ITEM:  12


PURPOSE: Consider adoption of Tentative Resolution No. R9-2017-0125 (Supporting Document 1)

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Tentative Resolution No. R9-2017-0125

KEY ISSUES: The key problem areas raised at the Environmental Justice (EJ) Symposium were (1) Tijuana River Valley Sewage, Trash and Sediment; (2) Homeless Encampments (and Hepatitis A); (3) Trash and Dumping / Education and Outreach; (4) Chollas Creek, Paradise Creek and the wetlands and canyons surrounding EJ communities (south of I-8); and (5) “Other” issues.

PRACTICAL VISION: Enhanced outreach to local EJ communities is a key component of the Water Board’s 2016 Community Outreach Strategy. The Outreach Strategy was endorsed by the Water Board in November 2016 and is a direct outcome of implementing Chapter 4 of the Practical Vision, Proactive Public Outreach and Communication.

DISCUSSION: The San Diego Water Board held its first Environmental Justice Symposium on June 10, 2017. Comments received at the symposium revealed five important problem areas for EJ communities. These problem areas are listed in the Key Issues Section above. The final approved minutes of the EJ Symposium are provided in Supporting Document 3.

As an important follow up to the symposium, staff drafted the 2017 Environmental Justice Action Plan (Supporting Document 2), describing the five problem areas in more detail, and recommending follow-up actions to address them for the Board’s consideration.

Upon endorsement of the EJ Action Plan by the San Diego Water Board, staff can begin to incorporate an appropriate number of...
recommended follow-up actions into the agency’s Annual Operational Plans for 2018 and 2019. Converting recommended actions into full-fledged projects in the Annual Operational Plans will ensure that the resources and time needed to implement these projects are available.

As committed to at the symposium, this agenda item provides an important opportunity to continue the dialog between the members of the Board and the members of our local communities.

LEGAL CONCERNS: None.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:
1. Tentative Resolution No. R9-2017-0125
3. Environmental Justice Symposium Minutes, June 10, 2017

This item was publicly noticed in the Meeting Notice and Agenda for the October 11, 2017 meeting. A copy of the draft 2017 EJ Action Plan and Tentative Resolution No. R9-2017-0125 was posted on the website Agenda page on September 28, 2017. An email with links to the Agenda documents was also sent to EJ Symposium participants on September 28, 2017.