

MEMORANDUM

FC 14 (01-02-07)

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Recycled Water Committee

SUBJECT: 05/26/21 RWC Meeting Summary

DATE: June 22, 2021

This memorandum summarizes the Recycled Water Committee (Committee) meeting held on May 26, 2021. Vice Chairperson Gary Kremen presided for Chairperson Tony Estremera, who was excused from attending, and Committee Member Richard Santos was present, constituting a quorum of the Committee.

3.1 Approval of Minutes.

The Committee unanimously approved the Minutes of the April 9, 2021, and April 12, 2021 meetings.

4.1 Update on Purified Water Program.

Ms. Kirsten Struve, Assistant Officer, informed the Committee that the final Countywide Recycled Water Master Plan would be presented to the Committee at the next regular Committee meeting in June, then to the full Board. The Notice of Preparation received five comment letters which will be addressed in the CEQA process. Environmental and geotechnical investigations were completed at the San Jose and Palo Alto sites and findings will be included in the P3 Request for Proposal, to be released in Fall 2021. Ms. Struve expressed optimism in the ongoing discussion with City of Palo Alto and the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board on the preferred option to discharge Reverse Osmosis concentrate at the Palo Alto Regional Water Control Plant. After the release of Request for Qualifications that will develop a shortlist, potential firms are due to submit a Statement of Qualifications on June 25, 2021. Subsequent to this meeting, an extension of the June 25, 2021 date was granted to accommodate requests from shortlist entities.

Ms. Sherilyn Tran, Civic Engagement Manager, informed the Committee about coordination efforts between City of Palo Alto and Valley Water to build support and continue public education for the purified water program. As a result of this collaboration, a virtual tour of the Silicon Valley Advance Water Purification Center was conducted with two faith-based groups: the Palo Alto Fellowship Group and the Oshman Family Jewish Community Center. In addition, this year's Public Perception Survey Poll on Advanced Purified Water and Public Outreach Update will start in June and results will be presented to the Committee in September by the consultant. She also discussed plans to resume in-person tours in July 2021, for the Valley Water's Water Ambassadors, and various medical and healthcare professionals.

The Committee noted the information, without formal action.

4.2 Preparation for Joint Recycled Water Policy Committee with the Cities of Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, and Mountain View.

Ms. Struve informed the Committee about the agenda items for the June 4, 2021 Joint Recycled Water Policy Committee Meeting with the Cities of Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, and Mountain View as follows: CEQA progress, Public-Private Procurement process, land lease, Reverse Osmosis concentrate management, outreach efforts and update on the South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Phase II Feasibility Study.

The Committee noted the information, without formal action.

4.3 Discuss the 2021 Recycled Water Committee Work Plan, Upcoming Discussion Items, and Next Meeting Date.

Director Santos indicated the necessity to begin an emergency plan in anticipation of the less than 50% reduction to water supply to determine need for additional funding or water supply. In response, Mr. Anthony Fulcher, Interim District Counsel, mentioned that emergency has to be defined first depending on the statutory scheme such as exemption from CEQA requirements, or actions that endanger species. Once defined, facts must be identified to support a finding of an emergency under the statutory scheme. As for proclamations of local emergencies, only Cities or Counties have that authority. At this time, Mr. Fulcher added that we have not identified facts to support a request for emergency.

Vice Chairperson Kremen reviewed the updated work plan without formal action.

The Committee adjourned to its next Regular Meeting on June 23, 2021.

Board member comments and suggestions can be forwarded to Ms. Eva Sans, Assistant Deputy Clerk II, at (408) 630-2306, or by email to esans@valleywater.org

Tony Estremera

*Director, District 6
Recycled Water Committee Chairperson*