

Countywide Water Coordination Committee

MINUTES MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2018

Chair Pine called the meeting to order at 7:35 am at the San Mateo City Hall.

Attendance sheet is attached.

1. Public Comments on items not on the agenda.

None.

2. Approval of minutes from the Aug 17, 2018 meeting.

Motion: Member Vaterlaus moved to approve the Aug 17, 2018 minutes as presented; Seconded by Member Aguirre; Motion carried unanimously.

3. Receive update on the progress of Staff Advisory Team (SAT) and provide input on draft agency proposal framework and governance policy questions.

Ellen Cross with Environmental Science Associates (ESA), which is supporting the SAT effort, gave summarized recent actions and deliverables from the SAT, including updates to the Road Map for developing a proposal for a new water management entity; the completion of six meetings with 20 cities grouped by geography to conduct initial outreach and request feedback; and refinement of the Proposal Framework (including draft mission/vision statements, goals and priority objectives, and core values for the new entity, along with initial stakeholder outreach and engagement approaches).

The Committee received high-level input from the city/town group meetings with key highlights and outlier feedback. Many of the city/town representatives communicated a need for a shared voice and coordinated countywide entity to manage regional shoreline protection and sea level rise issues, especially with respect to facilitating the permitting process, seeking state and federal funds and providing technical guidance. Other feedback from the meetings included consensus that the new entity should maintain projects once built, that the entity should also help with planning projects and that at least initially, there needs to be a balance between developing meaningful projects without overwhelming existing programs. It was recommended that the County's flood resilience projects constitute pilot projects to demonstrate feasibility and the proper role and function of the new entity, and initially that the projects proposed and managed by the entity should represent "lifeline" type projects intended to serve countywide climate change related water issues.

The Committee also received an update on the Draft Governance Criteria Matrix and were presented a series of questions about the potential responsibilities of the entity pertaining to

governance issues. The Committee provided the general following input on governance questions:

1. Should Agency Design, Construct, Own and Maintain Projects?
Yes, as well as support permitting and funding.
2. Should Agency identify SLR guidelines and recommendations? Should it have authority to enforce guidelines?
The agency should not have land use authority, but should provide guidelines for smart growth and technical resources without enforcement powers. Providing technical resources will help agencies keep up with the changing science on sea level rise and climate change.
3. Should Agency be able to tax or generate revenue?
Yes. The agency should have the ability to tax or otherwise generate revenue.
4. Should Cities have a decision-making role in New Agency? Board of Elected Officials? All Cities, or Representative Cities?
The entity should have a Board of Elected Officials from a selection of agencies that provides geographic representation to overcome decision-making and other constraints of having a very large Board.
If so, what is the right construct?
5. What should the range of land use guidance be?
It's best to provide recommendations for land use guidance only. Some agencies will need support, however, because not all have land use along the shoreline of their jurisdictions.

The Committee reviewed next steps for the SAT, including incorporating feedback from the Committee and city/town meetings into the Proposal Framework for discussion at the October 4 SAT. The SAT and consultant team will also be developing a staff report to the cities to support the outreach process in early 2019.

4. Member comments and announcements (information item).

None.

7. Adjournment.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:52 AM. Next meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2018.