

**DRAFT**

**MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 19, 2004 LAKE MERCED TASK FORCE WATER  
COMMITTEE MEETING**

The meeting was held at the SFPUC Planning Bureau office in San Francisco and started at approximately 2:00 PM.

The meeting was attended by committee members Dick Allen, Tim Colen, Jerry Cadagan, Michael Carlin, David Dawdy, Mondy Lariz, Dick Morten, John Plummer, Patrick Sweetland and Howard Strassner. Jerry Cadagan chaired the meeting and acted as secretary.

Also in attendance were Greg Bartow (SFPUC's alternate to the Task Force), Cheryl Munoz (SFPUC Recycled Water Project Manager), Jon Loiacono from SFPUC's Oceanside Plant, Randy Raines, Consultant to SFPUC, and Jeff Marmer of Alliance for a Clean Waterfront.

The purpose of the meeting was to receive an update from SFPUC and its consultant on the Recycled Water Master Plan (RWMP) and to act upon a resolution relating to recycled water that the Water Committee might take to the full Task Force.

Pending Jon Loiacono's arrival it was agreed that Cheryl Munoz would provide an overview of the current status of the RWMP. Highlights of that overview follow in the numbered paragraphs below.

1. The update of the RWMP is about 9 months behind schedule due to issues relating to getting funding in place.
2. The update is intended to build upon the 1996 draft RWMP, which was never adopted by the SFPUC due to funding problems.
3. It is expected that a schedule for completion of the RWMP will be finalized in a few days, and that the RWMP will be complete by year-end 2004. This means that items such as the public outreach plan (p.2), the Master Plan Update Report (p.4), the memorandum regarding project alternatives (p.7) and the studies regarding sewer box flushing (p.13 and p.22) will of necessity be

plant would be Golden Gate Park, where tertiary water might be used to replace groundwater currently being pumped for irrigation purposes. In response to a question, Jon indicated that a typical pilot scale plant had a capital cost in the range of \$100,000. After discussion it was moved and seconded that the draft resolution set forth at the end of these minutes be referred to the full Task Force for adoption by the Task Force. The motion passed unanimously.

The Committee then turned to the draft Recycled Water Market Assessment memorandum (dated August 1, 2003) that had been previously provided by the SFPUC and distributed to Committee members. Highlights of the questions, answers and discussion regarding the Market Assessment memo follow in the lettered paragraphs below.

- A. Page 1 of the Market Assessment memo states that planned annual demand for recycled water within San Francisco is 11,500 acre-feet per year. It was asked what percentage of total potable water consumption in San Francisco this number represents and the answer was approximately 10%. It was further indicated that in theory between 80 – 100% of secondary treated water can be captured as tertiary water.
- B. There is an “Irrigation Pilot Study” in existence, which can be made available to the Committee and the public.
- C. SFPUC named Golden Gate Park, Harding Park Golf course, SBC Park and the Mission Bay complex as examples of locations or facilities that have been or will be dual plumbed to accommodate the use of recycled water. It was asked whether locations such as the soon-to-be refurbished Laguna Honda hospital and Trans Bay Terminal were also candidates for dual plumbing. SFPUC indicated that they were not because they were not covered by Recycled Water Use Ordinances 390-91 and 391-91 passed in 1991 by the SF Board of Supervisors. Committee members encouraged and urged SFPUC staff to seriously consider facilities and locations not covered by those ordinances.
- D. The Table on page 9 of the Market Assessment memo indicates that estimated annual demand at the SF Zoo is 1,839 acre-feet per year. It was suggested that this sounds like an unreasonably high estimate, particularly taking into account that the estimate for each 18-hole golf course in SF is about one-third

this summer that the Model could be used to test the feasibility of the idea. SFPUC staff agreed to consider the matter and also agreed to revise the “Key Implementation Considerations” boxes in the Table. That revision would take into account the idea of creating barriers and would also revise the “potential public acceptance issues” language, which some Committee members viewed as being unnecessarily negative in tone.

- F. A sentence in the paragraph entitled “Lake Merced Recharge” on page 18 states that a Luhdorff and Scalamini study indicates that Lake Merced water levels could be raised by adding “between 200 and 1,000 million gallons over a one-year period.” It was asked whether this should say between 200 and 1,000 gallons per day. SFPUC staff agreed to check those numbers.
- G. In connection with the Westside Basin Aquifer Recharge paragraph on page 17, a discussion similar to that described in paragraph E above ensued. Again Committee members suggested that the efficacy of utilizing recycled water should not be pre-determined until the question could be considered using the Model. It was also suggested that references to “questionable public acceptance” were unnecessarily negative.

The Committee agreed that at the next Committee meeting (date to be determined) the draft Existing Facilities Assessment provided by SFPUC would be the subject of review and discussion.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:00PM

Minutes prepared and submitted by Jerry Cadagan

water to substitute for potable water that is currently being used for irrigation purposes at locations such as Harding Park golf course, the San Francisco Zoo and Golden Gate Park; and

WHEREAS, there currently exists a distribution network (purple pipe) for the purpose of conveying recycled water to locations such as Harding Golf Course, the San Francisco Zoo, and Golden Gate Park; and

WHEREAS, The SFPUC and its potential future customers of tertiary recycled water could greatly benefit from the experience gained from a pilot scale or test program by learning to efficiently and safely produce, manage, and distribute tertiary recycled water; and

WHEREAS, there exists a wide technology available in the recycled water field, including small-scale tertiary water treatment plants; and the earliest possible introduction of such a plant in currently available space at San Francisco's Oceanside water treatment plant would be an enormous advance in water management policy for San Francisco,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Lake Merced Task Force urges the City and County of San Francisco and its Public Utilities Commission to immediately study the feasibility of a program utilizing one or more pilot-scale tertiary water treatment plants to provide tertiary recycled water for irrigation to potentially suitable sites such as Harding Park golf course, the San Francisco Zoo, or Golden Gate Park, thus allowing the potable water currently being used at those locations to be diverted to the Westside Basin and/or Lake Merced, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

If the feasibility study is successful, the City and County of San Francisco and its Public Utilities Commission immediately move forward with a small-scale demonstration project or projects.

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