

**Water Supply Advisory Committee**  
**Joint City Council and WSAC Study Session 7**  
**Louden Nelson Community Center, Rm. 3**  
**Meeting Summary**

***Use and Meaning of the Meeting Summary:***

*The Summaries of the Water Supply Advisory Committee are intended to be general summaries of key issues raised and discussed by participants at meetings. The presentation of issues or items discussed is not designed to be totally comprehensive, or reflect the breadth or depth of discussions. However, it is intended to capture the gist of conversations and conclusions.*

*Where a consensus or other agreement was reached, it will be so noted. Where ideas or comments are from only one or several participants, or where a brainstormed list is presented the content of which was not agreed to by all Committee Members, the acting clerk will to the best of their abilities note these qualifiers. Where the acting clerk believes that the insertion of additional information would be useful to the group they insert it in this summary and indicate that the insertion comes from them, rather than from the Committee.*

*An early draft of this summary is sent to Committee Members so that they may provide comments to the facilitators and permit the preparation of a more reliable Presentation Draft for review at the Committee's next meeting. If the Members' comments conflict with each other the acting clerk will do their best to resolve the conflict in the Presentation Draft. When Members raise comments about the meeting Summaries, or make other suggestions or comments following meetings that propose changes that are more than "corrections" to the Summaries, the author add these in a section at the end of the item or at the end of the meeting Summary captioned "Post Script".*

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Committee Members: Beckman, Holt, Jacobson, Keutmann, Longinotti, Mansergh, Mesiti-Miller, Pepping, Rotkin, Slatter, Stanojevic, and Stearns were present. Committee Members: Baskin and Engfer were absent. Water Director Menard was present.

Councilmembers Posner, Comstock, Chase, Terrazas, Noroyan, Vice-Mayor Mathews and Mayor Lane were present. City Manager Martin Bernal and City Attorney Tony Condotti were also in attendance.

### **Study Session June 23, 2015**

#### **Presentation: Technical Overview**

Consultant Bob Raucher, Stratus Consulting Inc. presented:

- Historical information regarding demand projections, droughts, and comparison of supply and demand.
- Extended drought's potential impacts on water shortages.
- Climate change's potential impacts and factors regarding water supply and demand.
- Risks that included shortfalls, curtailments, wildfires, seismic events, mudslides, flooding, etc.

Question and Answer:

- A member of the public asked questions regarding the successes of Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR), regional opportunities, Soquel's plans and the cost of Deep Water Desalination. Committee Member Mike Rotkin responded to the Deep Water Desalination question.

#### **Joint Study Session**

Mayor Lane opened a channel of communication between Committee Members and the City Council, requesting additional comments beyond the technical information that was just provided.

- Committee Member Longinotti commented on altering reservoir use strategies, recharging aquifers, and using preexisting infrastructure.
- Councilmember Terrazas asked a question regarding the effects of prolonged drought on water supply. Committee Member Longinotti discussed the design drought and how the Committee has interacted with it.
- Committee Member Rotkin commented on his optimism of the Committee's ability to deliver a solution to the Council.

- Committee Member Mansergh commented on the importance of having a well vetted trigger.
- Committee Member Stearns spoke on his belief that the solution provided to the Council will be comprehensive and supportive.
- Committee Member Mesiti-Miller commented on environmental concerns.
- Committee Member Keutmann commented on the lack of short-term protection while implementing a water supply solution.
- Councilmember Mathews asked for a point of clarification on a comment that was made regarding the Treatment Plant's upgrades, as described in the Water Department's Capital Improvement Program (CIP), to accommodate water from in-lieu or ASR. Water Director Menard responded, saying the planned upgrades in the CIP for the Treatment Plant will not accommodate an increase in the amount of water that it can treat. Roughly, another \$40-50 million will be needed to treat water from in-lieu or ASR.

### **Public Comment**

The Committee and Council broke from their conversation to take comments and questions from members of the public. 11 members of the public spoke on matters relating to:

- Their personal recommendation for a solution to water supply,
- The difficulties of pursuing "manufactured" water in Santa Cruz,
- The benefits of the Hansen Quarry recommendation,
- The benefits of installing a second pipeline between the Felton Diversion Station and Loch Lomond,
- Bolstering water rationing,
- The regional benefits of aquifer recharge,
- Attempting to expand water rights,
- Recharging aquifers with untreated water,

- The importance of reducing water consumption while implementing a future solution to the water shortage,
- The difficulties of the community accepting a trigger and Plan B in comparison to the community's acceptance of a Plan A,
- The potential inadequacy of some statistics discussed during this meeting, and
- The benefits of investing in emerging water supply technologies.

### **Return to Joint Study Session/Council Reaction**

Councilmember Posner spoke on matters relating to his concerns over the use of a trigger - when to move on from a plan (Plan A) if it is not working, that WSAC considers things that have not yet been implemented yet before moving to a Plan B, there is a conservation measure discussed at a previous Water Commission meeting that has yet to be implemented, and start working on interagency agreements soon. He asked a question regarding how climate change is being figured into the process. Bob Raucher responded mentioning the use of the models from CAL-Adapt. Councilmember Posner then discussed the importance of being generous with fish, though realistic as well.

Councilmember Comstock did not comment.

Councilmember Terrazas spoke on matters relating to his optimism on WSAC's process and there should be coordination between the CIP and water supply projects.

Councilmember Mathews spoke on matters relating to the Committee's optimism, the need to invest in realistic and reliable outcomes, the importance of ongoing conservation, the importance of observing costs, the benefits of a trigger, and having a trigger that is scheduled for an early change of course if necessary. Encouraged by a Plan B that is independent of rainfall.

Councilmember Noroyan spoke on matters relating to how she is impressed by the Committee's process thus far, her desire to see a water yield versus cost comparison, the importance of two plans (i.e., Plan A and Plan B), and to have a rain independent alternative.

Mayor Lane spoke on matters relating to the importance in having a trigger (is there a trigger related to number of drought years?), what that trigger may look

like, the importance and potential ability of the Department of Fish and Wildlife to work with the Water Department (consider strong negotiation on flow requirements), and how he is impressed with how smoothly the Committee's process has gone thus far.

**Adjourn**

PRESENTATION DRAFT