



Net Blue: Project Advisory Committee Description

Purpose

The Alliance for Water Efficiency has partnered with the Environmental Law Institute and River Network to launch [Net Blue](#), an initiative to support sustainable community development. The project team will develop a model ordinance communities can tailor to create a water demand offset approach that meets their needs, is affordable, and supports water-neutral growth. The project partners will work with communities in different regions to develop the ordinance components and to ensure it is adaptable in diverse political climates, legal frameworks, and environmental challenges. The ordinance toolbox will include a consistent and industry-approved methodology for calculating offsets to ensure desired water savings. As part of the first phase of work, AWE released its report, [Water Offset Policies for Water-Neutral Community Growth](#), which reviewed communities that have a water demand offset policy or water neutral growth policy in place.

A Project Advisory Committee (PAC) will be created to provide stakeholder-based participation and recommendations to project staff during development of the ordinance. Three meetings are envisioned: the first meeting will gather input from the PAC on ordinance content, issues to address, etc.; the second meeting will review initial ordinance components; and the third will review a final product and consider opportunities for implementation. The Net Blue project team will support the PAC by preparing meeting materials and presenting work products as needed.

Roles & Responsibilities of PAC Members

1. Attend the three scheduled PAC meetings, either in person or by conference call.
2. Identify issues vital to consider in developing the ordinance and methodology, and provide recommendations.
3. Provide feedback on the draft methodology and ordinance components in verbal or written form.
4. Provide input to identify a city or community with which to partner and conduct beta testing of the ordinance.

Schedule

1. **Pre-Development (Summer 2015):** At the first meeting, PAC members will be introduced to the project and will provide input on issues of importance that they wish to see covered through the ordinance or methodology.
2. **Ordinance Development (Winter 2015/2016):** At the second meeting, the PAC will provide input (via phone and/or written commentary) on the draft ordinance components and methodology that have been developed.
**This meeting may be an in-person meeting. All travel costs will be covered if that is the case.*
3. **Final Ordinance Review (Summer 2016):** PAC members will be asked to review the near-final product and contribute to a discussion about promoting implementation at the community level.

Membership

The PAC will include representatives from the following communities to provide perspectives from all stakeholder groups involved in the development, adoption, implementation and enforcement of such an ordinance. Additional perspectives will be sought through partnerships and other venues. Project staff and consultants will attend and participate in PAC meetings to provide support but will not be official members.

1. Municipal Planners
2. Planning/Zoning Commissioners
3. Practitioner and Policy Land Use Lawyers
4. Developers and Builders
5. Water Resource and Conservation Experts
6. Community Sustainability Experts
7. Local Officials from Partner Cities