



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH WATER QUALITY/COASTAL TIDELANDS COMMITTEE AGENDA

Crystal Cove Room (Bay 2D)

Thursday, May 1, 2025 - 3:00 PM

Water Quality/Coastal Tidelands Committee Members:

Councilmember Michelle Barto, Chair
Mayor Joe Stapleton, Vice Chair
Peter Belden, Member
Curtis Black, Member
Charles Fancher, Member
Craig Hudson, Member
George Robertson, Member
John Wadsworth, Member
Vacant, Member

Staff Members:

Jim Houlihan, Deputy Public Works Director/City Engineer
John Kappeler, Senior Engineer
Bob Stein, Assistant City Engineer
Karen Gallagher, Administrative Assistant

The Water Quality/Coastal Tidelands Committee meeting is subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act. Among other things, the Brown Act requires that the Water Quality/Coastal Tidelands Committee agenda be posted at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of each regular meeting and that the public be allowed to comment on agenda items before the Committee and items not on the agenda but are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Water Quality/Coastal Tidelands Committee. The Chair may limit public comments to a reasonable amount of time, generally three (3) minutes per person.

The City of Newport Beach's goal is to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in all respects. If, as an attendee or a participant at this meeting, you will need special assistance beyond what is normally provided, we will attempt to accommodate you in every reasonable manner. Please contact John Kappeler, Water Quality Enforcement Manager, at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting to inform us of your particular needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible at (949) 644-3218 or jkappeler@newportbeachca.gov.

NOTICE REGARDING PRESENTATIONS REQUIRING USE OF CITY EQUIPMENT

Any presentation requiring the use of the City of Newport Beach's equipment must be submitted to the Public Works Department 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.

- 1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER**
- 2) ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS**
- 3) PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS (10 min)**

Public comments are invited on agenda items. Speakers must limit comments to five minutes. Before speaking, we invite, but do not require, you to state your name for the record. The Committee has the discretion to extend or shorten the speakers' time limit on agenda items, provided the time limit adjustment is applied equally to all speakers. As a courtesy, please turn cell phones off or set them in the silent mode.

- 4) REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES (5 min)**

Recommendation: Approve minutes as presented

[040325 NPB WQCT Draft](#)

- 5) CURRENT BUSINESS (55 min)**

(a) Prado Dam Stormwater Capture (Lisa Haney, OCWD) (25 min)
Presentation on OCWDs Prado Dam Stormwater Capture Proposal.

Recommendation: Committee Discussion

(b) Coastal Resiliency (Charles Fancher) (20 min) Presentation from the City of Oceanside on their Coastal Resiliency Program.

Recommendation: Committee Discussion

(c) Committee Goals/Objectives (Bob Stein) (10 min) Review and update of the Water Quality/Coastal Tidelands Committee Goals.

Recommendation: Committee Discussion/Approval

6) **COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS OR MATTERS WHICH MEMBERS WOULD LIKE PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION, ACTION OR REPORT (NON-DISCUSSION ITEM) (10 min)**

(a) San Gabriel River Trash Interceptor Project (June 2025 - John Wadsworth)

(b) Surf Break Engineering Inc (June 2025 - Peter Belden)

(c) Newport Bay Trash Interceptor - Trash Characterization (July 2025 -Ellis Peterson)

(d) Total Maximum Daily Load for Copper (Cu) (July 2025 - John Kappeler)

(e) Newport Beach Trash Interceptor Public Outreach Campaign (Summer 2025 - John Pope)

7) **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (5 min)**

Public comments are invited on non-agenda items generally considered to be within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee. Speakers must limit comments to three minutes. Before speaking, we invite, but do not require, you to state your name for the record. The Committee has the discretion to extend or shorten the speakers' time limit on non-agenda items, provided the time limit adjustment is applied equally to all speakers. As a courtesy, please turn cell phones off or set them in the silent mode.

8) **SET NEXT MEETING DATE (5 min)**

Recommendation: June 5, 2025

9) **ADJOURNMENT**

Date: April 3, 2025

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Location: Crystal Cove Conference Room, Newport Beach Civic Center

Meeting Minutes prepared by:

1. Call meeting to order

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m.

2. Roll Call and Introductions

Committee Members Present:

Councilmember/Chair Michelle Barto
Committee Member George Robertson
Committee Member Peter Belden
Committee Member Charles Fancher

Committee Members Absent:

Mayor/Vice Chair Joe Stapleton
Committee Member Craig Hudson
Committee Member John Wadsworth
Committee Member Curtis Black

Staff Present: John Kappeler, Senior Engineer
David Webb, Director of Public Works
Karen Gallagher, Administrative Assistant
Jim Houlihan, Deputy Director of Public Works
Bob Stein, Assistant City Engineer
Ellis Petersen, Associate Engineer
Charles Springer, Senior Management Analyst

Guests Present: Paul Blank, Newport Beach Harbormaster
Dennis Baker, SPON
Jim Mosher, Resident
Nancy Skinner, SPON
Virginia Anders-Ellmore, Resident
Steve Scully, Harbor Commissioner
Heather Clayton, Chambers Group, Inc.

3. Public Comment on Agenda Items

None

4. Review and approval of minutes

Due to the lack of a quorum, the minutes for March 6, 2025, could not be approved.

5. Current Business

- a. Peninsula Point Dunes Restoration (Chambers Group)
Presentation on the Peninsula Point Dunes Restoration project, including an additional update on the mitigation area for the Newport Bay Trash Interceptor.
Recommendation: Committee Discussion

Chambers Group, Inc. Botanist, Heather Clayton, reported her environmental consulting firm has been working in partnership with the City to help improve water quality and protect the shore.

Ms. Clayton reported that residents on Balboa Peninsula had been encroaching on public beachfront land with lawns and ornamental vegetation, often unaware it was impermissible. She noted that the California Coastal Commission (CCC) raised an objection and the City cleared most of the encroachments in 2022. She advised that the area is to be revegetated with native plants and restored, including its dunes, to its natural appearance. She reported on the Chambers Group's efforts towards these revegetation goals.

Ms. Clayton reported City consultants Tidal Influence, LLC added more than 100 pounds of native seed to the two-mile-long mitigation area, also installing over 1,300 container plants along sidewalks and at the end of streets. She reported that the hydroseeding was too successful, far exceeding the CCC's standard for a 20% coverage rate. She noted that there is a regular need to create paths for residents between the vegetation, and weeds have also been problematic in the increased native vegetation.

In response to Committee Member Fancher's inquiries, Ms. Clayton confirmed the exhaustive weeding work is done by hand by the Chambers Group's restoration divisions.

Ms. Clayton reported this weeding is labor-intensive so they have switched to an island approach where only small patches of the new vegetation will be maintained while the rest will become barren and reduce the landscape coverage down to the CCC's 20% goal.

Ms. Clayton moved on to the necessity of dunes to help protect residents in addition to being part of the natural coastline for the area. She advised that the Chambers Group has been creating small back dunes and is aiming to get vegetation to grow on them to leave the other areas vegetation-free. She reported that the back dunes have been strategically placed due to prevailing winds. She noted that they also intend to create foredunes for habitat islands along with providing flood and shore protection.

Ms. Clayton reported the Chambers Group will be creating a habitat for special status species, including the federally threatened western snowy plover and coast woolly-heads with a California Native Plant Society (CNPS) rare classification. She noted that they will continue its weeding efforts to eradicate the non-native weeds and uncomfortable prickly seed-bearing plants. She explained that they continue to build up the native plant islands near homes and create shore protection through secondary back dunes and an expanded number of foredunes. She reported clearing all ice plants will be a large effort not included in their contract with the City. She explained the arduous ice plant removal process is a potential area for a grant funding application but will require a large effort ahead of reestablishing coastal strands with native plant species. She noted that the City has an opportunity to create a restoration model for communities Statewide to follow in appeasing the CCC on ice plants.

In response to Committee Member Fancher's inquiry, Assistant City Engineer Bob Stein reported the area previously saw lawns, flowers, and trees behind the coastal homes not meeting CCC requirements. Deputy Director of Public Works Jim Houlihan advised that lawns had to be removed, and City staff faced a challenge removing the totality of the lawns as their soil was mixed in with the beach sand.

Committee Member Fancher estimated from photographs in the presentation about 15% of the beach was covered in inappropriate vegetation prior to 2022. Ms. Clayton helped clarify the vegetation areas that have since been removed from the "before" picture.

In response to Committee Member Fancher's inquiry, Mr. Houlihan reported the impetus for this project was the CCC's action. Director of Public Works Dave Webb advised that this stretch of beach is public land and the CCC initiated legal action against the encroaching residents. He explained that the legal action was settled with residents paying the CCC's fines but the City was responsible for

cleaning out the non-native species and other concerns. Mr. Houlihan announced that residents paid just over \$1.5 million in fines.

In response to Committee Member Fancher's inquiries, Mr. Webb stated there are a few smaller encroachments around the City but nothing nearly as extensive as what existed in this area. He agreed this area was an outlier. Mr. Houlihan advised that there have been concessions made by the CCC when the encroachment is less than 15 feet.

In response to Associate Engineer Ellis Peterson's inquiry, Ms. Clayton agreed non-native ice plants have the benefit of stabilizing sand, but they deplete the water supply hindering the growth of native species. She explained that ice plants also do not create a habitat for non-plant native species like birds.

In response to Still Protecting Our Newport's (SPON) Nancy Skinner's inquiry, Ms. Clayton reported ice plants are native to South Africa. She explained that one challenge in addition to being non-native is it can grow too thick in spots.

In response to Committee Member Belden's inquiry, Mr. Houlihan acknowledged the ice plants have been around the City since he was a child. Chair Barto clarified the drive to remove them is CCC-driven.

SPON's Dennis Baker compared the ice plants to a ground eucalyptus growing like crazy. He reported that after restoration efforts in Upper Newport Bay, they have found the native plants to be effective in keeping invasive species out.

In response to Mr. Baker's inquiry, Ms. Clayton clarified Chambers Group's plan is to build the landscaping islands and hope public foot traffic assists in keeping other areas free of growth to help meet the CCC's 20% threshold. She advised that the large open areas are a compromise with residents.

In response to Mr. Baker's inquiry, Ms. Clayton remarked that she is not too familiar with vegetation issues in the City of Seal Beach but acknowledged stabilizers create the habitat and plants will grow taller if they are allowed to be stabilized over time. She noted that she could look further into Seal Beach's vegetation mix to see if it is an example they can learn from and possibly apply in Newport Beach.

In response to Ms. Skinner's inquiry, Ms. Clayton reported the area in question starts near West Jetty View Park and extends to F St.

Ms. Clayton moved on to the Newport Beach Trash Interceptor, designed to minimize the amount of trash entering Upper Newport Bay from San Diego Creek. She described the Trash Interceptor's inner operation, commending how the trash is hauled away at no cost to the City. She noted environmental mitigation efforts performed prior to construction both in terms of plants and birds. She advised that post-construction revegetation efforts were also made, including weeding efforts to aid in fire prevention and erosion prevention. She noted that they are only one year into a five-year plan and thanked the Committee for its work improving the coastline.

- b. Committee Goals/Objectives Workshop (Bob Stein)
Review and update of the Water Quality/Coastal Tidelands Committee Goals.
Recommendation: Committee Discussion/Approval

Mr. Stein reported that the Committee has generally settled on three actionable objectives in recent public discussions (See Attachment). He encouraged discussion among the Committee Members beginning with the first objective, beach management, to help ensure his report matches the Committee's wishes and includes potential future presentations to further assist the Committee in meeting its objectives.

Committee Member Belden reported that Line K (North Carolina Beach Protection Program) can be scratched from Objective One because it combines with Line N (Research Methodologies Employed by Other Beach Communities). He clarified the professor he discussed at the last meeting works at the University of North Florida (included in Line N) and not the University of North Carolina (Line K). He reported North Florida professor, Dr. Bill Dally, also has a consulting business, Surfbreak Engineering Sciences, Inc., and has done many coastal engineering projects. He reported he has an upcoming call scheduled with Dr. Dally to discuss processes possibly applicable to Newport Beach and would like to have him present to the Committee in May or June. He inquired if there are historical materials regarding creating surf breaks in the City he can pass along to Dr. Dally for research. He explained that if the presentation is good, they could give Dr. Dally a research authorization of about \$10,000 to conduct a deeper dive into their issues. He reported that Dr. Dally did a webinar a few years ago for Surfbreak Engineering about another location but discussing exactly what Newport Beach is considering and added he sent the webinar's link to City staff.

Committee Member Fancher remarked that these objectives should not be written in a way to limit themselves to just one source of external research. He noted that Mr. Stein and others can research similar beach cities.

Chair Barto encouraged the Committee Members to pick two lines from the first objective important to them.

Committee Member Belden selected Line N and Line O (Beach Erosion Monitoring).

Chair Barto noted that if everyone picks their most important lines, they can better produce proposals for them. She announced that there could be some Prop 4 funding available in December.

Committee Member Fancher remarked that he is most focused on Line N and dune restoration.

Committee Member Robertson noted other groups are also working on several of these lines, citing those related to groins being a City matter. He advised that he would gladly work with Committee Member Belden on Line N and Line O.

In response to Chair Barto's inquiry, Committee Member Fancher remarked that Committee Member Wadsworth may have some insight into Line L (San Onofre State Beach Coastal Resilience Program) being a member of the Surfrider Foundation.

Chair Barto offered to help research building code changes and work with City staff.

Committee Member Belden noted they have had no problems taking sand from the Santa Ana Channel in the past but cautioned it is getting more competitive to purchase this resource. He called for research into additional sources of sand.

Mr. Stein reported Orange County's Sediment Management Program can be included in Line J. He advised that he has discussed sand management with County consultant Kim Garvey from Moffatt & Nichol and added she could speak on the subject matter. He noted that Ms. Garvey may also be able to help with Line M (Sand Source from Seven Oaks Dam).

Virginia Anders-Ellmore reported hearing Orange County Supervisor Katrina Foley state the County is getting sand from Prado Dam.

Senior Engineer John Kappeler reported that Orange County Water District Executive Director Lisa Haney is scheduled for their May meeting.

In response to Committee Member Fancher's inquiry, Mr. Webb reported there is a mainline next to the Prado Dam.

A call was made to include a report from the Orange County Watershed Committee at the next meeting.

Mr. Stein called for clarification on his proposed use of the phrases “coastal resilience” and “bay front.” in Objective One’s introductory paragraph.

In response to Committee Member Belden’s inquiry, Harbormaster Paul Blank reported the Harbor Commission only handles one small program replenishing beaches on Balboa Island but does not put any other efforts into addressing coastal resilience in Newport Harbor.

In response to Mr. Stein’s inquiry, Harbormaster Blank agreed it makes sense for the Committee to include the proposed phrasing about coastal resilience and inclusion of the bay front.

Mr. Stein moved on to Objective Two covering trash interception in the Santa Ana River.

Committee Member Robertson requested editing “Santa Ana River or tributary channels” to “Santa Ana River and/or tributary channels.”

Mr. Stein agreed and advised that they could invite Ms. Garvey or others to discuss the Santa Ana River and what materials can be transported. He remarked that Orange County Deputy Director of Public Works Amanda Carr could also be a good person to speak with.

Committee Member Fancher recommended that Mr. Stein include the language “identify how Newport Beach can identify participation by upstream entities in the prevention or capture of organic matter, polluting agents, and trash generation in order to reduce/prevent its migration to Newport Beach waters.” He sought feedback on whether this phrasing is too grandstanding or aggressive to cite as an objective.

Mr. Stein clarified that he tried to paraphrase this language into Line A (Sand Protection Overview). He noted a challenge facing the Committee is how people outside of Newport Beach do not realize there is a problem with Santa Ana River trash.

Committee Member Fancher remarked that they must tell those upstream the problem exists.

In response to Ms. Skinner’s inquiry, Mr. Kappeler confirmed the boom on the Santa Ana River is no longer in existence. He noted that it was functioning 20 years ago. Mr. Stein clarified there is a maintenance aspect to a boom.

In response to Ms. Skinner’s inquiry, Mr. Kappeler confirmed the boom by the golf course is still there. Mr. Houlihan noted the one upstream is not often attached. Mr. Stein noted booms are regularly rebuilt to last longer.

Committee Member Fancher agreed that Mr. Stein did good work incorporating his earlier thoughts into Line A. He advised that there should be an edit to Line A making “actions be taken” instead read “actions to be taken.”

Committee Member Belden remarked that they need a water wheel like the City of Los Angeles’ for the Santa Ana River. He encouraged a presentation on the trash wheel.

Associate Engineer Ellis Petersen expressed interest in Lines D (Surfside-Sunset Beach Replenishment Projects), E (Protecting Our Beaches), and H (Enhancing Existing Groins).

Committee Member Fancher theorized that Committee Member Wadsworth would advocate for Line E if he were in attendance.

Committee Member Fancher identified Lines D and E as priorities.

In response to Committee Member Robertson's inquiry, Mr. Stein confirmed Line G (Chambers Group on Peninsula Point Dunes Restoration Effort) should focus on the Prado Dam and extend to the recharging basins. He noted that they could ask the County to brief the Committee on its full system.

Chair Barto noted they have 10 topics including the Los Angeles water wheel. She advised that they could discuss one a month but first noted they have not discussed Lines B (Longshore Sand Transport Potential), C (Sea Level Rise Summary), F (Beach Sand Replenishment in San Clemente), G, and I (Surfer's Point, Ventura, Dune Restoration Project) yet. She inquired if the Committee is interested in hearing more from outside sources about them.

Mr. Stein encouraged inviting County officials to discuss their ongoing programs. The dais agreed.

Mr. Stein moved on to Objective Three which is focused on Upper Newport Bay restoration projects. He noted the water quality has never been better in Newport Bay and they can only add small improvements from here. He advised that at some point the Committee may see a heavier focus on more pressing concerns about coastal resilience.

Ms. Skinner encouraged ensuring all the pumping stations were functioning. Mr. Stein agreed.

In response to Committee Member Fancher's inquiry, Mr. Baker clarified Line E is an area for people to watch the Newport Beach Trash Interceptor in operation because standing on the bike trail would be very dangerous.

Chair Barto remarked that Lines A-C and perhaps Line G seem to be of the most interest to the Committee.

Mr. Baker noted Lines B and C are connected because Cherry Creek drains into the Santa Isabella area. He advised that this area has great potential and can be designed with future habitat migration in mind with rising sea levels. He noted that Cherry Lake could also potentially become involved because it flows into the Santa Isabella Channel when it overflows.

In response to Ms. Skinner's inquiry, Harbormaster Blank confirmed the Harbor Commission works on pump outs, receiving a monthly report on the pumps' use. He confirmed the pumps are functioning.

Chair Barto left the meeting due to time constraints to attend another meeting. Committee Member Robertson chaired the remainder of the meeting.

- c. Newport Bay Trash Interceptor – Trash Characterization (Ellis Peterson)
Update on the Newport Bay Trash Interceptor trash characterization project.

Recommendation: Committee Discussion/Approval

Mr. Petersen reported at the last meeting they discussed coordination with the Benioff Ocean Science Laboratory at the University of California, Santa Barbara for its global knowledge about using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to help categorize trash in trash wheels. He noted that staff has aggressively moved forward to form a partnership. He confirmed staff has already ordered Benioff-recommended equipment components to be paid for by Benioff through their research grants. He reported the City will put the information online once the infrastructure is in place. He confirmed the City's trash interceptor has an acceptable position for the new cameras already in place directly over the conveyor belt.

Mr. Petersen reported on the timeline for getting the Benioff equipment operational, including AI data collection to begin in early May with full network implementation anticipated for late May. He explained that a site-specific model will be developed over the next 12-18 months as trash is collected and patterns are identified. He noted that staff is considering Short-Wavelength InfraRed

Image Sensor Technology (SWIR) recommended by a resident that will allow the City to further identify different types of plastic.

In response to Committee Member Belden's inquiry, Mr. Petersen stated the proposed SWIR system is what trash collection agencies use to help sort types of plastic for recycling. He cautioned that the sensors are for industrial use and expensive so City staff is hoping a resident with connections to the Sony Group Corporation can assist with an equipment loan or donation.

In response to Jim Mosher's inquiry, Mr. Petersen reported the trash interceptor is functional. He advised that the next step will be adding the solar panels with the project being finished by the end of April.

In response to Committee Member Fancher's inquiry, Mr. Petersen clarified that part of the reason for the 18-month timeline is working with new technology that will get better over time at identifying different types of trash.

In response to Mr. Mosher's inquiries, Mr. Petersen stated the interceptor will be functioning when there is trash to collect around rain events. He reported the trash interceptor in the City of Baltimore, Maryland is like Newport Beach's and uses many of the same standard components recommended by Benioff. He noted that there is an ability to turn the interceptor on and off as needed but he does not expect Newport Beach's to run continuously. Mr. Webb advised that Baltimore's is located on an active river so there is a continuous need for trash interception unlike in Newport Beach located on an arroyo that only flows when it rains. Mr. Houlihan theorized Newport Beach's may not run at all over the summer unless a need arises.

In response to Committee Member Fancher's inquiry, Mr. Petersen advised that they have not yet determined where the viewing area will be for educational events.

In response to Committee Member Fancher's inquiries, Mr. Petersen clarified the solar panels will run pumps putting water onto the wheel so it can be powered absent of a strong current. He explained that the power source for the wheel is a combination of the solar-powered pumps and the creek's current. Mr. Houlihan advised that the water wheel runs the conveyor. He confirmed that the City can add a backup generator to run the pumps but not the drive train because the wheel powers the conveyor belt.

In response to Ms. Skinner's inquiries, Mr. Petersen stated the solar panels, and their batteries, will have a 2-3 day operational window with no direct sunshine. He explained that a generator can be brought on-site to run the pumps if there is insufficient solar energy, but the Trash Interceptor is not hard-wired to the City's power grid. He noted that the current also moves the wheel when there is rain.

6. COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS OR MATTERS WHICH MEMBERS WOULD LIKE PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION, ACTION, OR REPORT (NON-DISCUSSION ITEM)

- a. Prado Dam and Stormwater Capture (May 2025 – Lisa Haney, MWDOC)
- b. Coastal Resiliency (May 2025 – Charles Fancher)
- c. Total Maximum Daily Load for Copper (Cu) (June 2025 – John Kappeler)
- d. San Gabriel River Trash Interceptor Project (June 2025 – John Wadsworth)
- e. Newport Beach Trash Interceptor Public Outreach Campaign (Spring 2025 – John Pope)

In response to Committee Member Robertson's inquiry, Mr. Kappeler confirmed he can work alongside Mr. Stein in finalizing the objectives.

Mr. Kappeler reported Item Nos. 6-A, 6-B, and 6-D are already confirmed for the future meetings indicated.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Committee Member Fancher echoed Mr. Stein's hypothesis about the water quality being so good they could now shift nearly all their focus to coastal resilience. He stated officially moving their focus could be an item for future discussion.

Committee Member Belden remarked that they can leave the objective of water quality broad and return to it as needed.

Committee Member Fancher disagreed with Committee Member Belden about being broad.

Mr. Stein explained that the two largest current pollutants of concern are trash and pesticides.

Committee Member Fancher agreed trash and pesticides remain and they get to the issue of water quality.

In response to Committee Member Belden's inquiry, Mr. Kappeler stated Item No. 6-D would not be as time sensitive as other items if Dr. Dally is ready to present in May and there are concerns about the agenda being overfilled.

Committee Member Fancher noted their August meeting is often canceled as they start to consider future presentation scheduling.

Mr. Kappeler noted Item Nos. 6-A and 6-B are the hardest to move for the May meeting.

Committee Member Belden agreed to work with Mr. Kappeler on scheduling depending on when Dr. Dally would be ready.

Mr. Mosher reported that SPON is having an open meeting on April 26th with a discussion on sea level rise. Ms. Skinner noted that it starts with a complimentary breakfast at 9:30 a.m.

8. SET NEXT MEETING DATE

Recommendation: May 1, 2025

The next meeting was set for May 1, 2025.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

Chair / Michelle Barto

Water Quality/Tidelands Committee Objectives

April 1, 2025, rev A

Objective 1: By December 2025, provide the Committee Chair with formal recommendations for consultant prepared concept-level project designs that can be a part of a **coastal resilience** and beach management program to protect and replenish ocean (**and bay front**) facing beaches, as well as protect houses, businesses and infrastructure along the oceanfront (**and bay front**), from increasing flood and erosion threats associated with sea level rise and more intense storms. To assist Committee Members in their formulation of the recommendations, the following presentation topics are suggested:

Foundational Information

- a) Sand protection overview (Chris Webb, Moffatt & Nichol; Coastal Frontiers)
- b) Longshore sand transport potential to and away from Newport Beach beaches. (UCI)
- c) Sea level rise summary for Southern California (TBD)

Regional Programs

- d) Surfside-Sunset Beach Replenishment projects: Stages 14 and 15. (Public Works, Corps of Engineers)
- e) Protecting Our Beaches (Coastal Resiliency Manager, K. Foley's office, M. Nova)
- f) Beach sand replenishment in San Clemente, and offshore borrow sites used to fill in beaches in Encinitas and Solana Beach.

Local Protection: Potential Programs and Projects

- g) Chambers Group on Peninsula Point Dunes Restoration Effort. (Chambers Group)
- h) Enhancing existing groins. (Public Works)
- i) Surfer's Point, Ventura, dune restoration project using nature-based solutions (Surfrider Foundation)
- j) Sand bypass (back haul) concept planning for restoring sand to groin field. (Kim Garvey, M&N; Orange County Sediment Management Program)
- k) North Carolina beach protection program
- l) San Onofre State Beach Coastal Resilience Program (Surfrider Foundation)
- m) Sand source from Seven Oaks Dam (Corps)
- n) Research methodologies employed by other beach communities to evaluate vulnerability threats to maintaining the beach and programming to counter the threat. (Bill Dally, PhD Professor at University of North Florida and President of Surf Break Engineering, Inc.; Cities of Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, Redondo Beach, and Torrance)
- o) Beach erosion monitoring (Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System)
- p) Building code changes for structures along the shoreline. (Planning Division)
- q) Geotubes (consultant)

- r) Offshore groin (wave tripping) off of Balboa Pier

Objective 2: By August 2025, prepare for the Committee Chair planning recommendations for capturing trash in the Santa Ana River or tributary channels before it is released into the ocean. The planning recommendations would identify potentially viable projects (that are prioritized), agency partners, potential funding sources, and a projected schedule. The following presentation topics are suggested:

- a) Briefing from Santa Ana River's regulatory agencies and NGO partners on actions be taken to prevent or capture organic matter, polluting agents, and trash. (Santa Ana River Conservancy).
- b) Existing boom and trash capture facilities along the river Greenfield-Banning, other Santa Ana River tributaries. (OC Public Works)
- c) River trash inspection and cleanup maintenance in river. (OC Public Works)
- d) Study on sources of trash generation.
- e) Study on how the City of NB can reduce its single use plastic footprint (voluntary program, not pursuing any ordinance or mandate), Perhaps based in the Ocean Friendly programs developed by the Surfrider Foundation.
- f) Study on the potential trash removal facilities or programs. (OCSan and M&N Diversion Study, Lan Wiborg)
- g) Trash capture at Seven Oaks Dam. (Corps)
- h) Trash data quantification using artificial intelligence data processing (UC-Santa Barbara)
- i) Presentation by Shane Silsby (confirmed for May 1 WQ/T meeting) providing an overview/update of the SGR interceptor project; a project that can be a road map for the SAR.

Objective 3: By November 2025, prepare a list of recommended restoration projects around Upper Bay (that include measures to improve **coastal** resilience to sea level rise and tie-in with the General Plan). The following presentations topics are suggested:

- a) Dunes Resort dry-weather infiltration galleries
- b) Santa Isabella restoration grant application. (Newport Bay Conservancy)
- c) Reexamine restoration potentials for Cherry Creek and Cherry Lake.
- d) Volunteer trash pickup program.
- e) Trash Interceptor viewing area.
- f) State of water quality in Newport Bay (OC Watershed and City staff)
- g) Santa Ana-Delhi Channel Restoration Project (OC Public Works)