no supporting documents provided.

AGENCY COORDINATION - Scoring will be based on whether the applicant has adequately documented agency coordination issues. Weighting factor is 1.

Score: 1

Comment: This criterion was also not specifically addressed. It was not clear from the application what the level of cooperation and coordination with local, State, and federal agencies will be or how it will be accomplished.

TOTAL SCORE: 31