



# NORTH SAN MATEO COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT

a subsidiary of the City of Daly City

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(650) 991-8127



May 29, 2013

Hon. Richard C. Livermore  
Judge of the Superior Court  
c/o Charlene Kresevich  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

Subject: 2012/2013 San Mateo County Civil Grand Jury Report:  
Water Recycling – An Important Component of Wise Water Management

Dear Judge Livermore:

On behalf of the City Council of the City of Daly City, sitting as the Board of Directors of the North San Mateo County Sanitation District, I have been requested to submit for the City the following responses to the Civil Grand Jury findings and recommendations pertaining to the above referenced report:

## FINDINGS

F1. There is a growing imbalance in the County and the region between water supply and demand.

*Response:* The City agrees with the finding.

F2. The County and Cities must reduce their residents' dependence on imported water by diversifying their water supply sources.

*Response:* The City agrees with the finding.

F3. Water recycling alone cannot completely mitigate the growing imbalance between water supply and demand, but used in conjunction with other water management options it can help the County and Cities maintain a safe and reliable water source.

*Response:* The City agrees with the finding.

F4. Properly produced and used, recycled water poses little or no public health risk.

*Response:* The City agrees with the finding.

F5. Educational programs are necessary to highlight the growing importance of recycled water in the County and the region.

*Response:* The City agrees with the finding.

- F6. The County and Cities would benefit from collaborative arrangements to jointly produce and distribute recycled water where appropriate.

*Response:* The City agrees with the finding.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- R1. Study expansion of their (Daly City's) programs into other non-potable uses of recycled water.

*Response:*

The City has implemented this recommendation. In October 2009, Carollo Engineers of Walnut Creek issued its combined results of the *Recycled Water Treatment and Delivery System Expansion Feasibility Study* to Daly City and the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC). The joint effort study demonstrated it was technically feasible to expand the District's tertiary treatment system by approximately 3.4 million gallons a day at an estimated cost of \$60.1 million. By comparison, the District's current recycled water program can produce 2.77 million gallons a day at a capital cost of \$7.6 million. The proposed expanded recycled water facilities has been estimated at \$2,100 per acre foot, almost double the collective \$1,000 to \$1,200 acre foot Bay Area recycled water cost cited by the Civil Grand Jury.

The expansion of recycled water by Daly City was made part of the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA) report *Long-Term Reliable Water Supply Strategy Phase II A Report*. As part of BAWSCA's continued formal project evaluation, the District has re-engaged Carollo Engineers to address a number of remaining key project questions to include design yield, customer interest, capital and operations cost, anticipated life cycle, project implementation and water quality considerations. Daly City will be submitting these finding to BAWSCA consistent with their July 1, 2013 project deadline.

In addition, a second local project expansion study is being conducted through a memorandum of understanding executed with the SFPUC in September, 2012, to engage Trussell Technologies of Oakland to perform a Filter Loading Rate Evaluation for Water Reuse (FLEWR) study. This effort intends to assess if there is a cost effective manner to increase the amount of tertiary water produced by the existing filtration system consistent with Title 22 public health regulations. Testing under this study began in January and continues with final study results anticipated by July 2014, slightly after the recommended June 30, 2014 Civil Grand Jury deadline.

- R2. Study geographic expansion of their recycled water distribution systems.

*Response:*

The City has implemented this recommendation. The joint effort undertaken by Daly City and the SFPUC that resulted with the Carollo Engineers expansion feasibility study focused on cemeteries in Colma and expanded irrigation use in San Francisco. When assessing average day demands, Colma cemeteries would account for 2.29 million gallons a day, San Francisco irrigation use at Lake Merced Hill, Parkmerced Development and San Francisco State University would account for 0.56 million gallons a day. A peak day demand factor included a 1.3 peaking

factor over average day demands. As noted in Daly City's previous response, Carollo Engineers is addressing a project evaluation as part of the BAWSCA water supply assessment due on July 1, 2013 but is only focusing its effort on deliveries to Colma cemeteries.

R3. Finalize current feasibility studies.

*Response:* Will not be implemented as it is outside of Daly City's jurisdiction.

R4. Actively pursue partnerships for producing and distributing recycled water.

*Response:* Will not be implemented as it is outside of Daly City's jurisdiction.

R5. Develop educational programs designed to highlight the need for recycled water, while addressing public health risk concerns.

*Response:* Will not be implemented as it is outside of Daly City's jurisdiction.

R6. Engage in active dialogue with water purveyors and wastewater treatment providers, as applicable, about the feasibility of developing a program for producing and distributing recycled water.

*Response:* Will not be implemented as it is outside Daly City's jurisdiction.

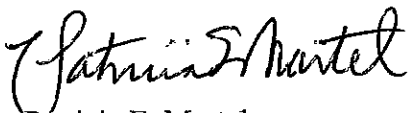
R7. Conduct any studies that may be required to develop a program for recycling water.

*Response:* Will not be implemented as it is outside Daly City's jurisdiction.

The City of Daly City, through its subsidiary the North San Mateo County Sanitation District, appreciates the opportunity to provide responses to the San Mateo County Civil Grand Jury Report on Water Recycling – An Important Component of Wise Water Management. The City Council, sitting as the Board of Directors of the North San Mateo County Sanitation District, approved the responses contained herein on May 28, 2013.

Should you or the Civil Grand Jury require additional information, please contact me directly at (650) 991-8127.

Very truly yours,



Patricia E. Martel  
City Manager

