

REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN DIEGO REGION
EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT
AUGUST 10, 2022
ITEM 6

SUBJECT

Update on Implementation of the San Diego Water Board Practical Vision (*David Gibson*)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Adoption of Tentative Resolution No. R9-2022-0114 (Supporting Document No. 1).

KEY ISSUES

- Provides an opportunity for the Board to formally endorse the allocation of staff resources to address the Priority Projects (Supporting Document No. 1)
- Identifies priority projects that will help achieve the goals of the Practical Vision (Attachment 1 to Supporting Document No. 1)
- Identifies significant accomplishments from July 2021 – June 2022 (Supporting Document No. 2)

PRACTICAL VISION

This item provides a progress report on the eighth year of implementing the San Diego Water Board's Practical Vision.¹ This item also demonstrates the San Diego Water Board values of communication and transparency by reporting in an open meeting our major accomplishments since the last update, our regional priorities and goals for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (FY 22-23), and the budget that supports our work. Through the Practical Vision, the Board and its staff exercise its leadership and stewardship values both locally and statewide.

DISCUSSION

This item is an opportunity to provide Board Members and the public with a more comprehensive report on the San Diego Water Board's accomplishments and to give Board members an opportunity to provide early input and direction on regional priorities and goals for FY 22-23.

June 2022 saw the end of our eighth year of implementing the San Diego Water Board's Practical Vision, during which the Board approved an update to the Practical Vision in September 2021. The Practical Vision is a tool for culture change at the San Diego Water Board; the means to achieve healthy waters through a collaborative, outcome-based approach that relies on the latest science, prioritization of issues and actions, and prudent use of authorities in service to the people of California.

¹ The San Diego Water Board Practical Vision is available electronically on the following webpage:
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/practical_vision/

Annually, the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards report their principal accomplishments to the State Water Board. The State Water Board collects annual performance data and displays it on its Annual Performance Report (Report) website. The Report measures and evaluates both what we do, how the environment is responding to our actions, and is part of our overall effort toward developing as a performance-based organization. The Reports are located on the [State Water Board Performance Report Website](#). Supporting Document 2, Practical Vision and Program Accomplishments for 2021-2022, includes a discussion of our regional accomplishments over the last fiscal year.

In the interest of transparency and context, Tentative Resolution No. R9-2022-0114 includes information regarding the San Diego Water Board's budget allocated by the State Board (Supporting Document No. 1) and the list of San Diego Water Board Projects for FY 22-23 (Attachment 1 to Supporting Document No. 1) includes the staff personnel years assigned to the Operational Plan projects.

Forty-one projects were included in the FY 21-22 Operational Plan. I will highlight the progress of following projects from the FY 21-22 Plan in my verbal briefing:

- Tijuana River Border Pollution Control Efforts: Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) Development, United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) Project Funding
- Clean Water Act Sections 303d and 305b Integrated Report
- NPDES Permit Reissuance for the South Orange County Wastewater Authority's San Juan Creek Ocean Outfall
- NPDES Permit for Padre Dam and the East County Advanced Water Purification Project
- City of Oceanside, Advanced Water Purification Facility, Indirect Potable Reuse for Groundwater Recharge WDR Adoption
- Participation in the State Board Racial Equity Resolution Workgroup
- San Diego Bay DOD MOU
- Continued Successful Pandemic Adaptation

The FY 22-23 Operational Plan carries forward our continuing projects, adds new projects, and identifies staffing, resources, tasks, and milestones for each project. We include many of our core regulatory work projects (permit renewals, inspections, etc.) with the Practical Vision projects to improve management of the priority casework while also achieving the Practical Vision goals.

As discussed above, the State Water Board includes the San Diego Water Board's annual performance measure goals and accomplishments in its Annual Performance Report. The FY 22-23 Operational Plan takes these performance measures into account by including priority programmatic work that contributes to the goals of the Practical Vision. This effort

requires an extra degree of prioritizing, planning, and budgeting on the part of your managers during the preparation of the Operational Plan.

The FY 22-23 Operational Plan includes 30 projects. Projects included in the FY 22-23 Operational Plan were selected considering the Key Beneficial Uses and Areas established in San Diego Water Board Resolution No. R9-2017-0030² (*A Resolution Supporting Use of the Key Beneficial Uses/Key Areas Concept to Help the San Diego Water Board Focus on What is Most Important*) and guidance from the Practical Vision Priority Setting Team. Some key projects and priorities I will discuss during this item are:

- State Water Board Consideration of Biological Water Quality Objectives
- San Diego Bay Efforts
 - San Diego Bay Fish Tissue Study
 - Internal San Diego Bay Workgroup
 - Development of a Unified San Diego Bay-Wide Monitoring Program
- Increasing Local Drinking Water Supply
 - Review of Salt and Nutrient Management Plans
 - Revision and Issuance of Master Recycling Permits
- Preparation of the Regional Storm Water Permit for FY 23-24 Consideration
- Tribal Beneficial Uses Water Body Designations
- San Diego River Investigative Order
- Commercial Agricultural Operations: Identify and Inspect Nurseries in Key Areas
- 2022 Employee Engagement Survey Evaluation

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Meeting Notice and Agenda for today's meeting was posted on the Board's website and sent to those who subscribed to the email list for Board Meetings.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Tentative Resolution No. R9-2022-0114, with Attachment 1 – San Diego Water Board Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Operational Plan Projects
2. Practical Vision and Program Accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2021-2022

² Resolution No. R9-2017-0030 is available electronically on the following webpage:
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/key_areas/