

C/CAG

CITY/COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS OF SAN MATEO COUNTY

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Resource Management and Climate Protection Committee (RMCP) Minutes of July 20, 2016 Meeting

In Attendance:

Pradeep Gupta, South San Francisco City Council*
Rick DeGolia, Town of Atherton*
Adrienne Carr, BAWSCA*
Beth Bhatnagar, SSMC Board Member*
Sandy Wong, C/CAG Executive Director
Susan Wright, Ecology Action
Ed Cooney, CSG Consulting
Deborah Hirst, Supervisor Horsley's Office
Maryann Moise Derwin, Committee Vice Chair, Mayor Portola Valley*
Jacki Falconio, County Office of Sustainability
Rachael Londer, County Office of Sustainability
Michael Barber, Supervisor Pine's Office
Diane Papan, Councilmember, San Mateo*
Kim Springer, County Office of Sustainability

Not in attendance:

Don Horsley, County Supervisor*
Bill Chiang, PG&E*
Deborah Gordon, Committee Chair, Woodside Town Council*
Robert Cormia, Professor Foothill-DeAnza*
Dave Pine, County Supervisor*

* Committee Member (voting)

1. Introductions

Attendees introduced themselves and their organizations.

2. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

3. Approval of Minutes from April 20, 2016 and May 15, 2016 meetings

Approval of the minutes from the April 20, 2016 and May 15, 2016 meetings were deferred to the next meeting due to lack of quorum.

4. Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency update on current water supply and conservation

Adrienne Carr gave a presentation on the existing water supply conditions for the Hetch Hetchy as a whole.

- the regional water system is expected to achieve about 90% this year due to above average precipitation
- even though everyone expected an El Niño year, the snow pack only reached 75% of normal
- water use in the regional water system shows that we are using more water than last year, probably due to awareness that restrictions and penalties have relaxed
- every BAWSCA water agency exceeded their target for savings for the one-year goal, on average saving 27% when the goal was only 15%, through May 2016, which is 22.9 million gallons of savings

Gupta: How do these savings impact the agency revenue stream?

Carr: It does affect the revenues, even if there is planning on the part of agencies to adjust rates based on expected reductions. Some water agencies are doing analysis on how much they have had to put off infrastructure projects as a result of the revenue reductions.

Gupta: So there is pressure to raise rates?

Carr: Yes, it does put pressures on agencies to raise rates.

Gupta: I think it is a challenging message to users that we are thanking them for reducing their water use, but raising their rates.

Carr: BAWSCA is also performing an analysis to help determine how fast the bounce back in revenues will be in terms of drought.

DeGolia: This begs the question of how our water rates are structured. Maybe this is an opportunity as we come out of the drought to address this.

Carr: The State is looking at this. Prop 218 may need to change. There are forces working at the State level and that's where it would have to come from, legislative. BAWSCA interacts with state committees to work on these issues. ACWA is working on that issue. Adrienne offered to update the group on progress.

The committee agreed that this issue of Prop 218 come up in all matter of rate issues for movement to sustaining cost and infrastructure over just rates for consumption; water and energy, etc. It's a bad assumption as it currently exists

- the Water Conservation Board implemented new water saving goals and all the water agencies self-certified their water supplies and shortage levels to see if there are any additional conservation levels necessary
- SFPUC continues to call for voluntary water reductions, though they have adequate supply based on the same analysis
- Santa Clara County water is recommending a 20% water reduction for its customers, though not mandated by the State

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San Mateo County Transit District Office, 1250 San Carlos Ave., San Carlos, CA.

- only two water agencies in San Mateo County have a water cutback requirement and every agency is required to report monthly on water use, which will continue through January 2017

DeGolia: how does that work? Will agencies fine customers for over use?

Carr: Not likely, but they could. Reporting is cumulative, not based on the percentage reduction. Customers continue to use less, so we are about 10% and the agencies are asking for less, so it's unlikely there will be any difficulty achieving their targets.

- The governor codified some of the conservation practices to be ongoing, hosing sidewalks, washing cars without a shut off nozzle, watering lawns close to precipitation, etc.

Gupta: We been talking about more drastic measure for reducing water use, bringing folks from Isreal to our meetings, etc. Are any of these other types of conservation effort being reduced now?

Carr: No, they are actually being accelerated. I'm happy to talk more about strategy work if there is time next month.

- The State is now working on long-term water conservation planning regulations by end of 2016. Three elements of a plan are being discussed or implemented: 1) Urban Water Shortage Contingency Plans, 2) push to fund resolution of system-wide leaks, 3) new plan for wise water use by urban water suppliers. Also there will be agricultural water management plans.

Barber: At the last meeting we had a presentation from San Bruno on advanced metering (AMI), is BAWSCA evangelizing that?

Carr: Yes, that's all part of the planning for water agencies. We had a technical workshop for water agencies last year and we are planning another.

Cooney: Hillsborough is implementing AMI and a cost-benefit analysis is a good way to make the justification, especially since mechanical water metering lose accuracy by 4-6% to the benefit of the use, which already reduces the payback of going to AMI to about 10 years.

5. Presentation on WaterLink energy-water nexus program offered in Santa Clara County

Susan Wright from Ecology Action gave a presentation on the WaterLink, energy-water nexus program being run in Santa Clara County through Ecology Action.

- The program is direct installation of water conservation measure in disadvantaged communities, which started a few months ago and runs through 2017
 - Funded by a Department of Water Resources grant, almost \$2.5M in partnership with Santa Clara Valley Water District, PG&E, Silicon Valley Energy Watch and others
 - The program serves customers in CalEnviroScreen areas approved by the grant
 - Four parts to the program: 1) residential and multi-family: shower heads and faucet aerators, and laundry and water heaters for larger MFD's, demand controls for water circulation pumps, 2) pre-rinse spray valves and faucet aerators for restaurants and groceries, 3) turf replacement at commercial sites where the grass is unused, 4) Ozone laundry at hotels and skilled nursing facilities, which allows the laundry to be processed with cold water, as opposed to hot
 - The program measures saving on utility bills, GHG reductions and energy and water
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savings as well.

- The program serves multiple languages

Staff is looking at bringing this program to San Mateo County through a co-application with partners in San Mateo County with Ecology Action as the lead.

6. Update on San Mateo County Energy Watch and Regionally Integrated Climate Action Planning Suite (RICAPS) programs

Jacki Falconio and Kim Springer gave a presentation on the progress of the San Mateo County Energy Watch and ongoing project of the RICAPS city working group.

Please refer to the posted presentation for more details.

7. Presentation on the regional solar and electric vehicle, Solar Sunshares program

Rachel Londer, staff from the County Office of Sustainability delivered a presentation on the new proposed SunShares program, which offers both solar renewable and electric vehicle purchase resources to customers regionally.

Foster City spearheaded the program in 2015 and nearly one megawatt of solar was quoted for customers in 12 of the jurisdictions across San Mateo County.

Establishment of the 2016 SunShares program is being administered by an organization called BC3 and they are looking for letters of interest from cities across the region.

Please refer to the presentation and included contact for more details.

8. Committee Member Updates

A number of topics were suggested for future meeting, including:

- BAWSCA's water conservation strategy for its agencies and Prop 218 issues
- PG&E – EPA grid balancing efforts
- The relationship between CEQA and water system leakage loss
- Virtual demand charges from dimmers and other on-demand systems
- EPA's Home Energy Score program
- Shared community or district solar and ZNE as opposed to by usage site
- Presentation by CEC on pathway to ZNE and other topics

9. Next Regular Meeting Date: September 21, 2016

Presentations from this meeting have been posted on the C/CAG RMCP website:
<http://ccag.ca.gov/committees/resource-management-and-climate-protection-committee/>