

COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

WATER ADVISORY COMMISSION

701 OCEAN STREET, ROOM 312, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060
(831) 454-2022 FAX: (831) 454-3128 TDD: (831) 454-2123

AGENDA

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY WATER ADVISORY COMMISSION

Wednesday June 5, 2019, 4:00 p.m.

Fifth Floor (Redwood) Conference Room, Room 520 - County Governmental Center
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

- A. **OPENING**
1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Election of Officers*
- B. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** February 6, 2018
(Note: April 3, 2019 meeting was not held due to lack of a quorum)
- C. **PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**
Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on matters that are within the Commission's area of responsibility, but not on today's agenda.
- D. **COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**
Opportunity for Commissioners to report on matters that are not on today's agenda.
- E. **STAFF REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- F. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS – *indicates items for more in-depth discussion**
1. Pajaro Valley Groundwater Management Issues
 2. Santa Margarita Groundwater Management Issues
 3. Mid-County Groundwater Mgt – Soquel/Santa Cruz Supply Development
 4. County Environmental Code Compliance
 5. Karst Protection
 6. Pajaro River Flood Control
 7. Coordination with Other Commissions
 8. Water Supply for Cannabis Operations
 9. Water Advisory Commission Work Program and agenda streamlining
- G. **NEW BUSINESS**
1. County Strategic Plan and Operational Plan*
https://sccounty01.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/Operational_Plan_2019-21/Operational_Plan_2019-21.pdf
 2. Update of General Plan policies related to water

H. INFORMATION AGENDA

I. CORRESPONDENCE

J. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACTION ON ITEMS AFFECTING WATER:

April 16, 2019, 29: [DOC-2019-290](#) : [Approve appointment of Brian Lockwood as the Fourth District appointee to the Water Advisory Commission, for a term to expire April 1, 2023, as recommended by Supervisor Caput](#) *Approved By Consent Vote [Unanimous]*

K. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

L. ADJOURNMENT

PLEASE CONTACT JOHN RICKER, (831) 454-2750, IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THIS MEETING

The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs or activities. The meeting room is located in an accessible facility. If you wish to attend this meeting and you will require special assistance in order to participate, please contact Teresa Lautenschlager at 454-2022 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting, to make arrangements. As a courtesy to those persons affected, please attend the meeting smoke and scent free.



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MINUTES

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY WATER ADVISORY COMMISSION

Wednesday February 6, 2018, 4:00 p.m.

Fifth Floor Conference Room, Room 520 - County Governmental Center
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

A. OPENING

1. Call to Order: 4:06 PM

2. Roll Call:

Present: Hamilton-Monkerud, Wilson, Berry, Sharp, Bobbe

Absent: Edgemon, Gregorio

Staff: John Ricker, Environmental Health

Others: Becky Steinbrunner, Jerry Paul, Fred Yukic; Brian Lockwood, PV Water

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 5, 2018

Motion: Moved by Hamilton-Monkerud, seconded by Sharp, approved, Bobbe abastained.

C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Becky Steinbrunner described a pending litigation regarding Pure Water Soquel.

Jerry Paul supported the City's pending water rights update and the transfer of water to Soquel.

Brian Lockwood provided an update PV Water activities.

D. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Discussed but No Action

E. STAFF REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Staff mentioned the County Budget and strategic planning process.

Discussed but No Action

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – *indicates items for discussion

1. Pajaro Valley Groundwater Management Issues

No Discussion

2. Santa Margarita Groundwater Management Issues

No Discussion

3. Update on County Water Resource Management Efforts

No Discussion

4. Mid-County Water Issues

No Discussion

5. Update on Conjunctive Use and Groundwater Recharge Efforts

No Discussion

6. Water Advisory Commission Role and Work Program*

Commissioners reviewed the updated draft work plan and the assignments of responsible Commissioner to take lead for each item. The agenda in the future will reflect the work items identified, including Karst.

7. Soquel Creek Adjudication *

Staff provided a discussion of Resource Conservation District meeting that was held for landowners to discuss the adjudication, issues of reduced streamflow, and opportunities to preserve streamflow. Staff also discussed the relationship to efforts to protect streamflow in Soquel Creek relative to the Groundwater Sustainability Planning effort.

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Water Supply for Cannabis Operations*

There was discussion of state policies that are more stringent than local policies regarding limits on use of water for cannabis operations. This item will be discussed further.

2. Update of General Plan policies related to water*

Staff will resend the list of current General Plan Policies regarding water for Commissioners review and comment

H. INFORMATION AGENDA

I. CORRESPONDENCE

J. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACTION ON ITEMS AFFECTING WATER

1. January 15, 2019: [Approve appointment of Cherie Bobbe as the First District appointee to the Water Advisory Commission, for a term to expire April 1, 2021, as recommended by Supervisor Leopold](#)

K. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

L. ADJOURNMENT: at 5:58 pm

Minutes Prepared by: John Ricker, EH Staff



**SUSTAINABLE
ENVIRONMENT**

GOALS & STRATEGIES



SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

OVERVIEW

The Sustainable Environment Operational Plan consists of 8 strategies and 34 objectives contributed from 11 departments.

COLLABORATION

Departments from all government areas collaborate on sustainable environment objectives. In General Government, General Services is modernizing the County fleet. In Health and Human Services, Environmental Health is working on groundwater recharge projects. In Land Use and Community

Development, Public Works is reducing the use of plastics countywide, and in Public Safety and Justice, the District Attorney is prosecuting environmental crimes. Collaboration cuts across every objective, showing that environmental sustainability is a countywide issue.

MAJOR PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

Major projects include cannabis licensing, fleet redesign, groundwater recharge projects, climate ready agriculture, disaster mitigation, and organic waste diversion.

GOALS

Outdoor Experience

- A Ensure access to and enhance experience in parks, open spaces, water areas and outdoor activities.

- i
- ii

We will create parks and outdoor environments that enhance everyone's access and experience.

We will create and promote a variety of recreational programs to meet community needs.

Natural Resources

- B Protect and restore natural resources, including water, air, forests, coastline and agricultural lands.

- i

We will advance policies and programs to protect and promote environmental stewardship and sustainability.

Local Conservation

- C Support and strengthen efforts for clean air and water, conservation, renewable energy, recycling and reuse.

- i

We will demonstrate sustainable practices within the County government as a model for the community.

- ii

We will work with partner agencies, private water users, residents and the agricultural community to sustainably manage water resources to meet human and environmental needs.

- iii

We will pursue policies and programs to encourage recycling and waste reduction, and

Climate Change

- D Increase resilience to climate change impacts, including sea-level rise and changing weather patterns.

- i

We will advance policies and programs that reduce impacts from and increase community resiliency to

- ii

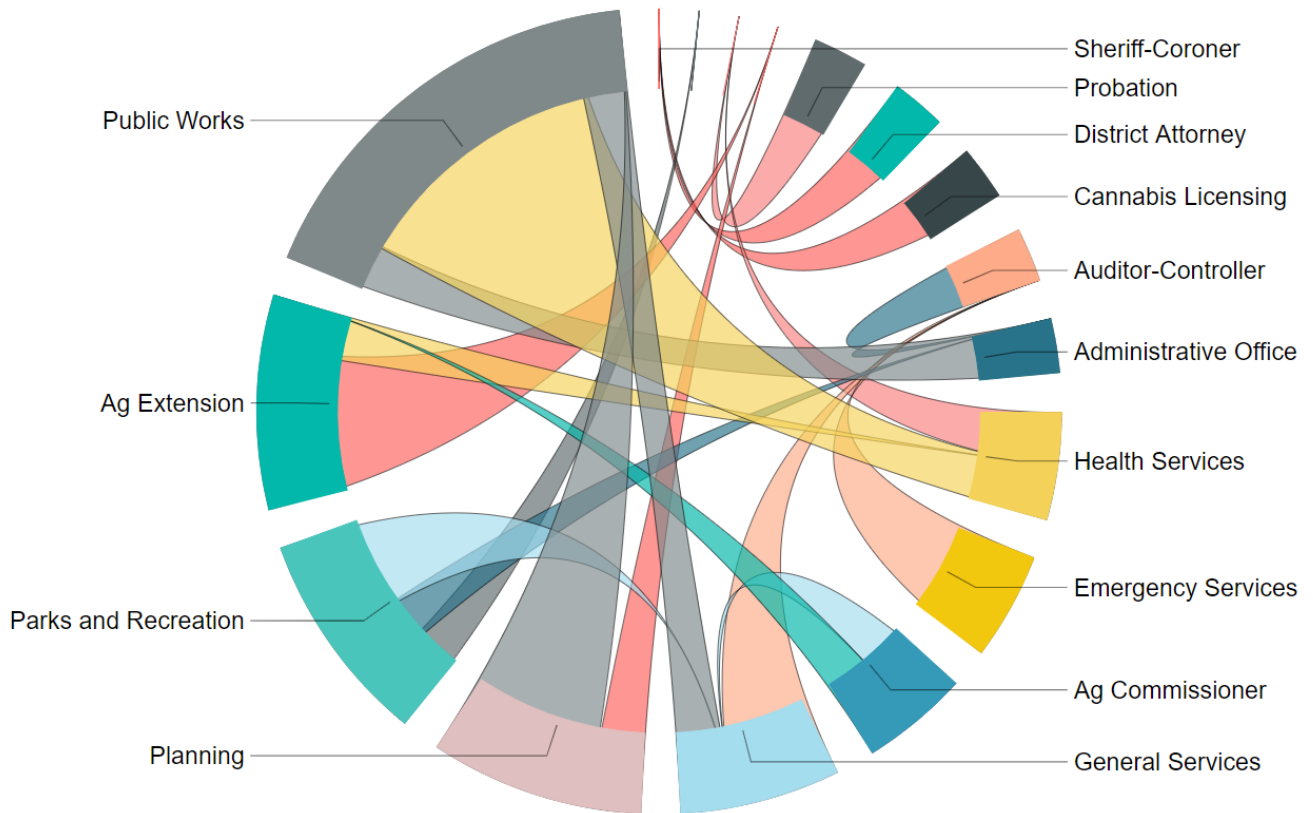
We will be prepared for and respond to natural disasters, including those resulting from climate change.

STRATEGIES

COLLABORATION & TIMELINE



DEPARTMENT OBJECTIVE COLLABORATION



MAJOR PROJECT/INITIATIVE TIMELINE

Dec 2019

June 2020

Dec 2020

June 2021

#12 CANNABIS LICENSING

#42 FLEET REDESIGN

#77 GROUNDWATER RECHARGE

#108 CLIMATE READY AG

#123 DISASTER MITIGATION

#148 ORGANIC WASTE DIVERSION

STRATEGIES & OBJECTIVES



GOAL

A **Outdoor Experience**
Ensure access to and enhance experience in parks, open spaces, water areas and outdoor activities.

STRATEGY

i We will create parks and outdoor environments that enhance everyone's access and experience.

OBJECTIVES

#114 **LEO's Haven at Chanticleer Park**
By June 2020, Parks will complete construction of Chanticleer Park Phase 1 and LEO's Haven playground project.

#115 **Simpkins Pool Maintenance**
By June 2021, Parks will complete the Simpkins Swim Center deferred maintenance to preserve a safe facility for the community.

STRATEGY

ii We will create and promote a variety of recreational programs to meet community needs.

OBJECTIVES

#113 **Youth Rec Camp**
By June 2021, Parks will create a new recreation camp for pre-teens and teenage youth.

#117 **Smart Park Maintenance**
By June 2020, Parks will develop metrics for the maintenance section to implement changes for cost-effective travel time and task assignment improvements.

STRATEGIES & OBJECTIVES

B **Natural Resources**
Protect and restore natural resources, including water, air, forests, coastline and agricultural lands.

GOAL



i We will advance policies and programs to protect and promote environmental stewardship and sustainability.

STRATEGY

#12 **Cannabis Licensing**
By June 2021, Cannabis Licensing will have licensed all registrants who have applied for both state and local licensing.

OBJECTIVES

#77 **Water Recharge**
By June 2020, Health Services will work with natural resource agencies to complete one additional project to capture and recharge stormwater and implement additional managed groundwater recharge projects.

#107 **Fruit Loss Reduction**
By June 2021, the Agricultural Extension will issue recommendations to reduce blackberry fruit harvest losses, which represent approximately 25% of local harvest.

#108 **Climate Ready Ag**
By June 2020, the Agricultural Extension will hire a Community Education Specialist to assist at least 10 farmers and ranchers adopt farming practices that mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change.

#109 **Organic Agriculture**
By June 2020, the Agricultural Extension will hire a UC Cooperative Specialist in Organic Agriculture to be based at the UC Santa Cruz campus.

#120 **Sustainability Update**
By June 2021, Planning will complete certification of Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and adoption of the General Plan "Sustainability Update", Local Coastal Program, and relevant County Codes.

4.B.i continued on next page...

STRATEGIES & OBJECTIVES



...4.B.i continued from previous page.

GOAL

B

Natural Resources

Protect and restore natural resources, including water, air, forests, coastline and agricultural lands.

STRATEGY

i

We will advance policies and programs to protect and promote environmental stewardship and sustainability.

OBJECTIVES

#145

Sewer Upgrades

By June 2021, the Santa Cruz County Sanitation District will upgrade undersized sewer pipes within the Rodeo Gulch Basin, thus lifting the existing moratorium on new sewer connections.

#147

Plastic Reduction

By June 2021, Public Works will implement comprehensive plastic pollution prevention programs.

#148

Divert Organic Waste

By June 2021, Public Works will fully implement organic waste diversion for all businesses and single-family homes in the County.

#149

Sewer Repair

By June 2021, the Santa Cruz County Sanitation District will repair or replace a minimum of 10,000 linear feet of sewer mains, rated poor or worse, to protect water quality and public health.

#155

Environmental Crimes

By June 2020, the District Attorney will institute a more proactive outreach and increase investigation of environmental law violations by 25%.

STRATEGIES & OBJECTIVES

C **Local Conservation**
Support and strengthen efforts for clean air and water, conservation, renewable energy, recycling and reuse.

GOAL



i We will demonstrate sustainable practices within the County government as a model for the community.

STRATEGY

#16 **Capital Policy**
By December 2020, the County Administrative Office, in collaboration with General Services and Public Works, will establish policy guidance for long-range facilities planning and campus master planning.

OBJECTIVES

#39 **Multimodal Mobility**
By June 2020, General Services will expand and improve parking at the Government Center for employees and the public, and increase the number of electric vehicle charging stations.

#77 **Water Recharge**
By June 2020, Health Services will work with natural resource agencies to complete one additional project to capture and recharge stormwater and implement additional managed groundwater recharge projects.

#102 **Emissions Reduction**
By June 2021, the Agricultural Commissioner will reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 10% (LBS of CO2) compared to 2018 levels to support clean air efforts.

#128 **General Plan Training**
By June 2021, Planning will design and carry out a training program on the General Plan Sustainability Update, including stakeholder and public workshops.

#131 **Housing Preservation**
By June 2020, Planning will complete amendments of General Plan policies and County Land Use Regulations to support preservation of existing housing.

#140 **Campus Master Plans**
By June 2021, Public Works, in collaboration with the County Administrative Office and General Services, will develop master plans for County campuses to provide affordable housing and supportive services.

STRATEGIES & OBJECTIVES



GOAL

C Local Conservation
Support and strengthen efforts for clean air and water, conservation, renewable energy, recycling and reuse.

STRATEGY

ii We will work with partner agencies, private water users, residents and the agricultural community to sustainably manage water resources to meet human and environmental needs.

OBJECTIVES

#67 Groundwater Use
By December 2019, Health Services, in collaboration with community partners, will complete a Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Mid-County Groundwater Basin.

#103 Safe Pesticide Use
By June 2021, the Agricultural Commissioner will increase issuance of pesticide use permits by 15% over 2018 levels, to foster safe and effective pesticide use, protect agricultural lands and natural resources.

#109 Organic Agriculture
By June 2020, the Agricultural Extension will hire a UC Cooperative Specialist in Organic Agriculture to be based at the UC Santa Cruz campus.

#142 Stream Maintenance
By June 2021, Santa Cruz County Flood Control and Water Conservation District - Zone 7 will develop a permitted Stream Maintenance Program for the Pajaro River and Salsipuedes Creek.

#143 County Flood Plan
By June 2021, Santa Cruz County Flood Control and Water Conservation District - Zone 5 will develop a Master Plan, Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and Impact Fee Program.

#149 Sewer Repair
By June 2021, the Santa Cruz County Sanitation District will repair or replace a minimum of 10,000 linear feet of sewer mains, rated poor or worse, to protect water quality and public health.

#169 Youth Resilience
By December 2020, Probation will enhance education by providing six tablets and add vocational skills through a community garden program offered to 80% of youth while detained.

STRATEGIES & OBJECTIVES



C **Local Conservation**
Support and strengthen efforts for clean air and water, conservation, renewable energy, recycling and reuse.

GOAL

iii We will pursue policies and programs to encourage recycling and waste reduction, and reduce emissions and the carbon footprint.

STRATEGY

#110 **Water Use Reduction**
By June 2021, the Agricultural Extension will work with Pajaro Valley growers to achieve a 10% reduction in water use through the implementation of improved irrigation practices.

OBJECTIVES

#139 **Capital Improvements**
By June 2021, Public Works will develop a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to ensure compliance with State regulations by updating our facilities and properly maintaining our equipment.

D **Climate Change**
Increase resilience to climate change impacts, including sea-level rise and changing weather patterns.

GOAL

i We will advance policies and programs that reduce impacts from and increase community resiliency to climate hazards.

STRATEGY

#42 **Fleet Redesign**
By June 2020, General Services will develop new procedures and guidelines for purchasing and utilization of fleet vehicles that encompass current safety standards and alternative fuels.

OBJECTIVES

#120 **Sustainability Update**
By June 2021, Planning will complete certification of Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and adoption of the General Plan "Sustainability Update", Local Coastal Program, and relevant County Codes.

#143 **County Flood Plan**
By June 2021, Santa Cruz County Flood Control and Water Conservation District - Zone 5 will develop a Master Plan, Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and Impact Fee Program.

STRATEGIES & OBJECTIVES



GOAL

Climate Change
D Increase resilience to climate change impacts, including sea-level rise and changing weather patterns.

STRATEGY

ii We will be prepared for and respond to natural disasters, including those resulting from climate change.

OBJECTIVES

#4 Disaster Financing
By June 2021, the Auditor-Controller will implement a disaster recovery plan with specifications for each division in the event of a disaster.

#36 Emergency Guide
By December 2020, General Services will deploy a new emergency operations desktop guide to all County employees to increase education, preparedness and awareness of emergency situations.

#123 Disaster Mitigation
By December 2020, Planning will update the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) to ensure continued eligibility for federal emergency, planning and post-disaster relief funds.

#145 Sewer Upgrades
By June 2021, the Santa Cruz County Sanitation District will upgrade undersized sewer pipes within the Rodeo Gulch Basin, thus lifting the existing moratorium on new sewer connections.

#159 Disaster Preparedness
By June 2021, Emergency Services will expand readiness of County staff to respond to natural and manmade disasters by implementing a plan to train all existing workers on Disaster Service Worker procedures.

#160 Disaster Command
By June 2021, Emergency Services will expand readiness for natural and manmade disasters, communicable disease outbreaks and other crises by certifying senior staff in Incident Command System training.

Santa Cruz County Draft Operational Plan

Health Services Agency Objectives Relative to Water

#77 Water Recharge			
By June 2020, Health Services will work with natural resource agencies to complete one additional project to capture and recharge stormwater and implement additional managed groundwater recharge projects.			
Key Steps			
Utilize available grant funds to complete the evaluation of suitable sites and prepare designs for recharge projects.	Submit projects for funding under the State Stormwater Grant Program.	Incorporate policies and programs for promoting enhanced sustainability through recharge measures and managed recharge projects.	Provide outreach to rural property owners on best management practices and assistance for increasing groundwater recharge.
Plan Reference: 4.B.i, 4.C.i, 6.D.ii	Collaborating Depts: DPW	Target: Stormwater Capture Project	Est. Completion Date: June 2020

100

#67 Groundwater Use			
By December 2019, Health Services, in collaboration with community partners, will complete a Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Mid-County Groundwater Basin.			
Key Steps			
Participate and collaborate with the Mid-County Groundwater Agency.	Work with consultant and Advisory Committee to establish goals for groundwater dependent ecosystems.	Complete subsurface investigations and plans for groundwater recharge projects	Work with small water systems and non-municipal pumpers to be a part of the groundwater management planning process.
Plan Reference: 4.C.ii	Collaborating Depts: PLN	Target: Groundwater Sustainability Plan	Est. Completion Date: December 2019