



DRAFT

UTILITIES ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 5, 2020 REGULAR MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Danaher called the meeting of the Utilities Advisory Commission (UAC) to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Chair Danaher, Vice Chair Forssell, Commissioners Jackson, Johnston, Segal, and Smith
Absent: Commissioner Scharff

NEW BUSINESS

ITEM 1: ACTION: Staff Recommends the Utilities Advisory Commission (UAC) Recommend that Council Accept the Northwest County Recycled Water Strategic Plan Report.

Karla Dailey, Acting Utility Program Services Manager/Senior Resource Planner, reported acceptance of the Northwest County Recycled Water Strategic Plan Report (Report) will not result in approval of any projects. Negotiating the regional water reuse project agreement among the City, Valley Water, and the City of Mountain View would have been difficult without the Report. The Report lays the foundation for future regional decisions and projects. Projects contained in the Report should be incorporated into a Water Integrated Resources Plan.

In reply to Commissioner Johnston's inquiry regarding a timeframe for the salt removal facility, Dailey advised that an RFP will be released any day now. Staff anticipates construction will begin in early 2021 and be completed in 2023. With respect to Commissioner Johnston's query about the options in Table 1, Dailey indicated the options will not be viable if Valley Water exercises its option. At this time, Valley Water has not made a decision about its option, and Valley Water has ten years to make the decision. Alternatively, Valley Water can pay the City \$1 million a year for ten years without taking the water, but at the end of ten years Valley Water does not have any rights to the water. Commissioner Johnston commented that it could be 10 or 20 years before the viability of some options are known.

In answer to Commissioner Smith's question regarding planning a worst-case scenario, Dailey related that options not consistent with the Valley Water Transfer will not be included in concept options in a One Water Report. Commissioner Smith inquired whether Options A1, A2, and A3 are unaffected by the new plant and the sale of effluent, to which Dailey replied yes. Commissioner Smith requested any reasons, excluding funding, for not implementing Options A1, A2, and A3. Dailey stated the only reason would be funding.

In response to Commissioner Segal's inquiry about installing pipelines for Option A1 during construction of other underground projects, Dailey explained that installing trunk lines without Council approval would be quite expensive, even during construction of other projects. Jonathan Abendschein, Assistant Director of Resource Management, added that a trench would be needed for the trunk lines, which would be a large additional cost.

Council Member Cormack noted the Cubberley Draft Concept Plan discusses the potential use of recycled water.

Chair Danaher suggested the idea of how much insurance the community would buy to ensure sufficient water is available for gardens and tree canopy be incorporated into the requirements for options, and suggested staff combine Tables 1 and 3, place Options C1, C2, and C3 at the bottom as potential future options, and add a column for years to complete. In response to his question about the analysis of needs and an incremental amount to protect tree canopy and gardens, Dailey advised that the Report and a decision about the overall portfolio overlap with actions taken in a drought. Drought resilience will be an attribute incorporated into the One Water evaluation of the full supply portfolio.

ACTION: Commissioner Johnston moved to recommend the Council accept the Northwest County Recycled Water Strategic Plan Report. Vice Chair Forssell seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0 with Chair Danaher, Vice Chair Forssell and Commissioners Jackson, Johnston, Segal, and Smith voting yes, and Commissioner Scharff absent.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: March 5, 2020

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Tabatha Boatwright
City of Palo Alto Utilities