

Water Resource Infrastructure-Related Efforts for FY15 (7/18/14)

Background

Proposed events, staff activities and work products based on:

- FY 2015 Regional Water Quality Management Work Program & Budget (*approved, 6/25/14*)
- CBPC's May 16th discussions with various national water organizations
- COG Board of Directors' Regional Infrastructure 2014 priority, and water infrastructure briefings on April 9th & June 11th

Action Items & Anticipated Schedule

Work Products

1. COG Support for Various Water Infrastructure Initiatives

a. Summary of initiatives, status, recommended COG actions & rationale

- 1) COG staff to continue to work with AWWA, WEF, NACWA and others to define specific actions/opportunities to influence these issues.
 - a. Transmit Summary to CBPC - July/August timeframe
 - b. Ask for CBPC endorsement – offline or at September 19th meeting

b. Letter(s) to Congressional committee chairs and regional delegation members, and their staff, in support of:

- 1) Funding authorizations for WIFIA
- 2) Continued funding authorizations for SRFs (SDWA & CWA)
- 3) Eliminating the WIFIA tax-exempt funding exclusion
 - a. Schedule & specific elements TBD - depends on congressional activity and CBPC's guidance

2. Water Infrastructure Input to COG Board's Regional Infrastructure Report

a. Inventory of key infrastructure features of COG's wastewater, drinking water and stormwater systems (*e.g., miles of pipes, number of facilities, condition/status information, Capital and Operating & Maintenance budgets, rate information, value of current assets, quantification of funding gaps, etc.*)

b. Conclusions and recommended actions (*i.e., items for COG Board's consideration*)

- 1) COG staff to continue to work with COG members & utilities to gather information/fill in data gaps – July to early September
- 2) WRTC feedback on draft material – September 11th work session
- 3) CPBC feedback on draft material – September 19th meeting
- 4) Final report presented to COG Board – November 12th meeting (*for approval/acceptance*)

3. Regional Water Infrastructure Factsheet (*format TBD, depends on Board Report organization*) – November

4. Regional Water Infrastructure Messaging

- a. COG staff to continue to work with national water organizations and COG's CEC members to develop regional 'water infrastructure' messages.
- b. Recommendations to CBPC – November 21st meeting

Events

5. Stormwater Implementation: Governments & Private Sector – Regional Workshop – Fall 2014

COG staff in discussions with Washington Board of Trade regarding stormwater implementation and a potential event with public and private sector entities addressing requirements of local stormwater programs and opportunities to streamline implementation.

6. Regional Water Infrastructure Summit – early April 2015

Event to be co-sponsored by COG, WEF, AWWA, & NACWA and integrated into national *Water Matters Fly-in* and related legislative activities.