

Los Angeles Chapter of the WaterReuse Association
April 9, 2019 MEETING SUMMARY



Location: City of Santa Monica
Address: Virginia Avenue Park
Thelma Terry Workshop 3
2200 Virginia Avenue
Santa Monica, CA 90404
Purpose: Bi-Monthly Meeting
Date and Time: April 9, 2019 from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Distribution: Los Angeles WaterReuse Association Chapter Members

Lunch: Sponsored by ARCADIS

Below is a summary of the highlight from the April 2019, bimonthly member meeting of the Los Angeles Chapter of the WaterReuse Association.

The presentations from this meeting can be found at:
<http://www.watereuse.org/sections/california/losangeles/meetings>

- 1. Host Presentation: Integrated One Water Approach to Achieve Water Self-Sufficiency (Sunny Wang, City of Santa Monica)**
The City of Santa Monica (City) has a goal to become water self-sufficient in order to achieve long-term cost benefits for rate payers, have a diverse, sustainable and drought resilient water supply, and to reduce their energy footprint. In 2011, the City's water supply portfolio was 51-percent local groundwater, 48-percent imported water, and 1-percent recycled water from the Santa Monica Urban Runoff Recycling Facility (SMURRF). In 2017, the City saw an 18-percent reduction in water demand due to conservation which helped to offset imported water supply. However, approximately 30-percent of the water supply is still imported from the Metropolitan Water District which helps to serve the variability in population throughout the day. The City has a population of 90,000 at night but during the day can exceed 250,000. In 2023, the City plans to have a water supply portfolio of 60-percent local groundwater, 20-percent conservation, 19-percent alternative water supply, and only 1-percent imported water.

The City completed a Sustainable Water Master Plan that includes the following three components:

1. Conservation: To reduce imported water by 38-percent by water conservation.
2. Alternative Water Supplies: To develop alternative water supplies to further reduce imported water demand. The City completed the Clean Beaches Initiative Tank, an underground stormwater capture tank which will be used to feed the SMURRF. The second component will be a 1-MGD advanced water treatment facility (AWTF) to treat wastewater and captured stormwater. There will also be production efficiency upgrades to the facility with a goal of increasing recovery from 80-percent to 90-percent. The treated water will be used for non-potable uses.
3. Expanding Local Groundwater Supplies: There are contamination issues in the local groundwater basins and the existing wellfield can only pump one well at a time for this reason. Expansion of the Arcadia Water Treatment Plant and acquisition of old wells as backup will help to increase resiliency.

2. Sponsor Presentation: Sustainable Water Infrastructure Project (*Brent Alspach/ARCADIS*)

The City of Santa Monica's Sustainable Water Infrastructure Project (SWIP) was delivered as a progressive design-build contract with Kiewit, Arcadis, and Perc Water. The project has two components: a new 1-MGD AWTF and upgrades to the SMURRF. The source water for the AWTF includes wastewater (10 percent of the City's production), stormwater including first flush, and urban runoff between storm events. The treatment process for the AWTF is membrane bioreactor (MBR), reverse osmosis (RO), ultraviolet advanced oxidation processes (UV-AOP), and chlorine (Cl₂) to achieve the 12- 10- 10-log removal credits of *Cryptosporidium*, *Giardia* and viruses through the treatment processes. The treated water will be used for non-potable uses and groundwater recharge. The second component of the project is an upgrade to the existing SMURRF. The facility has a capacity of 0.5 MGD, with stormwater/urban runoff and brackish groundwater as source waters. The existing facility uses a treatment train of dissolved air flotation (DAF), ultrafiltration (UF), ultraviolet light (UV), and Cl₂ and the new facility will add RO to address total dissolved solids (TDS), pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCPs), and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

Key sustainability features include:

- Pollution control via stormwater diversion and treatment
- Beneficial use of what would otherwise be a lost resource
- Reduced external system demand
- Solar panels to harness renewable energy
- Envision certification

Key challenges include:

- Multiple sources with variable contributions
- Variable quality of stormwater and urban runoff
- Coastal brackish groundwater aquifer with quality influenced by tidal cycles
- Potential long-term increases in brackish groundwater salinity
- Minimal institutional knowledge

3. Technical Topic: Advanced Water Treatment Operator (AWTO) Certification Background (*Toby Roy*)

The Advanced Water Treatment Operator (AWTO) Certification Program is launching in May/June of 2019. This certification is needed because new sources of supply are being developed and it is important for public confidence and to meet regulatory requirements. An alliance was formed between the American Water Works Association (AWWA) and the California Water Association (CWA) to bring in water and wastewater treatment plant operators and form a committee to develop this certification. The committee prepared a list of advanced water technologies including adsorption/exchange, advanced oxidation, biological filtration, disinfection (advanced), finished water chemical stabilization, iron and manganese removal, MBR, membrane desalination, and membrane filtration. There are several different reasons to go through the AWTO certification process including career advancement, certification requirement by an agency, to correct issues of fairness for operators, and to increase AWT training and networking.

The application for the certification can be found online at AWTOperator.org. Volunteers are needed to review applications. Testing will be conducted at test centers throughout the state. There are resources on the website and there will also be workshops scheduled.

4. **Water Recycling Legislative/Regulatory Updates (*Raymond Jay*)**

Raymond provided the 2019 California legislative dates and the website for more details (<http://assembly.ca.gov/legislativedeadlines>).

SB 166: Process Water Treatment Systems - onsite treatment and reuse of process water in breweries and wineries, introduced by Senator Wiener on January 28, 2019, amended in Senate on March 21, 2019, and sponsored by SFPUC. The bill requires State Water Resources Control Board, in consultation with Department of Public Health – Food and Drug Branch, to adopt regulations for microbiological, chemical, and physical water quality and treatment requirements for onsite treatment before 12/1/2025. The bill would require a process water treatment system in a brewery or winery to comply with the regulations within 2 years of the effective date of the regulations, and also require an entity that implements a process water treatment system in a brewery or winery to submit a report containing specified information to the department and to terminate the operation of, and modify to render inoperable, any process water treatment system in a brewery and winery at the direction of the State Board. Currently, WRCA is considering the concepts. Raymond is uncertain of the need for regulations, as they may already have pretreatment permit requirements. He is also uncertain if SB 166 is the highest priority for the limited State Board regulations staff.

AB 231: CEQA Exemption-Recycled Water - Introduced by Assembly member Mathis on January 17, 2019. This bill would exempt from CEQA a project to construct or expand a recycled water pipeline for the purpose of mitigating drought conditions for which a state of emergency was proclaimed by the Governor if the project meets specified criteria. This bill would also exempt from CEQA the development and approval of building standards by state agencies for recycled water systems. If the project consists of construction or expansion of a recycled water pipeline, directly related infrastructure must be within existing rights of way, and directly related groundwater replenishment must not affect wetlands or sensitive habitats. The project must also be on or adjacent to a critically overdrafted groundwater basin. The existing CEQA exemption is for pipelines less than one-mile long.

AB 292: Recycled Water: Raw Water and Groundwater Augmentation - Introduced by Assembly member Quirk on January 28, 2019, amended twice in assembly on March 4, and March 6, 2019, and sponsored by Water Reuse California. This bill would eliminate the terms “direct” and “indirect” potable reuse, rename “indirect potable reuse for groundwater recharge” as “groundwater augmentation”, and clarify the four types of potable reuse as groundwater augmentation, reservoir water augmentation, raw water augmentation and treated drinking water augmentation. The bill would require the State Board to adopt uniform water recycling criteria for raw water augmentation before December 31, 2023. The bill would make conforming changes in other areas relating to potable reuse.

SB 332: Wastewater Treatment: Recycled Water – This bill would attempt to accelerate water recycling by reducing wastewater discharges to the ocean and requires the NPDES permit holder to reduce all ocean discharges by 50-percent by 2030 and 95-percent by 2040. Fines for discharges would be calculated per acre-foot over allowed volume.

AB 1180: Water: Recycled Water – Requires the State Board to update uniform criteria for non-potable uses by 2023 if sufficient funds have been approved. It has been almost 20 years since Title 22 regulations have been updated. This bill would amend the Health and Safety Code to require that the policy handbook include a provision for the use of a swivel or change over device to supply potable water to dual plumbed systems during an interruption of recycled water service and require use of swivel or changeover device to be consistent with any notification and backflow protection provisions contained in the policy handbook.

Federal Update – WaterReuse has a fly-in for Water Week 2019 in Washington D.C. Several members went to meet with their congressional members and Martha Tremblay of the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County participated in the congressional briefing.

HR 1162: Water Recycling Investment and Improvement Act – This act will increase the money available through Title XVI. The ceiling will increase to \$30M and remove conditions about being in a drought area.

5. Regulatory Agency Update:

- **LA County Department of Public Health (Robert Bueras)**

Robert indicated “business as usual” and emphasized that the communications are important. The County wants to support any training efforts. Robert serves the east side of Los Angeles County but can be contacted if there is a need to escalate communications.

- **Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Steven Webb)**

As a result of the amended Recycled Water Policy, the Regional Board will issue three super orders affecting permits. The first will be for potable reuse permittees to update CECs. The second is for landscape irrigation to remove priority monitoring requirements. The third is for wastewater permittees to include volumetric reporting requirements.

6. California State Section Update (Evelyn Cortez-Davis)

News from National – Greg Fogel is the new Policy Director, the Title XVI budget has been reduced to \$3M, and there is a new partnership with Project WET to update information resources for K-5 outreach.

Recycled Water User Network – This is a resource available for branding and community recognition of recycled water use. It is an online process where the customer and utility will sign up and will be granted the Water Star designation. More information is available online: <https://watereuse.org/join-give/recycled-water-user-network/>

USEPA “National Water Reuse Action Plan” Announced – The USEPA made an announcement in February about plans to accelerate the work of water recycling through federal leadership and development of a national water reuse agenda. The expectation is for EPA to help accelerate water reuse in states where it is not promoted. This plan will be revealed at the National WaterReuse Symposium in San Diego.

SB 332 – The WaterReuse CA Board has adopted the position to “Oppose Unless Amended”. A working group met on April 9 to develop a position at the Board level.

CA Water Reuse Action Plan – Governor Newsom is developing a Water Reuse Action Plan. WaterReuse CA formed a committee to develop a 10-page paper about the vision for water reuse in California from the perspective of the water reuse community.

State Water Board Clean Water State Revolving Fund Payments On Hold – The State is updating their accounting system to be less manually intensive. This is putting payments on hold and could cause delays as late as July.

WaterReuse Conferences:

- Annual WaterReuse Symposium - September 8-11: San Diego
- 2020 WaterReuse CA Conference - March 15-17: San Francisco
- 2021 WaterReuse CA Conference - March 21-23: Indian Wells

Send your concerns/questions that you want communicated to CA Section Board to your Chapter Trustee at:
evelyn.cortez-davis@ladwp.com

7. Chapter Updates (Judi Miller)

- Approval of February 2019 Member Meeting Summary
- Volunteer opportunities are still open for the Technical Committee Chair.

8. Membership Roundtable (Jared Lee)

- The Chapter is still looking for a June and August hosts.
- Funding will continue to be a standing topic but there are no updates this month. The Chapter is interested in hearing funding success stories.
- There is a new mixed-use residential building going up near the SR-134 Alameda Exit. This property will be using recycled water for irrigation.
- Burbank is trying to have recycled water approved for artificial turf cooling.

9. Next Meetings

- June 11, 2019 – Host: *Glendale Water & Power*; Sponsor: *Hazen and Sawyer*
- August 13, 2019 - Host: TBD; Sponsor: TBD

10. Adjournment.....1:30 p.m.

Los Angeles Chapter Officers for 2019/2021

Fred Geringer, President	626-319-1107	fgerring@hazenandsawyer.com
Jared Lee, Vice President	626-379-8443	JLee@burbankca.gov
Judi Miller, Secretary/Treasurer	213-228-8236	judi.miller@jacobs.com
Evelyn Cortez-Davis, Chapter Trustee	213-367-3564	evelyn.cortez-davis@ladwp.com
Raymond Jay, Past-President	213-217-5777	rjay@mwdh2o.com

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	ORGANIZATION
Harmik	Aghanian	ARCADIS
Brent	Alspach	ARCADIS
Paul	Anderson	Burbank Water and Power
Shadi	Bader	Santa Clarita Valley Water District
Cory	Brucken	City of Santa Monica
Robert	Bueras	LA County Department of Public Health
Kirstin	Byrne	Brown and Caldwell

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FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	ORGANIZATION
Susan	Chang	LASAN
Paul	Chau	Kennedy/Jenks
Denise	Chow	LASAN
John	Christopher	HDR
Evelyn	Cortez-Davis	LADWP
Stacy	Curry	LA County Department of Public Works
Nasir	Emami	LASAN
Ufuk	Erdal	ARCADIS
Zeynep	Erdal	AECOM
Everett	Ferguson	WRD
Gabriel	Gaytan	Walnut Valley Water District
Fred	Gerringer	Trussell Technologies
Karina	Gonzalez	LASAN
Viet	Ha	LA County Department of Public Health
Amanda	Heise	Jacobs
Bob	Huizenga	Burbank Water and Power
Gil	Hurwitz	Black & Veatch
Greg	Imamura	ARCADIS
Jennifer	Jacobus	ESA
Raymond	Jay	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Don	Jones	Central Basin Municipal Water District
Kelvin	Kasai	LA County Department of Public Health
Hannah	Keife	ARCADIS
Sunny	Kim	Neotec
Christopher	Kindle	Brown and Caldwell
Elisa	Lee	Woodard & Curran
Jared	Lee	Burbank Water and Power
Qiong	Lei	LASAN
Brittany	Liu	WRD
John	Lockett	LADWP
Danielle	Maurizio	LACSD
Kate	Melberg	LASAN

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FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	ORGANIZATION
Judi	Miller	Jacobs
Ray	Mokhtari	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Stephen	Opot	LASAN
Linda	Palmquist	MNS Engineers
Ludwing	Perez	ARCADIS
Saul	Perez	City of Santa Monica
Gilberto	Ramirez	LA County Department of Public Health
Toby	Roy	
Bertha	Ruiz-Hoffman	LA County Department of Parks and Recreation
Danielle	Ryan	ARCADIS
Shahrouzeh	Saneie	LASAN
Marvin	Schober	LADWP
Farzaneh	Shabani	LASAN
Eric	Smith	CDM Smith
Jim	Smith	LA County Department of Parks and Recreation
Karen	Snyder	Katz & Associates
Amy	So	LA Bureau of Engineering, EED
Camille	Stephens	Katz & Associates
Alton	Ta	LA County Department of Public Works
Dian	Tanuwidjaja	Long Beach Water Department
Tracy	Tate	City of Los Angeles
Anthony	Tew	LADWP
Tai	Tseng	Long Beach Water Department
Alex	Waite	Brown and Caldwell
Joe	Walters	Purple Pipe Consulting
Dean	Wang	Long Beach Water Department
Sunny	Wang	City of Santa Monica
Steven	Webb	LA Regional Water Quality Control Board
Qin	Xintang	ARCADIS
Bob	Yamaguchi	Walnut Valley Water District
Kevin	Yao	ARCADIS
Jason	Yim	Santa Clarita Valley Water District

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FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	ORGANIZATION
Zita	Yu	West Basin MWD
Christina	Zabalza	LASAN
Rick	Zimmer	Eurofins

TOTAL: 74