

Water Quality/Tidelands Committee – Priority Objectives

April 6, 2022

- Committee’s Scope
- A. Advise and make recommendations to the City Council on policies, projects and programs that support and/or strengthen existing regulations to protect water quality and habitat in the bay and ocean;
 - B. Advise and make recommendations to the City Council on policies, programs and projects that improve the water quality and habitat of Newport Bay and the ocean;
 - C. Advise the City Council on implementation of the Tidelands Infrastructure Capital Plan in the following areas:
 - 1. Sea level rise as it affects ocean beaches,
 - 2. Ocean beach sand replenishment, and
 - 3. Other capital projects affecting the ocean beaches and tidelands not covered by other committees;
 - D. Advise and make recommendations to the City Council on policies, programs and projects that educate the watershed’s population about the value of Newport Bay and the ocean; and
 - E. Advise on any matter referred to the Water Quality/Coastal Tidelands Committee by the City Council or City Manager.

Objective No.	Sustainability Goal*	City Staff Assisting Committee [hrs/yr]	Committee Member Lead	Completion Term	Proposed Objective
1	Water Quality	24	Tom Houston	Medium	With completion of the Harbor Hazardous Waste drop-off site located at Balboa Yacht Basin, consider option for two additional sites, e.g., Avon Lot, MOD yard, Harbor Marina). Consider asking county to install a hazardous waste site to accept used oil. Prepare a concept plan, construction drawings and Coastal Development Permit for two new sites, e.g., Harbor Marina. Set up committee tour.
2	Water Quality	24	Curt Black	Long	Pesticide and Herbicide Source Control <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation by Kevin Pekar (City Parks Division) and Amanda Carr (OC Watershed) on pest infestations, current approaches, and pesticide/herbicide use trends.• Presentation from DPR and UCI on safety of the new generation of pesticides.• Work with upstream watershed cities and Regional Board to identify key pesticides of concern entering Newport Bay• Work with upstream partners to develop a policy encouraging reduced application of pesticides.
3	Water Quality	200	Curt Black	Short/ Medium	Auxiliary Trash Reduction Program <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Install a storm drain trash interceptor at Dover/Westcliff (Polaris). (\$700k for construction + \$3k annual maintenance.) John to call County for update• Trash outreach program to inland cities• Trash Provisions - review of trash reduction monitoring, branding (e.g. “Put Trash where it belongs”)• SDC trash pre-treatment booms – City of Irvine OCTA Grant requirement?• Dover Drive bioswale rehabilitation and/or installation of downstream CDS unit• Update on Beach Cleanups: Action Item 1 - Presentations for Recreation and PW volunteer (Trellis Program). Action Item 2: Provide recommendations for cleanup areas.
4	Water Quality	48	Peter Belden	Medium	FIB Rapid Testing at Newport Pier (or nearby hot spot). Contact SCCWRP.
5	Sea Level Rise	12	Peter Belden	Short	Provide input and recommendations for protecting ocean facing beaches from sea level rise, e.g., new or enhanced groynes, rip-rap protection. Review beach and groyne sand replenishment programs. Check with the Planning Division for protecting or raising of beach paths.
6	Water Quality	100	Tom Houston	Short	Pumpout Construction and Inspections <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explore options for inspecting private pump-outs on a weekly basis or upgrading private pumpouts.• Consider requiring private entities to pay the City to maintain and inspect private pumpouts.• Consider adding a second public pumpout at Balboa Yacht Basin.• Explore option for funding pumpout projects.• Explore options for implementing an inspection policy with new Harbormaster and Utility Department.
7	Water Quality	16	Richard McNeil	Medium	Implement a program to address cleaning up discharge associated with private catch basins in the City, e.g., cleaning by vactor or downstream CDS. (\$25-50k/year.) Presentations by PW and Attorney’s Office on various approaches and funding scenarios. Provide recommendations.
8	Water Quality	12	Richard McNeil	Medium	Green Streets Resolution promoting runoff reduction using curb cuts and infiltration pavers at areas where there is adequate infiltration or off-street treatment options.
9	Coordination	12	Richard McNeil	Long	Sustainability Planning Coordination* <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentations by Public Works on energy saving projects and initiatives (EV chargers, hydrogen fuel cells, solar shades, batteries), planning to promote bicycles routes, and planning for waste reduction.

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by Community Development Department on sustainability planning programs. • Coordination with County Supervisor’s office and other cities.
Objective No.	Sustainability Goal*	City Staff Assisting Committee [hrs/yr]	Committee Member Lead	Completion Term	Proposed Objective
10	Water Quality	16	George Robinson	Long	Santa Ana River Trash and Pollutants Study Explore methods for reducing trash from discharging from the Santa Ana River, e.g., trash boom located at Hamilton Avenue.
11	Coordination	12	Curt Black Chuck Fancher	Short	Liaison to Harbor Commission and Parks, Beaches and Parks. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Item 1: Track water quality issues discussed by the Commission. Consider collaborative goal setting. • Action Item 2: Provide annual briefing. • Action Item 3: Identify impacts to infrastructure from sea level rise.
12	Water Quality	8	Tom Houston	Short	Project Updates: Vessel pumpout stations, Caulerpa Removal, Balboa Island Drainage System (2024-2026), Harbor Algal Blooms (freshwater and marine)
13	Water Quality	20	Lou Denger	Medium	Review option for Cherry Creek, Cherry Lake, and Santa Isabella Channel Water Quality and Restoration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review water quality and other challenges: bacteria exceedances, mosquitos, and Arundo • Discuss options with community, County, and PBR. • Conduct site tour.
14	Water Quality	8	Lou Denger	Medium	Develop a resolution promoting additional reductions of dry weather flows entering the bay, where appropriate, from City storm drains by source controls and use reduction. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Item 1: Develop a dry weather monitoring plan and conduct visual dry-weather runoff flow assessments. • Action Item 2: Prioritize sub-watersheds based on assessments. • Action Item 3: Develop recommendations for Council consideration, e.g., low flow diversions. • Action Item 4: If needed, provide project recommendations for consideration into City budget.
15	Water Quality	60	Chuck Fancher	Short	Over-Irrigation Reduction Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Item 1: Presentation by Utilities Department on implementing a water distribution plan based on State requirements and guidelines <u>SB 606</u> and <u>AB 1668</u>. • Action Item 2: Tour of Utility Department facilities. • Action Item 3: City Staff provides semi-annual updates to committee. • Action Item 4: City staff presents public outreach program. • Action Item 5: Consider more robust recycled water use. • Action Item 6: Explore options for landscape design, expanded use of recycled water, and drought challenges/opportunities.
16	Sea Level Rise	20	George Robertson	Medium	Provide input and recommendations for protecting Upper Bay and Newport Slough from sea level rise impacts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider spraying dredge material on mudflats. • Consider mitigation opportunities for harbor improvements (e.g., new seawalls, ferry modifications). • Work with Harbor Commission and Regional Partners to identify areas of the harbor vulnerable to sea level rise.
17	Water Quality	100	Chuck Fancher	Short	Explore options for providing more public restroom services around the harbor including consideration for a floating restroom project.
18	Coordination	2	Lou Denger	Short	Assign one committee member to attend IRWD meetings related to water quality and water supply issues. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Item 1: Report on progress on the Syphon Reservoir. • Action Item 2: Report on the on-going status of the Peter’s Canyon Diversion. • Action Item 3: Report on operation of the San Joaquin marsh with regard to water supply and selenium concentrations.
19	Project Updates	10	Lou Denger	Short	Project Updates: Big Canyon Phase 3, Shellfish Studies, Trash Interceptor, Trash Skimmers, Santa Ana Delhi Diversion, Monitor compliance SWQCB Trash Amendments
20	Coordination	40	As	Short	As requested, attend water quality discussions by Harbor Underwater Clean-up Committee, NGO’s, UCI or local high schools.

*The committee’s scope of work is focused on the goals of protecting water quality and addressing sea level rise, including coordinating with City staff, City Commissions, and other stakeholder groups on these issues. These goals fit into a larger sustainability planning framework that can include goals for education, building/development, waste reduction, transportation, energy, water conservation, and harbor/urban outdoor protection. Some of these other sustainability goals are covered by programs and projects underway within various City departments.