

# Small Group Flipchart Notes

## Overarching System

- Funding and state investments
  - Longer term/horizon: funding beyond a biennial budget
  - FIP as an example
    - Resource Fund
  - Re: Implementation – how funding ties to the vision and goals established in pre planning and planning phase
- Interagency coordination
  - Integration of State water agencies – government intergovernmental entity?
- Determining alternatives to regional planning - what is the backstop?

## Pre-Planning Features

### FRAMEWORK

- All of pre-planning is a gap/need
- Identify the impetus for planning
  - Reason or problem -> challenge: need resources to gather and identify
- Community/basin capacity
- Community Choice/Commitment to be a part of the process
- Charter – roles, goals, problem statement (*Regional*)
- Neutral facilitation from the beginning
- Links to state
- Who needs to be in the room (*Regional*)
  - Different scale based on issues
  - Requirements for participation – avoidance of lawsuit
- Inclusive and transparent process
- “Best practices” guide/framework (*State*)
- Policy and Rules as applied to a specific region (*State*)
- Consistency/Sideboards/Structure/Oversight from the state
- Integrating water quantity and quality
- Sovereign overlay
- Regulatory overlay

### DATA

- Baseline Data – consistent across regions (*Regional*)
- “Tier 1” and analysis (*State*)
- Data and Science for Region needed
- Data, analysis, science specific to region (*State*)
- Knowledge gaps on water

- Interagency Coordination needed
- Data/Tools: state has role -> repository
  - Local and state -> inventory, data collection and standards framework
  - Packaged? What is needed; prioritize
- Data (partial list): analysis of what exists and what is missing (*State*)
  - Water availability
  - Instream (flows, ecological)
  - Out of stream needs (ag, muni)
  - Climate change projections
  - Water quality/TMDLs
  - Groundwater
  - Current status of the resource

## ENGAGEMENT

- Setting of the table -> balance of interests (*State responsibility; OR Community responsibility with state support*)
- Building and maintaining relationships between participants and organizations
- Shared goal/success
- Tribal government to government communication channel/pathways
- Education of the community, before, during, and after in “what is the why” of the planning process
- Advance outreach and participation -> robust engagement
- State & federal interagency coordination – ensure efforts are not duplicative (*State*)
- Agency participation in early discussions (data and everything else)
- Setting expectations
  - What are we doing; what does success look like?
  - Iterative process, things could change over time
  - What does having a “plan” mean to the state?
  - State guidelines
- Community engagement around data and science: create buy-in on data (*State*)
- Communication of data/planning for diverse perspectives (*Regional*) (*State*)
  - Strategic communications/bite-sized materials
- Bi-state coordination, needs, agreement (*State*)
- Trust building within group and of state/feds
- Trust building -> who initiates? Varies by region
  - Capacity building
  - All about the big tent -> early and often
  - Marketing
  - Conversation

## PLANNING FEASIBILITY

- End of phase evaluation
- Threshold for planning readiness
- Identify a path (*State*)
  - Incentives to do a collaborative model (*State*)

- Assistance from state (*State*)
  - Staffing, technical, funding for groups
  - Resource guide for groups new to planning
- Community Capacity needed
- Expectation that it will be time intensive and ongoing
- Sidebars (*State*)
- Define deliverables for preplanning “ready to move to planning”
- Shared development (*Regional*)
- Gauging engagement – inclusive?
- Interagency Coordination needed
- Plan/strategy for updates to data/plan/conditions – flexibility
  - monitoring needs up front
- Strategic prioritization of regions for large-scale planning
  - Framework for where community needs to be

## RESOURCING & SUSTAINING

- Staffing – state teams (*State*)
- Strategic Communications needed
  - How do we resource pre-planning to ensure implementation success in meeting goals established
  - Funding: agency participation, data
  - Funding for community and identifying how it will be resourced
- Basin-level “Councils” (*Regional*)
- Trust building structure/ “home” for planning

## Planning Features

- All of the elements in pre-planning should be in planning features
- Everything is a gap -> certain pieces exist, but even those need more definition

## FRAMEWORK

- See: PBP Framework (*State*)
- Profile of the region/impacted communities
- Understand water budget – current uses
- Understand Drivers – problem statement or key issues
- Governance structure/membership: clear and early
- Governance structure for the planning group
  - Decision making, operating protocols, etc.
- Scope and scale based on community needs?
  - Is there the ability to have flexibility on scope (i.e. tackle GW first) -> question for the group
- Flexible and adaptable planning

- Level of flexibility in scope and scale of planning group changes
- Draft essential elements is a good start (scope and scale)
- Project plan with timing/sequence, problem statement, goals, objectives, success statement
- Facilitation – state provides list or qualifications; local choice
- Facilitation (neutral) and coordination/project management capacity
- Professional report writing with clear guidelines
- Maintaining process integrity
- Realistic timelines with measurable progress
  - Outside facilitation, incentives for timely processes
- Requirements of a plan – what needs to be included
- Integration of state/federal regulations
- Minimizing risk of lawsuits
- Decision making framework within planning group -> sideboards (*Regional*) (*State*)
- Grounded in state water law
- Clear Requirements of what must be in plan -> clear upfront
  - Minimum
  - Bonus/incentive?
- Clear on what plan gets you
- Increased state oversight and structure than occurs in the pre-planning phase
- Clarification: This does not affect or apply to OWRD Basin Plans

## DATA

- Data sharing and agreement at state level (*State*)
- Gathering and using decisional data
- Analysis & Technical Assistance (public and private)
  - Water budget/needs
  - Placed-based integrated water resources planning as start -> steps/sequencing

## ENGAGEMENT

- Collaborative table established
- State partnership with place/community to plan for instream and out of stream needs
- More trust building
- Public notice and comment
- Bi-state coordination/agreements where necessary (*State*)
- Requirements for participation – local and statewide organization participation
- Communication and outreach to external interests (public input and state resources) (*Regional*)
- Structure for participation – including new interests/people along the way
- Encourage consistent participation and engagement along the way through political/personnel turnover
  - Commitment from participants

## MOVING A PLAN TO ACTION

- Integration into existing state/basin plans
- What does regional planning and state recognition get us?

- How do we resource planning to ensure implementation success in meeting goals established

## RESOURCING & SUSTAINING

- Staffing: Capacity, ongoing coordination, tech assistance
- Long term endeavor (annual reporting) (*State*)
- Establish, track/institutional memory
- Incentives for participation
- (*Illegible*) of PBP framework with \$\$\$ -> don't need to reinvent the wheel
- Strategic prioritizations for large scale planning (*State*)
- State recognition -> what does this mean? What does it get us? (*State*)
  - Funding?
  - Complex issue resolution
- Consistent, ongoing investment (*State*)
- Funding – state in lead with others also contributing
  - Assistance to write/apply for funding