

City Council Action Item Cover Sheet

DATE: August 1, 2018

Agenda Item:

Mid-Coast Water Planning Partnership Update

Question Before Council:

Update and discussion

Person/Group Initiating Request:

Councilor Tooke

Item Summary/Background:

Councilor Tooke will update the City Council on the Mid-Coast Water Planning Partnership



Place-Based Integrated Water Resources Planning



Helping Oregon communities plan for their current and future water needs

Place-based planning is one of the recommended actions from the 2012 Integrated Water Resources Strategy (IWRS). It provides an opportunity for communities to work collaboratively, in partnership with the state, to understand their water resources challenges and needs, and identify potential solutions to meet those needs. The place-based planning draft guidelines describe the five steps and key planning principles central to any place-based planning effort.

Planning Step 1

Build a collaborative and inclusive process – Conveners work with their project team to: assemble partners representing diverse interests, including state agencies; develop a communication and outreach strategy to ensure an open and inclusive process; create a governance agreement that describes how the partners will collaborate and make decisions using consensus; and develop a work plan outlining how they will execute Planning Steps 2-5.

Planning Step 2

Gather information to understand current water resources and identify knowledge gaps – The planning group assesses and describes water resources in the basin, looking at water quantity, quality, and ecology. This effort includes collecting existing information, identifying any gaps in knowledge, and developing strategies to fill these gaps.

Planning Step 3

Examine current and future water needs for people, the economy, and the environment – The planning group defines how much water is needed to meet current and future instream and out-of-stream water needs, considering water quantity, water quality, and ecosystem needs. Groups examine water challenges and vulnerabilities, such as how climate change, population growth, and land use may affect water resources and the ability to meet water needs.

Planning Step 4

Identify and prioritize strategic, integrated solutions to meet multiple water needs – The planning group collaboratively identifies integrated actions to address the instream and out-of-stream needs identified in Step 3. Once identified, the group prioritizes actions and develop strategies to implement those actions.

Planning Step 5

Develop and approve a place-based integrated water resources plan – The planning group formally reviews and approves the plan. The Water Resources Commission and other agencies will have an opportunity to review and formally accept the plan, based on whether it is consistent with the IWRS, the guidelines, and state water policy.

Key Planning Principles

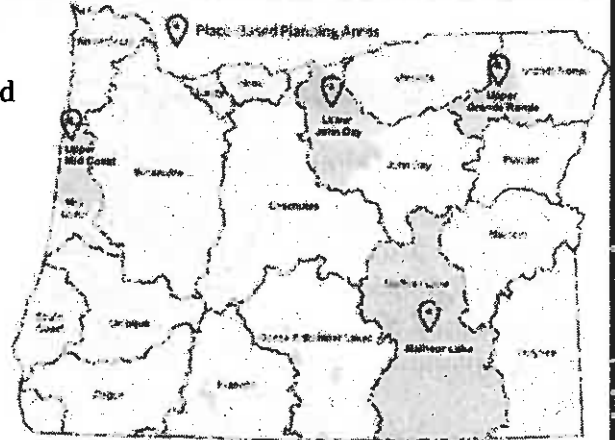
- Locally-initiated and led collaborative effort
- Voluntary, non-regulatory process
- Includes a balanced representation of water interests
- Conducted in partnership with the state
- Addresses instream and out-of-stream needs
- Looks at water quantity, quality and ecosystem needs in an integrated approach
- Creates an open and transparent process that fosters public participation
- Builds on and integrates existing studies and plans
- Does not infringe on existing water rights
- Adheres to IWRS principles and state laws

Learn More!

Visit the web page: <http://bit.ly/orwdplanning> Email: placebasedplanning@wrdd.state.or.us
Contact Planning Coordinators Harmony Burright (503-986-0913) or Steven Parrett (503-986-0914)

Place-Based Planning Updates January – July 2017

- Sustainable Northwest and OWRD co-produced a Collaborative Water Planning event in May that brought together planning groups, potential conveners, other collaboration practitioners, and statewide partners to share lessons learned and best practices.
- The Association of Oregon Counties provided collaboration assistance to conveners. The National Policy Consensus Center provided collaboration training to one planning group.
- Calls/meetings held with conveners and private funders.
- Memos developed to provide clarity on OWRD roles and responsibilities and how to request technical assistance.
- Inter-agency meetings in April, May, and August.
- Convener calls/meetings in March, May, and August.



Malheur Lake Basin

Conveners: Harney County Court & Watershed Council
Total Grant Award: \$135,000 (partial fund)

Planning
Step 2

- Declaration of Commitment signed by 20 partners.
- Quarterly meetings of the full Collaborative held in January, April, and July.
- Conceptual model of the water system developed.
- Water Availability Working Group convened to gather and analyze water data/information.
- Grant applications submitted to private funders.
- Coordination with other study and planning efforts.

More information: Contact Gretchen Bates at 541-589-0915 or gretchen@hcwatershedcouncil.com

WEB: www.hcwatershedcouncil.com/community-based-water-planning

Upper Grande Ronde Sub-Basin

Convener: Union County
Total Grant Award: \$197,000 (full fund)

Planning
Step 2

- Memorandum of Agreement adopted and signed by 18 partners.
- Stakeholder meetings held in January, February, April, June, August.
- Technical advisory group convened to assemble and analyze water data/information.
- Water setting presentation delivered by OWRD.
- Collaboration training delivered by NPCC.
- First field tour coordinated to learn about water needs for farms, cities, and rivers from partners.
- Successful transition to new convener.

More information: Contact Scott Hartell at 541-963-1014 or shartell@union-county.org

WEB: <http://union-county.org/planning/place-based-integrated-water-resources-planning/>

Lower John Day Sub-Basin

Convener: Gilliam SWCD & Wheeler SWCD
Total Grant Award: \$130,000 (full fund)

Planning
Step 2

- Declaration of Cooperation developed and signed by 14 partners.
- Partnership meetings held in February, March, and June.
- Kick-off meeting of technical working group to assemble and analyze water data/information.
- RFP process developed and executed to distribute funding and boost partner capacity/engagement.
- Water setting presentation delivered by OWRD.
- Successful transition to new conveners.

More information: Contact Christina Kirwan at 541-384-2672 x108 or gilliamswcd@gmail.com

WEB: Under development.

Mid-Coast Region

Conveners: City of Newport & OWRD
Total Grant Award: \$135,000 (partial fund)

Planning
Step 2

- Charter adopted and signed by 36 partners.
- Meetings of the full Partnership held in January, March, May, and August.
- Four study groups assembled to work with technical consultant to assemble and analyze water data/information.
- Water setting presentation delivered by OWRD.
- First field tour coordinated to learn about watershed processes from partners.
- Grant applications submitted to private funders.

More information: Contact Timothy Gross at 541-961-5313 or T.Gross@NewportOregon.gov

WEB: www.midcoastwaterpartners.com