



City of Newport Beach

## Coastal/Bay Water Quality Citizens Advisory Committee Minutes

**DATE:** 8/13/09    **TIME:** 3:00 P.M.    **LOCATION:** Fire Conference Room

### 1. Welcome/Self Introductions

#### **Committee Members:**

Chairwoman/Council Member Nancy Gardner  
Dennis Baker  
George Drayton  
Tom Houston  
Randy Seton

#### **Guests:**

Monica Mazur

#### **City or County Staff:**

Dave Kiff, Assistant City Manager  
John Kappeler, Code & WQ Division Supervisor  
Bob Stein, Assistant City Engineer  
Shirley Oborny, Administrative Assistant

### 2. Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes

The minutes from the June 11, 2009, meeting were approved.

### 3. Old Business

#### **(a) Bay and Ocean Bacteriological Test Results**

Ms. Mazur and Mr. Kappeler reviewed the latest bacti reports.

### 4. New Business

#### **(a) Water Quality Master Plan**

Mr. Kiff said his updated spreadsheet (attached) now includes information about the Upper and Lower Bay, Big Canyon Creek and prioritizations from the sub-committee (Chairwoman Gardner, Mr. Baker and Mr. Seton). He reviewed the spreadsheet with the committee and asked them whether they thought it was reasonable in terms of priorities.

Mr. Kappeler suggested Newport Coast listed under ASBS should be a higher priority.

Mr. Baker questioned the Advocacy and Analysis section. He said the Newport Bay Watershed Executive Committee should be on the list. Mr. Kiff agreed and said it should be on the Watershed Executive Committee. Discussion ensued. Mr. Skinner said most cities have one designated person involved in the Regional Board issues.

Chairwoman Gardner agreed and asked that having one specific and continuous person for advocacy be added to the spreadsheet.

**(b) Integrated Regional & Coastal Watershed Plan (IRCWMP)**

Mr. Stein announced six grants have been completed and final invoices have been forwarded to Sacramento for payment. He distributed final reports for three of the programs: Newport Coast Watershed Program, ASBS Areas Pilot Program and the Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program/HAMP.

Mr. Stein talked about the crisis in watershed planning. He said the City is finalizing some concept costs for the treatment of selenium. The County is estimating the cost at a minimum of \$40 million which is more than what's available. At the last NSMP meeting Garry Brown of Coastkeeper questioned why the County is suggesting moving forward on a \$14-17 million pilot program that would not likely be approved by any City Council. At that meeting, Bob said The Irvine Company suggested implementing some of the pilot programs now. Examples of some of the pilot programs included diversion, the Cienega plant filtration, subterranean wetlands, etc.

In response to Chairwoman Gardner, Mr. Skinner talked about the impact of selenium on bird life, the strict standards imposed to protect the birds and where the selenium is coming from. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Stein asked the committee if they could help him identify regional performance objectives for Chairperson Gardner to share with the Executive Watershed Committee so the committee would know what the City's interests are. Because some cities' priorities are different from Newport Beach's, he thinks it's important to strategize on how to get the City's allies together in order to obtain the results the City wants. The committee came up with the following priorities:

|    | <b>Water Quality</b>                                | <b>Sediment Control</b>        | <b>Habitat</b>           | <b>Economics</b>                          |
|----|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| 1. | Diversion of the ground water replenishment project | Lower Harbor Dredging          | Big Canyon               | County-wide fee                           |
| 2. | San Joaquin natural treatment system                | Low Impact Development (LID)   | Buck Gully               | Advocacy to hold developers a accountable |
| 3. | Damming San Diego Creek (sediment)                  | Damming San Diego Creek        | West side restoration    |   |
| 4. | Cleanup discharge of Santa Ana Delhi Channel        | Maintenance of sediment basins | Bayview/Mesa restoration |   |
| 5. | JWA drainage system                                 | Serrano Creek                  |                          |   |
| 6. | Bacteria projects                                   | Borrego Creek                  |                          |   |

|     |   |                     |  |  |
|-----|---|---------------------|--|--|
| 7.  | Smart Timer controllers                       | Peters Canyon Wash  |  |  |
| 8.  | Rhine Channel                                 | Fine sediment study |  |  |
| 9.  | Newport Isle                                  |                     |  |  |
| 10. | Aerial jet fuel deposition;<br>car deposition |                     |  |  |
| 11. | CalTrans drains and runoff<br>reduction       |                     |  |  |

In response to Mr. Stein’s question about what would be a performance objective to propose to the Executive Watershed Committee in regards to sediment, Mr. Kiff suggested it be 100% creek slope stabilization by 2025. For habitat he suggested as an example, an objective of restoring 50 acres by 2020 and 100 acres by 2025. He said he’d work with Mr. Kappeler and Mr. Stein to come up with an objective for water quality.

**5. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items**

Chairwoman Gardner talked about her recent attendance at the Coastal Commission meeting as a representative of the California League of Cities coastal group. She explained the frustration in terms of the Commission’s turnover time for Local Coastal Plans, the baseline shifts, etc. The Coastal Commission reported an equivalent of 21 positions having been lost due to the State’s work furlough, which will slow the process even more. The Commission was not interested in setting up further meetings because it costs too much. She said the main message conveyed to the Coastal Commission was that processes need to be changed.

Mr. Skinner talked about the gutter study he participated in along with Marty Getrich from the Health Department lab, Mr. Kappeler and Ms. Mazur. Mr. Kappeler said he’d like to bring a data graph back to the group for a short presentation.

**6. Topics for Future Agendas**

- (a) DWR Model Landscape and Irrigation Ordinance
- (b) Poseidon Desalination Project
- (c) NOAA Grant Update
- (d) Update on Integrated Watershed Planning Efforts
- (e) Greywater Recycling

Mr. Baker requested the greywater recycling item be heard as soon as possible. He suggested a couple of LEED representatives attend the meeting as soon as possible because he’s interested in experimenting with it as a homeowner and learning about it from a public facility aspect, i.e. the new Civic Center.

Mr. Kappeler wants to bring the NPDES annual report to the committee in September or October.

After a discussion about the new Civic Center's urban runoff containing too much salinity for irrigation, Mr. Kappeler suggested contacting the representative from Aqua-PhyD to see if their systems could be used to remove the salinity.

**7. Set Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting was set for September 10, 2009.

**8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:43 pm.

