
REQUESTED BOARD ACTION:
Consider staff presentation and public input on the draft 2011 Water Supply Strategies Action Plan; Direct the General Manager to complete the 2011 Water Supply Strategies Action Plan, incorporating any changes requested by the Board.

CURRENT FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT - None.

Explanation (if required): None.

Prior Board Action:

Alternatives – Results of Non-Approval: The 2010 Water Supply Strategies Action Plan will not be updated and a comprehensive plan with prioritized actions to pursue the Water Agency’s key water supply strategies will not be finalized.
Background:

The 2011 draft updated Action Plan:
The Agency faces several challenges in providing a reliable regional water supply, including the economic downturn, aging infrastructure vulnerable to natural hazards, and water supply uncertainties due to regulatory issues, drought, and climate change. The 2010 Action Plan (see history below) was developed to address these challenges systematically and comprehensively. The 2011 draft Action Plan describes accomplishments, progress made and actions reprioritized from the 2010 Action Plan. New activities initiated during the year have been added. The nine strategies identified in the 2010 Action Plan did not change.

As described in more detail in the draft Action Plan, several significant activities were accomplished during the past year including:

1. Updating the regional urban water demand forecasts (working in close coordination with the Water Contractors) and completion of an Urban Water Management Plan;
2. Finalizing and certifying an Environmental Impact Report for the estuary;
3. Habitat enhancement projects on Russian River tributaries;
4. Completion of planning studies for Dry Creek habitat enhancement and bypass pipeline projects; and
5. Adoption of an energy policy.

In addition, significant progress was made on several programs and projects including natural hazard reliability capital projects, projects required by the biological opinion, groundwater programs, and development of financial modeling tools.

Looking forward, there are several projects that have been reprioritized or added to the draft 2011 Action Plan, including updating the Agency’s emergency response plan, conducting an innovative leak detection project in coordination with the Valley of the Moon Water District and IBM, evaluation of community choice aggregation, review of alternative revenue structures and rate models, and increased monitoring of water use in coordination with the Water Contractors.

Staff worked closely with the Water Contractor’s Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) in developing the updated Action Plan. The draft Action Plan was presented at the October 3, 2011 TAC meeting. Comments were received and the plan was revised. The revised draft Action Plan was presented to the Water Advisory Committee meeting on November 7, 2011. No comments were received from WAC members.

The updated 2011 draft Action Plan contains: (1) an executive summary; (2) a list of acronyms; (3) a description of nine strategies with prioritized actions and projects; (4) a summary of changes to the updated plan relative to the 2010 plan; (5) a summary of Water Contractor and Agency water supply and reliability projects projected for the next 10 years; and (6) benefits and funding sources of immediate actions.

History of Water Supply Strategies Action Plan:
In April 2009, the Board held a workshop to discuss the challenges the Agency faces in providing a reliable regional water supply, including the economy, aging infrastructure, regulatory concerns, drought, and climate change. The Board directed staff to seek input from the Agency’s Water Contractors and the community. Staff completed this outreach and reported the outcome to the Board in September 2009. The Board directed staff, with input from the Water Contractors and other interested parties, “to commence and continue the development of new water supply projects, plans, and strategies to meet the reasonable expected future water demands of the Agency’s Water Contractors, taking into account the National Marine Fisheries Service Russian River...”
Biological Opinion constraints and reduced Potter Valley Project flows, and incorporating the water supply strategies, climate change analysis, maximum levels of water conservation and efficiency measures, recycled water, conjunctive use and low impact development strategies.”

**Development of 2010 Action Plan:**
In response to this Board direction, staff considered the comments and input received from stakeholders, revised the original 12 strategies, and developed a draft Action Plan. Agency staff conducted another phase of public outreach in the spring and summer of 2010 and received over 100 comments. In response, staff refined the draft Action Plan. On September 21, 2010, the Board approved the strategies and directed the General Manager to finalize the Action Plan.

The 2010 Action Plan described how each strategy was being carried out through specific activities and projects, identified involved parties, provided the status of each activity or project, and provided funding information. Actions were prioritized as follows:

1. Immediate Actions – Activities already ongoing or will be initiated within current fiscal year.
2. Near-Term Actions – Likely to start within the next one to three years.
3. Long-Term Actions – Do not yet have a start date.

The 2010 Action Plan was based on the following premises: (1) coordination and partnerships are essential to achieving reliable, efficient and sustainable water resource management; (2) the strategies are interconnected; (3) the Action Plan is a living document and should be updated as progress is made and conditions change; and (4) transparency is critical to success.

The 2011 Action Plan represents a continuation of the Water Agency's commitment to an open, transparent, and inclusive water supply planning process. Chief Engineer Jay Jasperse will provide a more detailed discussion of the Action Plan and 2011 outreach to the Board at the meeting.


**On File With Clerk:** None.