

**Location:** Long Beach Water Department  
**Address:** 415 W. Ocean Blvd.  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
**Purpose:** Bi-Monthly Meeting  
**Date and Time:** February 11, 2019 from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
**Distribution:** Los Angeles WaterReuse Association Chapter Members and Supporters

**Lunch: Sponsored by Stantec**

Below is a summary of the highlight from the February 2020, 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: Port of Long Beach Stormwater Harvesting and Water Recycling Study – Dylan Porter / City of Long Beach**

Dylan Porter is a Senior Environmental Specialist for the City of Long Beach and has 11 years of experience at the Port of Long Beach overseeing industrial, commercial and stormwater compliance. The Port of Long Beach was founded in 1911 and encompasses 7,600 acres including 3,000 acres of land and 4,600 acres of water. The Port of Long Beach is a public agency representing the Harbor Department of the City of Long Beach acting as a landlord port that generates revenue from leasing marine terminals. The Port of Long Beach is the second-busiest container cargo port in North America at \$194 billion in trade.

The Port of Long Beach is currently in the process of developing a Stormwater Harvesting and Water Recycling Study in order to reduce the demand on potable water and maximize the use of advanced treated water treated and tertiary, Title 22 recycled water as well as stormwater harvesting. The Port of Long Beach is working with the Long Beach Water Department and Stantec to identify the largest water users within the Port and determine whether they would be suitable to use recycled water. The largest water user in the Harbor District uses as much potable water as 5,000 homes. This study will help determine the percentage of potable water currently in use that can be transitioned to recycled water. The Port of Long Beach is currently reaching out to its tenants to better understand their water demand patterns to determine if non-potable recycled water is a viable alternative. The State Water Project is the single largest energy consumer in the state and the CEC estimates 19% of all power generated in the state is consumed by water related activities. Approximately 40% of the City of Long Beach's water is sourced from imported water provided by Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD).

Harvesting stormwater will reduce the pollutant loads into the harbor, and will help with facilitating compliance with water quality requirements, and reducing costs, potable water demands and the greenhouse gas emission impacts of importing water. Distinct drainage basins within the Port were developed by Stantec using available GIS data. Each unique drainage basin was evaluated using a pass/fail analysis and those that failed would cause significant impacts to the Port operations or areas that lacked available space for installing stormwater harvesting systems. A weighting factor was applied to criteria in order to rank the 25 drainage basins for best locations to install stormwater harvesting systems. Criteria included site size, stormwater harvesting capacity, site constraint near

the downstream collection point, the water demand need, the distance to water demand location(s) from the collection point, ease of constructability and stakeholder (tenant) support.

The final study is expected to be completed in the Summer of 2020, and once completed, the study will be considered in order to pursue grant funding and construction.

2. **Sponsor Presentation: Stantec's AWT Capabilities and Projects in Southern CA** (*Ed Othmer / Stantec*)

Ed Othmer is the Vice President and the North American Wet Weather Sector Leader for Stantec and provided an overview of Stantec's water reuse capabilities and experience including emerging business conditions and case studies. The emerging concerns involve new stringent regulatory requirements, current and future droughts, aging infrastructure, population growth and climate change. To combat these obstacles, water, wastewater, stormwater and groundwater are treated as collective resources, as "One Water".

Southern California would benefit from an inter-tied water system as modelled by UC Davis Professors Dr. Jay R. Lund and Dr. Richard E. Howitt that takes into account surface water, groundwater and the economy. Synergistic opportunities between stormwater and wastewater would also help address operational challenges in wastewater treatment. Water conservation efforts have resulted in lower wastewater flows, and stormwater can supplement the difference to maintain a more stable influent flow to treatment plants.

Stantec presented several case studies for applying the synergistic opportunities between stormwater, wastewater, surface water and groundwater. Applying intelligent platforms helps to manage combined sewer systems such as in Atlanta. MWD's Regional Recycled Water Program is partnering with the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts to provide advanced treatment to non-nitrified secondary effluent from the Joint Wastewater Pollution Control Plant in Carson, California to produce 150 MGD of potable water. Stantec has completed the design of its demonstration facility consisting of MBR, RO and UV/AOP processes. The East San Gabriel Valley Watershed Management Group has coordinated a study for stormwater capture and groundwater recharge between five major watersheds including Puddingstone, San Jose Creek, San Dimas Wash, Walnut Creek and Big Dalton Wash. Stantec is also supporting the Port of Long Beach's Recycled Water and Stormwater Harvesting Study as described more in detail in the prior presentation. The Long Beach Municipal Urban Stormwater Treatment (LB-MUST) project is located along the Los Angeles River and is designed to treat dry weather flows and a portion of first flush flows to help comply with NPDES Permit and TMDLs. The project site will also provide education and community enhancement features.

3. **Technical Presentation: SCWRP Los Angeles River Flow Study** (*Evelyn Cortez-Davis / LADWP*)

The Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) Los Angeles River Flow Study was initiated by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to quantify the Los Angeles River flows and what is deemed necessary to maintain and sustain beneficial uses of the LA River. The State Board saw a need for science-based decision making with regards to LA River flows which served as the springboard for the LA River Flow Study.

The study is based on a 32-mile reach of the LA River within the City of Los Angeles city limits from Canoga Park to the City of Long Beach. The Los Angeles River was channelized after a series of disastrous flood events in order to send the flood water out of the City as fast as possible. The LA

River water sources include treated effluent from the D.C. Tillman WRP, the Burbank WRP and the Los Angeles-Glendale WRP within this stretch of the LA River. There is no holistic entity that manages the flow in the LA River and different entities manage the different aspects of the river. There are diverse interests for the LA River including recycled water projects, stormwater runoff reductions, water rights allocations, habitat restoration, recreational activities and community engagement.

The LA River Flow Study has two overarching project goals including developing technical tools to quantify the relationship between different flow regimes and aquatic and non-aquatic beneficial uses, as well as reaching consensus on appropriate flow needs and optimal flow management scenarios. There are six activities involved in the execution of the LA River Flow Study project as listed below:

- Activity 1 – Stakeholder Coordination
- Activity 2 – Non-Aquatic Life Use Assessment
- Activity 3 – Aquatic Life Use Assessment
- Activity 4 – Apply Environmental Flows/Evaluate Scenarios
- Activity 5 – Monitoring and Adaptive Management Plan
- Activity 6 – Summary Results/Reporting

The LA River Flow Study is to be completed by December 2020 and the total cost is estimated to be \$2.86 million where \$1.7 million is to be contributed by the State and Regional Boards and \$1.16 million is provided by the City of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LACPW) and the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts for the technical elements of the Study.

Activity 1 – Stakeholder Coordination is in progress and its goal is to coordinate with LA River stakeholders on the technical approach and the desired outcomes. It is structured with a Stakeholder Working Group (SWG) and a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) where the SWG meets biannually and the TAC meets quarterly. In order to avoid duplication and stakeholder fatigue, Stakeholders have partnered with existing efforts including the LA River Master Plan by LACPW and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA)/Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) planning efforts.

Activity 2 – Non-Aquatic Life Use Assessment was completed June 30, 2019 where its goal was to identify key non-aquatic life uses and determine hydrologic needs for those uses. The approach to this task included surveying existing reports, interviewing key individuals, producing a list of uses by reach, and establishing hydrological needs for each use with a minimum depth and flow needed for recreational purposes. The Final Recreation Survey as of September 2019 can be found at <https://www.sccwrp.org/publications> when “Los Angeles River” is searched.

Activity 3 – Aquatic Life Use Assessment was also completed September 30, 2019. Its goals were to develop flow-ecology relationships for key aquatic species or habitats in the LA River. The approach for this task included an assessment of the hydrologic baseline, identification and categorization of ecological endpoints of the management concern, and determination of flow ecology relationships for stream, marsh, and estuary endpoints. The full process and modeled outcome will be presented to the TAC for review in March 2020 or later.

The Activity 4 – Apply Environmental Flows and Evaluate Scenarios task is still in progress and is estimated to be complete in December 2020. The appropriate hydrologic tools and updated modeling analysis has been completed. The preliminary results of the wastewater reuse scenarios analysis are to be provided in the next TAC meeting scheduled for March 2020. Other items included

in this activity task involve analyzing tolerances of system to flow modification, evaluating stormwater capture scenarios, groundwater interactions, habitat management offsets for flow reductions, and effects of flow alteration on tidal portions of the river, as well as establishing recommended flow targets with stakeholder coordination.

Activity 5 – Monitoring and Adaptive Management is also expected to be completed in December 2020 with the goal of developing a recommended monitoring strategy with potential triggers for adaptive management in order to maintain a certain condition for the LA River. The approach includes working with stakeholders and the technical team to develop monitoring strategies involving leveraging existing monitoring and assessment programs, providing data to improve model performance, and evaluating the efficacy of the criteria and management actions.

The purpose of this study is not to produce policy, or provide recommendations for policy, but to solely provide a science-based analysis of the LA River flows and its impacts, especially to help prepare to mitigate negative impacts.

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

##### California Legislation

All bills passed by the Legislature last year took effect on January 1, 2020.

February 21, 2020 was the last day for bills to be introduced.

**Constituents of Emerging Concern (CECs)** – PFAS and PFOS – Bill to be introduced to establish a CEC Drinking Water Program at the State Board with a consistent science-based approach to best assess the highest CECs first, remove barriers on CECs and how best implemented to create for consistent data collection and removal of contaminants statewide.

**Climate Resiliency Bonds** – needs a 2/3 vote to be on the November 2020 ballot

- Governor Newsom's - \$4.75 billion bond
  - WaterReuse requesting \$1B from Governor towards recycled water to meet resiliency goals
- SB45 (Allen) - \$5.5 billion bond
- AB352 (E. Garcia) - \$3.92 billion bond
- AB 1298 (Mullin) - did not specify monetary amount

##### **California Water Resilience Portfolio**

- Letter from WaterReuse to increase CWSRF capacity
  - Need regulations to be put in place by 2023 in order to meet goals and complete onsite reuse regulations by 2023
  - Increase source control of CECs like PFAS

##### **Assembly Bill 1180** – Water: Recycled Water (Friedman)

- Require SWRCB to update uniform criteria for non-potable uses by 2023 if sufficient funds have been appropriated. Require policy handbook to include a provision for 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.

Last action: 10/02/19 – signed by Governor; WRCA was sponsor.

#### Federal update

National water Reuse Action Plan: Comments were due December 16, 2019

FY 2020 Appropriations enacted:

- CWSRF = \$1.638B
- DWSRF = \$1.126B
- Title XVI = \$63M;
- WINN = \$20M
- WIFIA = \$60M
- Aquifer Storage = \$10M
- Innovative Water = \$1M
- Stormwater Reuse = \$25M
- Research Program = \$6M
- Desalination = \$20M

FY Appropriations enacted where the FY 2021 initial Appropriations request were significantly reduced.

#### **HR 1162** – Water Recycling Investment and Improvement Act (Napolitano)

Title XVI increase appropriation from \$50M to \$500M and federal funding ceiling from \$20M to \$30M – Delete funding priority for projects identified by U.S. Drought or as a disaster area for the past 4 years – Last Action 06/13/2019 Subcommittee Hearings

#### **S. 1932** – Drought Resiliency and Water Supply Infrastructure Act (Gardner)

Authorizes for Fiscal Years 2020 to 2024 \$640M for Surface and Groundwater Storage, \$100M for water recycling and reuse, and \$60M for desalination. Authorizes for Fiscal Years 2021 to 2025 \$150M and deauthorizes for water recycling projects – Last Action 07/18/2019 Subcommittee Hearings

#### **HR 5302** – Western Water Recycling and Drought Relief Act (McNerny)

Amend Title XVI to add projects to Congressional Approved List – Authorizes appropriations for 12 projects (11 for Northern California and 1 for HI) – Limit Federal cost shares to 25% – Last Action 12/13/2019 Introduced Legislation

#### **HR XX** – FUTURE drought Resiliency Act (Huffman)

Furthering Underutilized Technologies and Unleashing Responsible Expenditures (FUTURE) – Incorporate Napolitano’s HR 1162 language and Levin’s HR 3723 Desalination Development Act Last Action 01/08/2020 Released Legislative Package

### **5. Regulatory Agency Update**

#### **a. Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board** (*Danielle Robinson*)

- Volumetric reporting per the recycled water policy that was issued by the State Board as of last year
- GeoTracker module should be ready sometime soon
- Indirect Potable Reuse Project – specifically designed for CEC monitoring requirements – under review by management currently and will be issued soon after management review

- The Regional Board is working on amending the monitoring and reporting programs for current indirect potable reuse project permittees within the next few months.
- A Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) template will soon be released to aid indirect potable reuse project permittees in creating site-specific QAPPs.
- There are open Water Resource Control Engineer positions at the Regional Board for those who are interested.

**b. LA County Department of Public Health (Robert Bueras)**

Robert mentioned that if you have any projects in the pipeline, please submit the plans to LA County Department of Public Health (DPH) to avoid any delays. Communication with the Department of Public Health is important. Call or email before the project starts. Start the permit process as early as possible. The DPH lost two staff members and in the process to hire a new chief. Dan Bacani is the acting chief.

**c. SWRCB Division of Drinking Water Programs (Faraz Asad)**

- Perchlorate RDL (Reporting Detection Limit) - Working to lower the perchlorate RDL – expect an update by summer of this year
- DDW is working on the onsite treatment and reuse of non-potable water. Deadline to adopt is Dec 1, 2022. They have updated their website with a dedicated webpage for onsite regulations.

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

- USEPA National Water Reuse Action Plan can be accessed through the link below:
  - <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2019-09/documents/water-reuse-action-plan-draft-2019.pdf>
  - There are 46 Actions where WaterReuse is to lead up to 6 actions and partner on 11.
- Governor Newsom’s 2020 “Water Resilience Portfolio” can be accessed through the link below:
  - <http://waterresilience.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/California-Water-Resilience-Portfolio-2019-Final2.pdf>
  - The Governor’s Climate Bond includes \$4.75 billion where \$1 billion was specifically asked for DWR regional water resiliency/recycled water
- Final SOP Guidance for Bioassay Monitoring Released and can be found on the WaterReuse website:
  - [https://watereuse.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/NWRI.WRCA\\_BIAG\\_Final\\_Report.pdf](https://watereuse.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/NWRI.WRCA_BIAG_Final_Report.pdf)
- Statewide Toxicity Provisions can be accessed in the following link:
  - [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/state\\_implementation\\_policy/docs/toxicity\\_staff\\_workshop\\_01092020.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/state_implementation_policy/docs/toxicity_staff_workshop_01092020.pdf)
  - The State Board is proposing to adopt toxicity standards. There are concerns that the new test method being proposed could produce false positives resulting in discharge labeled as “toxic” when monitoring recycled water.
- The WRCA Letter to the Ocean Protection Council on 100% Ocean Discharge Prohibition Target can be found in the following link:
  - [http://www.opc.ca.gov/webmaster/ftp/pdf/agenda\\_items/20191113/Draft-Revised-Strategic-Plan-for-CA-Coast-and-Ocean\\_11.1.19\\_draft-FINAL.pdf](http://www.opc.ca.gov/webmaster/ftp/pdf/agenda_items/20191113/Draft-Revised-Strategic-Plan-for-CA-Coast-and-Ocean_11.1.19_draft-FINAL.pdf)

- There are plans to establish a target date for phasing out coastal sewage discharge by 2022.
- Communications Collaborative Group (Katz & Associates)
  - Terminology document comments are being requested and in process of being loaded onto the national WaterReuse website.
- **The 2020 WaterReuse California Annual Conference in San Francisco has been POSTPONED.**
  - <https://watereuse.org/sections/watereuse-california/2020-watereuse-california-annual-conference/2020-watereuse-california-registration/registration-form/>
  - All WaterReuse members are eligible to submit nominations for the following awards:
    - Recycled Water Agency of the Year
    - Recycled Water Outreach/Education Program of the Year
    - Recycled Water Advocate of the Year
    - Recycled Water Customer of the Year
    - Recycled Water Staff Person of the Year

#### 7. Chapter Updates (*Judi Miller*)

The December 2019 Member Meeting Summary was approved. Judi discussed the membership dues and the following four types of memberships:

- Water and Wastewater Utilities
- Business and Industry
- Government Agencies
- Not-for-Profit Organizations

**The LA Chapter has a new Younger Member Committee initiated by Sam Landsman; Nicholas Chow is co-chair.**

**There is a new volunteer opportunity to take lead for survey monkey to conduct surveys and to send to our group!**

Membership is at the national level of the WaterReuse Association. While most of our LA Chapter participants are members via their employer, participation in the Chapter is not contingent on WaterReuse membership. However, certain activities (such as voting and holding leadership positions) are restricted to members only.

If you would like further information about your organization becoming a WaterReuse member, please contact Erin DiMenna, Director of Membership at [edimenna@watereuse.org](mailto:edimenna@watereuse.org) or 571.445.5505.

#### 8. Membership Roundtable (*Jared Lee*)

The Membership Roundtable is an opportunity for agencies to share their accomplishments and challenges with, or seek input from, the LA Chapter WR members. This week's roundtable discussion was dedicated to recognizing the contributions of Ray Mokhtari/Metropolitan Water District who is retiring after 30 years of service at Metropolitan. Ray was recognized by the

members of the LA Chapter for his advancement of recycled water projects in Southern CA through his role leading Metropolitan’s Local Resources Program.

**9. Next Meetings**

- April 14, 2020 – CANCELLED
- June 9, 2020 – *Agency Spotlight*: West Basin Municipal Water District (virtual meeting)

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

**Los Angeles Chapter Officers for 2019/2021**

Fred Gerringer, President	626-319-1107
Jared Lee, Vice President	626-379-8443
Judi Miller, Secretary/Treasurer	213-228-8236
Evelyn Cortez-Davis, Chapter Trustee	213-367-1014
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