



# Early Action Plans and Community Engagement

## Office of Public Participation

*State Water Resources Control Board*

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## Background

Early Action Plans must include,

“outreach utilized to ensure that impacted groundwater users are informed of and given the opportunity to participate in the development of proposed solutions.”

## Document Scope

- Early Action Plan development
- Office of Public Participation staff recommendations
- **Recommendations should be viewed as a menu of options**

# Importance of Engagement



## Benefits of meaningful engagement

- Better decisions
- Reduces delays
- Improves credibility and develops community support
- Conduit to other programs
- Regulatory compliance



## Risks of poor engagement

- Community needs not met
- Distrust and resistance
- Basin Plan amendments requirements not met
- Rejection of MZIPs
- Heightened costs

# Overarching Principles



Communicate effectively



Protect personal information



Acknowledge diverse interests



Evaluate and revise strategy

# Key Elements

1

Learning about the community



2

Educating the community



3

Collaborating with the community



4

Maintaining community involvement



1

- ▶ Community profile
- ▶ Contact list

Learning about the  
community



2

- ▶ Educational materials
- ▶ Point of contact
- ▶ Hard copies available
- ▶ Distribute materials
- ▶ Hold community meetings

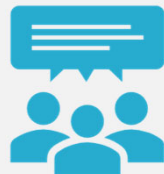
Educating the  
community



3

- ▶ Timeline
- ▶ Distribute materials
- ▶ Community meetings
- ▶ Public comment

Collaborating with the community



4

- ▶ Provide updates
- ▶ Maintain contact

Maintaining community involvement



# Remote engagement





# Resources

- ▶ Developing Community Profiles
- ▶ Plain Language
- ▶ Language Access
- ▶ Communication Platforms
- ▶ Community Meetings
- ▶ Community Engagement Resources
- ▶ Evaluating Engagement

## Discussion Questions

- 1) What resources can we include in this document that will assist you with engaging communities?
- 2) Are there any areas of community engagement that you would like guidance on that were not included?
- 3) Additional input?



Share your feedback to

[OPP-contact@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:OPP-contact@waterboards.ca.gov) by



Post on the CV-SALTS website:

<http://waterboards.ca.gov/cvsalts>

Next Steps

## Contact Us

OPP-Contact@waterboards.ca.gov

*Thank you!*

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