



Orange County Sustainability & Resilience Water Use & Quality Sub-Committee MEETING MINUTES

WebEx Virtual Meeting
Tuesday, July 28, 2020
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Leila Jammal*
Kristopher Stenger
Madeline Almodovar*
Melvin Pittman
Rachel Allen
Susy Torriente*
Byron Knibbs

Additional Board Members

Bill Bradford
Chris Castro
Theo Webster
Resham Shirsat

STAFF ATTENDANCE:

Jeff Benavides
Lori Forsman
Jane Gregory
David Jones
Julie Bortles
Matt Blowers
Marc Cannata
Jennifer Cummings

SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

Digital Archive complete with presentation materials, handouts, and meeting audio/visual recording are posted at this website:

<https://ocfl.app.box.com/folder/118862853840>

Call to Order

At 9:30 a.m., Jeff Benavides called the meeting to order and took roll call.

Public Comment

There was no public comment submitted for this meeting.

Review of Fact Sheets

Briefly discussed the information provided about current status and comparison programs for other cities and counties.

Overall Recommendations:

- While this effort is internally focused, the Committee feels that this plan needs to at least highlight the Community related programs and initiatives so that the messaging and strategy is clear. Our Home For Life updates would potentially be forthcoming in 2021.
- Orange County needs to make sure this Action Plan works for the future not just the current administration.
- Orange County needs to narrow down the key global commitments it would like to commit to as a result of this effort.
- Explore OCCC Carbon offset program.

List of guiding principles on how employees can operationalize the relevant goals and actions of this Plan – keep it in front of the education and workforce development.

Goals and Actions

- What is the ISO 14001 Scope and highlight for WTP and WRFs?
- What are the current rebate usage numbers for residence and commercial? Where can we improve? Drive efficiencies through customers.
- Can we create a goal to go above and beyond NPDES?
- Should we consider a goal 100% sewer by 2050 for county facilities but this will encourage us to develop strategically and eliminate septic. Check with future Land Use and align with that goal. The urban areas should not be developed without the code and infrastructure in place.
- Consider a discharge reduction goal of X% tied to indoor reduction and outdoor stormwater reduction.
- The County needs to eliminate or provide alternatives for allowing new developments with septic.
- Better monitoring at remote facilities through tech and cell service. Discuss with IT for device connectivity strategy.
- Goal 1: Pollutant Loads. All feedback agrees with the concept but the way it is written needs to be measurable. We should not come up with a goal like this without a baseline. We need to assess our buildings with minimum surveys.
- Have we completed a comprehensive assessment of the stormwater infrastructure? If not what % is assessed?
- Explore sedimentation mapping provided by Madeline. Define exactly what we are looking for in order to gauge a cost and timeline.
- Goal #2 Needs to be measured and breakout into Goal to address efficiencies and the other to measure WTP water use efficiency metric.
- How do other utilities track against the 10% non-revenue industry standard?
- Why has the county not undertaken AMI Meter deployment status on county facilities, commercial and residential areas? Can we set a goal for transition of meters?

Parking Lot Ideas for Later

- Resilience Manager in Public Works Department and Wastewater Department.
- Expand septic to sewer options for residents and businesses to ensure equitable access. On Bill financing, Ad-valorem Tax, PACE, SELF.
- Enhance rebate program options for customers. Utilize nationwide programs as successful models and customer surveys as well. Tie in with Resilient Home program.
- The human right of water for all communities should be a resonating theme for the Future Land Use planning process. Clean Air and Clean Water to help influence development and planning decisions. Public Health needs to be prioritized over the will of the community in order to resolve the clean well water access rights in Bithlo. Community engagement training different than previous program.
- Consider what options and pricing strategies exist to partner up with private sector private can do to help lessen the cost of infrastructure, maintenance and delivery.

At 11:30, Jeff Benavides adjourned the meeting.

External Committee Co-Chair

Date

Prepared by Lori Forsman