

BACWA Recycled Water Committee Meeting Notes

July 19, 2022

Meeting held via videoconference

1. Introductions (Olson)

There were 41 participants from 12 Committee member agencies.

2. Funding Opportunities

Sachi Itagaki (Kennedy Jenks) provided an update on state and federal funding opportunities. The state budget included \$2.1B for climate and energy projects, some of which will go to reuse. Additional funding will be available from SRF. There will be an informational item about the Intended Use Plan for [Clean Water SRF funding](#) at the August 16, 2022 State Water Board Meeting, and the State Water Board will consider the Intended Use Plan for adoption in September 2022.

EPA's San Francisco Bay Water Quality Improvement Fund has opened two separate Requests for Applications. Applications are due September 20.

<https://www.epa.gov/sfbay-delta/san-francisco-bay-water-quality-improvement-fund-2022-requests-applications-now-open>

Natasha Dunn (SFEP) noted that solicitation period for IRWM funding in the San Francisco Bay Area will be open from August 1 to October 10th. There will be a coordinating committee meeting on Monday, July 25th. For more information, contact Natasha at natasha.dunn@sfestuary.org

3. 2nd Nutrient Watershed Permit – Special Study Update

Mike Falk (HDR) provided a brief update on the progress of the Recycled Water Evaluation that is being conducted in compliance with the 2nd Nutrient Watershed Permit. Agencies should plan to review draft reports later this summer. The project team at HDR and Woodard & Curran would be interested in feedback on ways to present cost information. Costs are expected to be high, and the report does not capture the multiple benefits of recycled water projects (only the nutrient removal benefit). The [annual update](#) required by the Nutrient Watershed Permit was submitted to the Regional Water Board in July. The final report is due by July 1, 2023.

4. North Bay Water Reuse Program

Chuck Weir (North Bay Water Reuse Authority or NBWRA) and Rene Guillen (Brown and Caldwell) provided an update on the North Bay Water Reuse Program (NBWRP). The [presentation](#) included the following key points:

- NBWRP was formed in 2002 to facilitate state and federal funding of recycled water projects across the North Bay. The group allows cost sharing on administrative activities such as feasibility studies, environmental studies, and funding applications, which is more efficient than small agencies undertaking these tasks on their own. One of the key reasons the group has been successful is that Sonoma Water has served as a "champion" agency and lead administrator.
- Phase 1 projects were completed this year, with a capacity of about 5,400 AFY. Phase 2 program is already underway – planning, engineering, and environmental analysis is complete. When completed, Phase 2 will provide an additional approximately 5,400 AFY of additional capacity. The City of American Canyon and City of Petaluma have started to implement some of the distribution system expansions that are included as part of Phase 2.
- The NBWRA has benefits beyond recycled water funding, because it facilitates cooperation among North Bay water and wastewater agencies. NBWRA envisions a long-term focus on

broader resiliency planning efforts, including potable reuse, coordinated drought response, and sea level rise adaptation.

5. Update on Direct Potable Reuse Criteria

Anya Kaufmann (Trussell) provided an update on the [DDW Expert Panel findings on draft Direct Potable Reuse Criteria](#) and [DDW Response](#), noting areas with alignment or non-alignment between DDW and the Expert Panel. Example areas where there is not complete alignment between DDW and the Expert Panel are the level of conservatism for pathogen log reduction criteria; source control; and optimization of treatment plants upstream of advanced treatment. DDW will be preparing the draft potable reuse regulations between now and 2023, which means this is a good time for members to contact DDW to share their concerns (if any).

6. Roundtable Discussion on Recycled Water Fill Stations

Participants discussed the benefits and challenges of operating residential recycled water fill stations. Agencies that are operating residential fill stations are noted in the [2021 truck fill guide update](#) and [Google map](#). Delta Diablo and Redwood City noted that their fill stations are currently closed, but they are considering re-opening them. The Town of Windsor recently opened a residential fill station ([more information](#)). Participants discussed the significant effort involved to run the fill stations, compared to the amount of water that can be distributed. Several agencies, including Central San, Sonoma Water, and Palo Alto, used a [Portalogic](#) system for the fill stations, which is helpful for automating the filling stations and creating data for program administration (including billing).

7. BACWA Updates

BACWA will be hosting a Sea Level Rise roundtable discussion on [August 23rd](#). Two new resources related to nature-based infrastructure are [this report](#) from the Bay Area One Water Network and the Regional Water Board's recently adopted [climate change basin plan amendment](#).

8. Site Supervisor Training Update

A subcommittee is moving forward with planning for a site supervisor training video. The BACWA Executive Board recently approved a video editing contract. Committee members are aiming to collect video footage in July and August, and welcome contributions from the Recycled Water Committee.

9. Legislation and Regulatory Update (Reena Thomas, EBMUD)

The following legislative items of interest are on watch and are in the committee process:

- SB 12(McGuire & Stern) = Requiring distribution systems to be made from heat resistant materials if state funding is received: this bill is not going forward
- SB 1157 (Hertzberg) = lowers indoor residential use standard; WRCA is seeking additional amendments

SRF funded projects have received a 6-month waiver from the Build America, Buy America requirements.

10. Agency updates/Announcements

- The WateReuse California Annual conference is scheduled for September 11-13 in San Francisco.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 20, 2022, 10:30 AM