



WATER TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

- A. **Roll Call.** Chair Dean Maulhardt called the meeting to order at approximately 11:08 a.m.

Task Force Members Present.

Dean Maulhardt, Chair, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Oxnard
Thomas Holden, Task Force Member; Mayor, City of Oxnard

Task Force Members Absent.

None

Others Present.

Edmund Sotelo, City Manager, City of Oxnard
Gary Gillig, City Attorney, City of Oxnard
Susan Winder, Acting Finance Director
Ken Ortega, Public Works Director, City of Oxnard
Mark Norris, Asst. Public Works Director/Utilities Services Manager, City of Oxnard
Mark Pumford, Technical Services Manager, City of Oxnard
Anthony Emmert, Water Resources Manager, City of Oxnard
Tamara Sexton, Water Programs Manager, City of Oxnard
Jay Duncan, Recycling Manager, City of Oxnard
Jeanine Hutton, Management Analyst, City of Oxnard
Bill Terry, Saviers Road Design Team
Doris O'Connell, Saviers Road Design Team
Larry Godwin, Saviers Road Design Team
Nancy Pederson, Saviers Road Design Team

- B. **Public Comment.** Larry Godwin, Saviers Road Design Team, stated that the City's current practices regarding street sweeping are less than effective at removing trash and particulates from streets. He stated that the mechanical brushes of the sweepers used throw trash onto sidewalks and into front yards, and that cracks in street pavement and weeds catch and hold trash and debris. He also stated that the current practice of sweeping one side of the street on one day and sweeping the other side of the street on another day allows time for trash to blow from one side of the street to the other between sweepings. He suggested changing to vacuum sweepers, paving all streets to remove cracks, and sweeping both sides of each street on the same day. Mr. Godwin also expressed concern that residents resort to dumping large refuse items on public rights-of-ways, as the neighborhood cleanup events are too infrequent, as neighborhoods have difficulty staffing them. He suggested that the City fund and staff much more frequent neighborhood cleanup events. He also stated it is inconvenient for residents to dispose of hazardous materials, and therefore they dump them onto public rights-of-ways and onto private properties. He suggested that the City consider more convenient methods to collect hazardous materials from residential areas. Mr. Godwin also expressed concern regarding suspended sediments, oils and greases that are carried to storm drains by runoff water from mobile car wash operations. He suggested that the City prohibit mobile car washes, or set far stricter standards for them. The Task Force requested that staff bring these issues back for discussion at a future Task Force meeting.

C. New Business.

1. **Consideration of Implications of Most Recent Draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System for Discharges from Municipal Stormwater System Issued by California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region.** City Manager Edmund Sotelo reported that the City has been actively participating in the development of the new permit. He stated that the City has participated in the efforts of the Ventura County City Managers to lobby in Sacramento and to meet with critical stakeholders in the process. He also stated that City staff has continued to actively participate in technical committees, comment on proposed permit text, offer alternative approaches to permit goals, and to participate in permit workshops. Mr. Sotelo also stated that the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors will be holding a hearing at its September 11, 2007 regular meeting on the issue, and that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (CRWQCB), will be holding its next permit workshop on September 20, 2007, in Ventura. He strongly encouraged the Task Force to urge the City Council to participating in these efforts.

Mark Pumford, Technical Services Manager, provided an update on the permit development process. He stated that the CRWQCB is unlikely to make major changes to the current draft, and that the City should focus on particular issues that are of the highest importance. He stated that the CRWQCB is likely to adopt the permit in January 2008. He stated that the draft permit is more prescriptive than the past two permits, contains several unrealistic timelines, contains municipal action levels based upon national measurements instead of local measurements, subjects the City to enforcement actions by the CRWQCB, subjects the City to potential third-party lawsuits, includes duplicative Total Maximum Daily Loads requirements, and would require the City to greatly expand its Stormwater Quality Program budget. He stated that earlier lobbying and commenting efforts resulted in the CRWQCB modifying the inlets screening requirement and the prescriptive funding requirement. Even with these concessions, Mr. Pumford stated that staff estimates that complying with the new permit will require the City to increase its budget to approximately \$100 per benefit assessment unit (equivalent to one single-family home). Current funding available through the existing benefit assessment program is approximately \$18 per benefit assessment unit. He stated that efforts to develop a countywide tax have stalled, but that the City has started exploring other options for increasing funding. The Task Force encouraged City staff to continue actively participating in the permit process, and will appoint a City Council member to speak at the upcoming Board of Supervisors hearing and at the upcoming CRWQCB workshop.

- D. **Adjournment.** Chair Maulhardt adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:55 p.m.