



City of San Diego Water Policy Implementation Task Force
September 24, 2012
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 2:07 P.M.

Members Present:

Julia M. Chunn-Heer
Dawn Guendert
Gordon A. Hess
Cary D. Lowe
Faith Picking
Bruce Rainey
Glen Schmidt
Keith R. Solar
Douglas S. White

Members Absent:

Corrine A. Brindley

Member Resignation:

Tim Barnett

2. Non-Agenda Public Comment

None

3. Task Force Member Comment

Seth Gates from the Office of the Independent Budget Analyst commented on an item heard at the most recent Natural Resources & Culture Committee meeting that dealt with expanding the scope of the ongoing Cost of Service Study. Related documentation to this item is located on the City website.

Julia Chunn-Heer commented on reminding the public of the upcoming event “Ocean-Friendly Garden Series” being hosted by the Surfrider Foundation on October 8, 2012.

Chair Cary Lowe commented that the website for the Task Force can be accessed through the City of San Diego's website, as well as through Council District 1 and the Natural Resources and Culture Committee's websites.

Chair Cary Lowe reminded the Task Force and the public that the Water Policy Implementation Task Force will be providing a progress report to the City Council's Natural Resources & Culture Committee at their October 10, 2012 meeting to take place at 2:00 p.m. located on the 12th floor of the City Administration Building.

4. Approval of the Record of Action Items from August 21, 2012

ACTION: Record of Action Items approved.

5. Special Order of Business

Notice of resignation of Tim Barnett, Ph.D from membership of the Water Policy Implementation Task Force.

The San Diego City Council will take responsibility to fill the unscheduled vacancy. The replacement process will follow the same process as outlined in Council Resolution R-2012-478.

The Task Force is having discussions with climate change experts about attending Task Force meetings and being in the audience to offer expert advice until the vacant seat has been filled by City Council.

6. ITEM-1: DISCUSSION/ACTION – Report from the “Conservation” Working Group Regarding Proposed Recommendations

DISCUSSION: The Task Force discussed the following:

1. Report from Glen Schmidt on a summary of the “Conservation” working group DRAFT recommendations document.
2. The Task Force received a letter from the Association of Professional Landscape Designers in support of lowering the evapotranspiration adjustment factor.
3. Marsi Sterier and Luis Generoso from the Public Utilities Department presented input to the Task Force on the “Conservation” working group DRAFT recommendations.
4. Requests were made to City staff to report back to the Task Force on identifying the specific figures relating to unmetered water loss, broken

down by categories including fire fighting, water main breaks, and ongoing leakage.

5. Requests were made to City staff to report back to the Task Force on the consequences of enforcing a 30% water conservation goal by 2020.

ACTION: Proposed changes to the “Conservation” working group DRAFT recommendations.

1. Motion to amend Item 1 DRAFT recommendation to read “Formal Level 1 Drought Alert is to become a permanent voluntary water standard.”

Motion passes. 8 in favor. 1 opposed.

2. Motion to amend Item 2 DRAFT recommendation to read “Request City staff to study and report back to the Task Force regarding modifications of the water conservation code requirement for new landscape construction, exploring adding a trigger for existing development, and the estimate of the economic impact of these changes.”

Motion passes. 8 in favor. 1 abstention.

3. Motion to amend Item 3 DRAFT recommendation to read “Request that City staff study and evaluate the water budget based billing program for commercial landscape meters.”

Motion passes. 8 in favor. 1 abstention.

4. Motion to “Instruct staff to devise a plan for reducing unmetered water loss and identify what the economic impacts would be to conduct this evaluation. In addition, request the City to publicize complaints received and action taken to rectify these issues.”

Motion passes. 5 in favor. 3 opposed. 1 abstention.

5. Motion to amend Item 5 DRAFT recommendation to read “Implement permanent and ongoing water conservation and outreach program. We recommend that City leaders, elected officials and others take on the responsibility of helping to create a City wide water conservation ethic. In addition, request that City staff report back to the task force on the costs of previous efforts in this area and the cost of operating an ongoing public education program in support of water conservation.”

Motion incomplete. Vote was not taken.

6. Motion to include in the DRAFT recommendations “The City adopt a point of sale program to retrofit certain landscaping fixtures upon sale of a home up to a minimum dollar amount that would be similar or

analogous to the existing program for indoor plumbing retrofitting and require the city to evaluate how to more effectively enforce these requirements.”

Motion fails. 3 in favor. 6 opposed.

7. Motion to include in the DRAFT recommendations “The Task Force is interested in including retrofit of landscaping and/or irrigation as part of point of sale improvements when there is change of ownership. Request for City staff to report back to the Task Force regarding adding water conservation in landscaping as to become part of the current point of sale requirements.”

Motion passes. 5 in favor. 3 opposed. 1 abstention.

PUBLIC COMMENT IN FAVOR: 2 Requests to speak

PUBLIC COMMENT OPPOSED: None

7. ITEM-2: ACTION – Adoption of “Conservation” Working Group Recommendations

ACTION:

Motion to approve the following amendments as “Conservation” working group recommendations:

1. Amend Item 1 DRAFT recommendation to read “Formal Level 1 Drought Alert is to become a permanent voluntary water standard.”
2. Amend Item 2 DRAFT recommendation to read “Request City staff to study and report back to the Task Force regarding modifications of the water conservation code requirement for new landscape construction, exploring adding a trigger for existing development, and the estimate of the economic impact of these changes.”
3. Amend Item 3 DRAFT recommendation to read “Request that City staff study and evaluate the water budget based billing program for commercial landscape meters.”

Motion passes. Unanimous.

8. ITEM-3: INFORMATION – Presentation from the City Storm Water Division regarding STORM WATER CAPTURE AND REUSE

ACTION: No action taken. Information only.

The Task force discussed the following:

1. Request that City staff from the Storm Water Division attend the “Water Recycling Sources” working group.

2. At future meetings the Task Force plans on implementing two additional working groups relating to topics on effective rate structure and water conservation technologies.

9. ITEM-4: DISCUSSION/ACTION – Discussion of creating the “Water Recycling Sources” Working Group to Address Graywater Regulations, Indirect Potable Reuse, and Storm Water Use

ACTION: No action taken. Discussion deferred.

10. ITEM-5: ACTION - Adoption of “Water Recycling Sources” Working Group

ACTION: Motion to establish “Water Recycling Sources” working group members:

Julia Chunn-Heer
Dawn Guendert
Gordon Hess
Faith Picking
Keith Solar

Motion passes. Unanimous.

11. ADJOURNMENT – CHAIR CARY LOWE ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT APPROXIMATELY 4:55 p.m.