

# Summary of the Community Advisory Work Group Meeting

August 27, 2024, 5 pm – 7 pm

Reynolds Desalination Facility

## Topic: How does Sweetwater Authority get water to your home or business?

### Part 1: Water Resources & Treatment

**Presentation:** General Information on Community Advisory Work Group (CAWG), Meeting Agenda (Principal Public Affairs Representative Alessandra Angelone)

**Presentation:** How does Sweetwater Authority get water to your home or business? Part 1: Water Resources & Treatment (Director of Water Quality Justin Brazil & Engineering Manager – Water Resources & Environmental Paul Oberbauer) ([Presentation PDF](#))

- Water Resources
  - Local water and imported water sources
  - Water Supply: Costs associated with local vs. purchased water; wet year vs. dry year
  - Surface Water Sources & Protection
    - Monitoring watershed, source water quality
    - Urban Runoff Diversion System (URDS)
    - Habitat Management
- Water Quality
  - Review of Perdue Water Treatment Plant process
  - Groundwater sources and protection
  - Groundwater Treatment: National City Wells and Reynolds Desalination Facility
    - Desalination process overview
  - Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA)
  - Regulatory oversight for water quality issues
    - Water quality standards
  - Water quality laboratory

### Discussion & Q&A (CAWG attendees, Sweetwater Authority representatives)

- Areas of discussion; recommendations and feedback provided:
  - Well block houses
    - Request that staff drive slowly in and out of locations to reduce gravel movement
  - Discussion of AI being used for water treatment
    - Clarification that it is not currently being used in water treatment
  - Question regarding the status of Stein Farms well
  - Discussion of impacts of solar panels on reservoir water quality
    - Clarification that anything that comes in contact with the reservoir water would have to have no impact on water quality
  - Questions regarding annual Consumer Confidence Report

### Update on Recreational Opportunities at Sweetwater Reservoir (Assistant General Manager Roberto Yano)

- Update provided that on August 14, the Board adopted the second addendum to the Environmental Impact Report for the Sweetwater Reservoir Recreational Facilities Master Plan

- Next steps are permitting and acquiring grants for construction and installation of the shared maintenance road and trail

**What's on Your Mind?** (CAWG attendees, Sweetwater Authority representatives)

- Question regarding DAF sludge and water treatment processes
- Question on status update on clean vehicles purchased
  - Clarification that the Authority has ordered 8 of 11 vehicles and has authorization to purchase remainder once available
- Request for future CAWG topic on rates and/or understanding your water bill
  - Discussion of variable vs. fixed costs, consumption and impact on rates
- Discussion on CAWG meeting promotion
- Questions on horse trails and recreation
  - Discussion of the Authority's collaboration with the mountain-biking community; request for similar collaboration with the horse-riding community