



Minutes

Environmental Cleanup Allocation Committee

Committee Members Present

*Garry Brown, Chair
Keith Linker, Vice Chair
Alex Waite, City of Tustin
Danny H. Kim, California State University, Fullerton
Erica Ryan, San Diego RWQCB
Grant Sharp, OC Public Works
Lorrie Lausten, Trabuco Canyon Water District
Matt Collings, Moulton Niguel Water District
Michael Jones, Santa Ana RWQCB
Thomas Wheeler, Lake Forest, 3rd District*

Orange County Transportation Authority
550 South Main Street, Conference Room 07
Orange, CA
February 13, 2025

Member(s) Absent

*Jarad Hildenbrand, City of Laguna Hills
Hector Salas, Caltrans District 12
Peter Grant, City of Cypress
Tyler Holst, Rancho Mission Viejo*

1. Welcome

Garry Brown called the Environmental Cleanup Allocation Committee (ECAC) meeting to order.

2. Approval of September 12, 2024, Minutes

A motion was made by Thomas Wheeler, seconded by Matt Collings to approve the September 12, 2024 ECAC meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Tier 1 Guidelines Revisions and Call for Projects

Alison Army, OCTA, presented the item.

Committee Member Comments:

There were no committee comments.

Action Recommendations:

- A. *Endorse the proposed revisions to the Comprehensive Transportation Funding Programs Guidelines for the Environmental Cleanup Program (Project X) Tier 1 program.*

B. Recommend Board of Directors approval to issue the 2025 Environmental Cleanup Program Tier 1 call for projects.

Both items were taken as one motion, with the motion to approve made by Keith Linker, Thomas Wheeler seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Future ECP Calls for Projects Working Group Update

Alison Army, OCTA, Charvalen Alacar, OCTA, and Dan Phu, OCTA, presented the item.

Committee Member Comments:

A committee member asked how going to two phases would affect payment structure. Charvalen Alacar responded it would require two payment submittals, one for design engineering and one for construction.

A committee member asked if the payments would be at the beginning of the phases, except for the last payment. Charvalen Alacar responded currently, a request for 75% initial payment is made and design engineering phase need to be complete before requesting the next payment. Dan Phu commented that under the Regional Capacity, Streets and Roads Program, they are separate, distinct. You get funding for a roadway project where there is a timeline for completion, and then you can request the construction funds. There is no guarantee you will get the funding, and it is a whole separate project and obligation.

A committee member asked if there were any cases where design engineering was funded but not the construction. Dan Phu responded it is a bit of a risk, but there are state funding pods that design-ready projects can go after. Tier 2 projects are a combination of Measure M and state funding. Projects not funded can reapply at the next cycle call.

A committee member commented that two-phase funding would be helpful due to future large projects in which design would take a lot of time.

A committee member asked, if there was going to be two phases, would there need to be, in the Tier 2 monies, a division in the budgeting, one for engineering and one for construction. Charvalen Alacar responded they don't split between phases. For the Capacity Program they do it by dollar amount; 60% is reserved for projects under five million dollars and projects over five million dollars get 40%.

A committee member asked if receiving money for design and completing the design does not obligate money for construction. Charvalen responded that it is correct.

A committee member commented that design engineering projects that were shovel ready and had not been funded through the program should be considered equal to those that were applying for construction funding. Alison Army responded they are, that is correct, and they will make it more consistent with Project O.

A committee member asked what the next steps are. Alison Army responded staff will hold another ad hoc meeting in the March-April timeframe and report back to the committee in July, along with the funding recommendations for Tier 1.

Committee members and OCTA staff shared comments about the interest of the water districts in submitting projects, how to reach out to them and the eligibility requirements.

5. Master Purchase Agreement for Tier 1 Equipment and Installation Update

Alison Army, OCTA presented the item.

Committee Member Comments:

A committee member commented that having the county negotiate the contract was highly beneficial to the cities rather than having each city negotiate.

6. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

7. Committee Member Reports

Committee members commented on the capital improvement program (CIP) progress at the county level for a stormwater capture program, readiness, and funding eligibility. Looking to develop a regional stormwater capital improvement program where large-scale projects are capturing runoff from multiple jurisdictions being potentially used to foster the design, planning, operation and opening opportunities for funding from sources such as OCTA Project X.

A committee member asked what the goals of the meetings to develop a county-wide stormwater CIP. A committee member responded that the goal is to develop a framework within a couple of years for presenting large, regional scale projects, that are close to shovel-ready, to be eligible for future funding opportunities such as Tier 2.

A committee member commented that each regional board has added a dedicated staff member in the stormwater and recycled water groups to further the Governor's policy on enhancing water supply. The staff is available to help any agencies with their water needs, programs, and funding opportunities.

A committee member asked if there has already been a model identified. A committee member responded that it is a topic for their next meeting, there are some out there.

8. Next Meeting – July 10, 2025

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:17 a.m.



Minutes

Environmental Cleanup Allocation Committee

Committee Members Present

Garry Brown, Chair
Alex Waite, City of Tustin
Danny H. Kim, California State University, Fullerton
Grant Sharp, OC Public Works
Lorrie Lausten, Trabuco Canyon Water District

Orange County Transportation Authority
550 South Main Street, Conference Room 07
Orange, CA
August 14, 2025

Member(s) Absent

Keith Linker, Vice Chair
Erica Ryan, San Diego RWQCB
Gaurav Rajen (Raj), Santa Ana RWQCB
Hector Salas, Caltrans District 12
Matt Collings, Moulton Niguel Water District
Peter Grant, City of Cypress
Tyler Holst, Rancho Mission Viejo

1. Welcome

Garry Brown called the Environmental Cleanup Allocation Committee (ECAC) meeting to order.

2. Approval of February 13, 2025, Minutes

Due to lack of quorum, the February 13, 2025 minutes will be placed on the next meeting agenda for approval.

3. Tier 1 Guidelines Revisions and Call for Projects

Alison Army, OCTA, presented the item.

Committee Member Comments:

There were no committee comments.

Action Recommendations:

A. *Concur with the application review committee's recommendation and recommend approval to the Board of Directors to allocate \$3,088,766 in Tier 1 Environmental Cleanup Program funding for 8 projects.*

The motion to approve was made by Lorrie Lausten, Alex Waite seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Update on Future ECP Calls for Projects

Alison Army, OCTA, and Garry Brown, ECAC Chair, presented the item.

Committee Member Comments:

Committee members and OCTA staff discussed the recommendations of a working group held in December of 2025 and of other ad hoc committees. Discussions included the funding program and what can be streamlined, is there a need for continuing Tier 1, what is working, what isn't, the current guidelines, proposed modifications and a comparison of other entities with similar programs. Alison Army commented the most important discussions were the focus of the Tier 2 funding guidelines and the disposition of the Tier 1 program in coordination with the Tier 2 program. Discussion continued among members and staff.

Alison Army commented the ad hoc recommended it would be beneficial to have three application options: applications for project development, the construction phase or a hybrid combination of the first two.

A committee member asked if you received a grant for the planning and design does that mean you automatically get the grant for the construction. Dan Phu responded they are trying to mirror the structure of Project O, and it does not mean that you would automatically get the funding for construction.

A committee member asked if there is a limit on funding for the project development phase. Dan Phu responded they would follow similar precedent of Project O, and recommendations would be made after the project phases were reviewed. There was an acknowledgement that this would continue to be analyzed and adjusted for future calls.

Alison Army commented that there would be a two to three year cycle for Tier 2, and the revenue stream would be looked at to determine the best split, and a three-year split is ideal administratively due to less updates to the guidelines and timing to other programs. Changes look to be initiated in 2027.

Alison Army commented the funding amounts would be determined after all applications were received and the splitting of the funding would be based on a percentage using Project O as the example.

A committee member asked if recommendations related to the cap for Tier 2 projects could be discussed due to rising costs. Alison Army responded there could be further discussions on this. Dan Phu responded it would be dependent on the cash flow and would be considered at the time. Discussion ensued on costing and allocation.

A committee member commented they were unsure about the hybrid option not being eligible for an extension, but, overall, they felt this would bring in more projects. Discussion continued and Dan Phu commented that they were following the Project O model.

A committee member asked how the proposed modifications to the funding plans get memorialized. Alison Army responded that they would show the proposed guidelines to the committee, and then it would be referred to the whole Board for approval.

5. Master Purchase Agreement for Tier 1 Equipment and Installation Update

Alison Army, OCTA presented the item.

Two master purchase agreements had been executed with the county for cities to utilize, they are United Storm Water and G2 for Tier 1 projects. It is a five-year contract available to any city for any type of Tier 1 equipment.

6. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

7. Committee Member Reports

A committee member commented that there had not been onsite visits to projects recently. Alison Army responded they would look into some site visits. Dan Phu responded they would also look into having project sponsors come in and do presentations.

A committee member provided an update on developing the framework on a regional stormwater capital improvement project.

8. Next Meeting – February 2026.

9. Adjournment