



**City of San Diego Water Policy Implementation Task Force
April 29, 2013
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Metropolitan Operations Center II (MOC) Auditorium
9192 Topaz Way, San Diego, CA 92123**

Record of Actions

1. Call to Order- CHAIR CARY LOWE CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 2:05 P.M.

Members Present:

Julia M. Chunn-Heer
Dawn Guendert
Corrine A. Brindley
Gordon A. Hess
Faith Picking
Cary D. Lowe
Glen Schmidt
Bruce Rainey

Members Absent:

Keith R. Solar

2. Non- Agenda Public Comment

Robert Thiele of the U.S. Green Building Council, San Diego Chapter, invited Task Force members for a May 16th tour of an onsite demonstration wastewater treatment facility at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot.

Troy Murphree of the City Community Forest Advisory Board provided input on the conservation recommendations and the need to consider trees as a useful water conservation technique.

3. Task Force Member & Staff Comment

Chair Lowe announced that the City Council will be acting on the Task Force's greywater recommendations at their April 30th meeting. Task Force Member Guendert volunteered to speak at the meeting on behalf of the Task Force.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

4. Approval of the Record of Action Items from March 26, 2013

ACTION: Record of action items approved 5-3.

AGENDA

5. Discussion & Action Item –

Innovation & Technology Working Group Update and Recommendations

a) Supplemental Recommendation from Task Force Member Chunn-Heer

Working Group Chair Gordon Hess presented recommendations regarding: on-site wastewater treatment, advanced metering infrastructure and the energy/water nexus.

On-Site Wastewater Treatment: Minor editing changes were made and the recommendations were moved and seconded as follows:

Develop a set of guidelines for on-site wastewater treatment and reuse (including proposals for sewer mining operations) which detail the issues and criteria (including the financial viability of a proposed project) that proposals must meet or address in order for the City to participate in or cooperate with such projects.

Consider the value of both wastewater (when providing water for potential sewer mining operations) and reclaimed water (when projects provide water to City-owned properties) and increased costs or avoided costs that the City would incur or realize, and how the proposed project could impact the City's plans for potable reuse, when setting a charge for wastewater supply and/or purchase price of recycled product water provided by the project. Establish standby fees and reserved capacity charges for such projects, so that developers can take such fees into account in determining whether a proposed project makes economic sense.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Clark Dawson spoke about his water reclamation pilot project. He said the project fits nicely with all of the Task Force's goals. He recommended the following words to be added to the recommendation "The Work Group recommends that the City implement a pilot project to provide data in which sound policies can be based."

TASK FORCE COMMENT: Task Force Member Hess advised the working group did take Mr. Dawson's suggestions into consideration in crafting their recommendations.

ACTION: Motion to accept the above as presented by the working group passed 8-0.

Advanced Metering Infrastructure recommendations:

ACTION: Motion to accept the recommendations with minor edits passed 8-0.

Energy and Water Nexus:

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

TASK FORCE COMMENT: None

ACTION: Motion to accept the recommendations with minor edits passed 8-0.

Supplemental Recommendation from Task Force Member Chunn-Heer:

Task Force member Chunn-Heer presented her recommendation emphasizing Council Policy 400-15 directive to for emphasis on reliable, energy efficient and economically sound water supply strategies.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Lani Lutar representing the Equinox Center spoke in support of the supplemental recommendation, but was hesitant to support the added language concerning “greenhouse gas emissions”.

City Staff George Adrian from the Public Utilities Department had a few suggestions about leaving off the “preferred loading” from the end of the recommendation to avoid a preference given for energy only, as a variety of components is taken into consideration when evaluating the City’s water supply portfolio.

The Task Force discussed at great length, with equal support and opposition, the last sentence of the recommendation pertaining to developing a “preferred loading order” to least embedded energy projects.

ACTION: Motion to adopt the following revised recommendation failed to receive a second:

Take the "embedded energy" of any water supply into account in any future City water supply decisions. Since water and energy are intrinsically linked, both limited resources must be managed efficiently. Furthermore, the City should develop a preferred "loading order" of water supply options, with specific consideration given to options with the least embedded energy such as conservation, stormwater capture and water recycling.

ACTION: Motion to adopt the recommendation, striking the last sentence, passed 7-0-1.

**6. Discussion & Action Item –
Conservation Working Group Recommendations**

Working Group Chair Glenn Schmidt presented the Working Group’s update. The Task Force discussed adding the notion of “renaming” the modified level 1 drought alert as the permanent voluntary standard, to create a more business friendly environment.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

TASK FORCE DISCUSSION:

The Task Force modified recommendation #5 to include, “...up to 100% water offset program...”

At the request of Task Force member Hess, recommendation #10 concerning retrofit upon remodel was placed on hold so he could present it to his constituents for feedback.

Recommendation #11 concerning feedback technologies was modified to clarify “...pilot studies if appropriate (at the cost of the vendors).”

ACTION:

Motion to adopt recommendations, excluding the timelines or performance measures, passed 7-0-1.

7. Discussion and Action Item – Task Force Goals and Performance Measures

Chair Lowe reintroduced a proposed goal relating to reduction of overall water consumption, which had been discussed but not adopted at the previous meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

TASK FORCE DISCUSSION:

Task Force member Chunn-Heer agreed with Chair Lowe regarding the importance of reduction of consumption as a component more self-sufficient to water supply, including accounting for recycled water separately from other water supply.

There was some feeling among Task Force members that the new targets seem arbitrary, and that the sources of the data were uncertain.

Chair Lowe commented that he wanted to build on the State's current mandate for a 20% reduction in consumption, which has already been achieved.

City Staff Joellen Jacoby advised the success of achieving the 20% reduction was not as easily achieved as perceived, and that meeting a goal of 40% would be difficult. She also cautioned against setting much stricter water goals than other jurisdiction in the region because it sends the wrong message to businesses.

The following modified Goal was moved and seconded:

Based on the average treated water consumption between 1995 and 2005, reduce per capita per day average treated water consumption citywide 30% by 2025 and 40% by 2035, not including use of recycled water.

ACTION: Motion to accept the revised recommendation failed 4-4.

8. Discussion and Action Item- Revision and Formatting of Prior recommendations for Adoption

Chair Lowe provided a set of compilation of the goals and recommendations to date from the Task Force. Goals and recommendations were edited solely to make them read in a clear, consistent manner, and not to change the meaning of any of them.

Apart from the conservation recommendations, which were adopted earlier in the meeting, Chair Lowe asked for a motion to re-adopt all previous recommendations in their edited and revised forms. Individual Task Force members requested that recommendations WR-4, WR-6, WR-8, and WR-10 be set aside for further discussion at the next meeting. The proposal to adopt all of the other revised recommendations was made and seconded.

ACTION: Motion passed 7-0

ADJOURNMENT—

CHAIR CARY LOWE ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT APPROXIMATELY 4:40 P.M.

The next Task Force meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 21st at 2:00 P.M.