

CITIZENS' WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CWAC)

Technical/Planning and Policy Subcommittee

Wednesday, April 27, 2016, 12:00 p.m.

Director's Conference Room

Tucson Water, 3rd Floor

310 W. Alameda Street, Tucson, Arizona



Summary Minutes

1. Roll Call/Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Subcommittee Chair Mark Murphy, at 12:00 p.m. Those present and absent were:

Present:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mark Murphy | Chairperson-Representative, Mayor |
| Mitch Basefsky | Representative, City Manager |
| Placido dos Santos | Representative, City Manager |
| Chuck Freitas | Representative, City Manager |

Absent:

| | |
|------------|------------------------------|
| Brian Wong | Representative, City Manager |
| Kelly Lee | Representative, Ward 6 |

Tucson Water Staff Present:

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Jeff Biggs | Water Administrator |
| Melodee Loyer | Water Administrator |
| Pat Eisenberg | Water Administrator |
| Wally Wilson | Chief Hydrologist |
| Fernando Molina | Water Program Superintendent |
| Candice Rupprecht | Public Information Specialist |
| Johanna Hernandez | Staff Assistant |
| Kris LaFleur | Staff Assistant |

Others Present:

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Chris Avery | City of Tucson, Attorney's Office |
| Mark Lewis | Representative, Ward 5 (not a member of Subcommittee) |

2. **Announcements** – No action taken.

3. **Call to Audience** – No action taken.

4. **Review & Approval of March 23, 2016 Legal Action Report and Meeting Minutes** –Member dos Santos motioned to approve the Legal Action Report and Meeting Minutes of March 23, 2016. Member Freitas seconded. Motion passed unanimously by a voice-vote of 4-0.

5. **Rainwater Harvesting Benefits** – Kieran Sikdar, from Watershed Management Group, presented a PowerPoint on the Financial and Community Benefits of Green Infrastructure. Green Infrastructure was defined as constructed features that use living, natural systems to provide environmental services. The topic was introduced with the example of the landscaping at Mr. Sikdar's residence, which was completely torn out and replaced with green infrastructure landscaping. This project addressed issues related to overall outdoor water usage, storm water run-off, energy use, and mosquito abatement. In such landscaping, it is typical to expect to use potable water to establish vegetation for three summer seasons. Curb cuts, chicanes, and

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street-width reduction were discussed as tools for green infrastructure. In conjunction with Pima County Flood Control, a modeling project on the effects of green infrastructure on flood control was completed. The results showed a measurable positive benefit in flood mitigation in the area studied. A cost-benefit analysis was discussed. Costs included installation and maintenance. Benefits included seven direct benefits and five indirect benefits. The analysis concluded return of investment would typically occur in six to ten years. Figures were provided for the annual benefits of rain gardens in Tucson, in terms of monetary benefits to the community, and groundwater recharge. Future considerations for policy and funding were discussed. The One Water concept was discussed, referring to treating all water, rain/stormwater, groundwater, wastewater, recycled water, and drinking water, as equally valuable sources of water. Graphs depicted the opportunities available for stormwater use. Extensive discussion was held on methodology for the data presented, assumptions made, and the actual water savings seen as a result of green infrastructure development.

6. Future Meetings/Agenda Items – See projected agenda for further information.

7. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Approved 5/25/16