



JPA Supports San Diego Water Re-Use Study

Commissioners voted at the January 5 meeting to send a letter of support to the City of San Diego's Water Department and to urge member agencies to send their own letters of endorsement. Commissioners Winter and Roback will draft a letter for Chairman Abarbanel's signature. The City of Coronado has already submitted a letter of support and the City of La Mesa is in the process of sending one. Scott Tulloch, San Diego Metro Wastewater Director, suggested that commissioners contact Water Department Director/Program Manager Marsi Steirer with regard to the letter of support.

News reports often ignore the fact that recycled water is used in this region. Colorado River water, which is piped to San Diego, contains treated wastewater discharged there by Las Vegas, Lake Havasu City and other upstream users. Purified water augments supplies in many locations around the country with little or no opposition.

State Water Resources Control Board-Sanitary Sewer Overflow Reduction Program

The Santa Ana Region 9 Board will meet on January 25 for public comments with final oral comments due on February 8. Metro TAC Chairman Scott Huth reported that most San Diego area agencies have already implemented 80% -90% of the prevention plan. MetroTAC will send comments to commissioners about potential financial impacts of the remaining compliance.

City of San Diego has New Department Chief

Richard Haas has been named the Department Chief of Public Works for the City of San Diego. According to MWW's Scott Tulloch, "Haas will assume a regional position in that he will have the Wastewater, Water and General Services Departments under his control." Haas previously worked for the County of San Diego. The Metro JPA/Commission welcomes Richard Haas.

Strategic Planning Ad-Hoc Committee Reports

Community Relations Committee:

- The web site is live at www.metrojpa.com
- Presented a brief compilation of existing research to use as the platform for a marketing plan. Key comments from Commissioners were, 1) all water supplies are recycled, 2) we should educate the media before the public, and 3) sampling is a compelling way to get our opinion across.

Regional Wastewater Authority:

- There is a January meeting between the committee and new Public Works Chief Richard Haas.

Finance Committee:

- Information is being reviewed by MetroTAC and will be reported to JPA Commissioners in two months.

MetroTAC Addresses Deferred MWW Project List

Chairman Scott Huth from Coronado said, "Metro TAC is reviewing the deferred project list to determine potential financial impacts. The huge capital improvement projects have been built from the 1990s through 2002 but smaller projects have been deferred. A list of projects with deferred costs over the past two years will include projects identified for 2006."

Metro Wastewater Department Update

Scott Tulloch reported that the Bank of America loan was approved by the San Diego City Council in December. Metro JPA comments will be reflected in future paperwork for proposed projects forwarded to the San Diego City Council. Countywide distribution of recycled water from the Alvarado plant could result in non-San Diego residents receiving the water.

*****Next Commission Meeting Moved to February 9*****

The Metro JPA and Commission meeting originally scheduled for February 2 has been moved to Thursday, February 9 at 12 noon in the Metropolitan Operations Center (MOC II) auditorium at 9192 Topaz Way, Kearny Mesa.

Metro TAC Meets on January 18

The next Technical Advisory Committee (Metro TAC) meeting will be held Wednesday, January 18 at 11 a.m. at MOC II.

Metro Commissioners

Councilmember Henry Abarbanel, Del Mar - Chair
 Councilmember Mayda Winter, Imperial Beach - Vice Chair
 Mayor Steven Padilla, Chula Vista *
 Councilmember Frank Tierney, Coronado
 Mayor Mark Lewis, El Cajon
 Councilmember Ernest Ewin, La Mesa
 Councilmember Jerry Jones, Lemon Grove Sanitation District
 Councilmember Luis Natividad, National City
 Councilmember Merrilee Boyack, Poway
 Scott Tulloch, Director, MWW, City of San Diego
 Supervisor Dianne Jacob, County of San Diego
 Mark Robak, Otay Water District
 Augie Scalzitti, Padre Dam Municipal Water District
 * Member of Metro Commission but not Metro JPA

Metro JPA News Brief

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