

Summary of the Community Advisory Work Group Meeting

October 22, 2024, 5 pm – 7 pm

Reynolds Desalination Facility

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

Part 3: Future Planning

Presentation: General Information on Community Advisory Work Group (CAWG), Meeting Agenda (Principal Public Affairs Representative Gwyneth Shoecraft)

Presentation: How does Sweetwater Authority get water to your home or business? Part 3: Future Planning (Director of Engineering & Operations Erick del Bosque) ([Presentation PDF](#))

- Planning for the future
 - Strategic and master plan efforts to ensure adequate water supply and infrastructure
 - Review of Authority planning documents
 - Highlight on Water Resources Master Plan (WRMP)
 - WRMP identifies existing and projected water demands, supplies and potential for new water supplies
 - 2023 WRMP accepted by Board on September 4, 2024
 - Demands were updated to reflect local population projections
 - Review of projected demands for different hydrologic scenarios
 - Projected increase to costs of imported supplies
 - Identifies alternative projects and next steps:
 - South Bay Brackish Groundwater Desalination Facility Feasibility Study
 - Recycled water purchase from Otay Water
 - Highlight on Water Distribution System Master Plan (WDSMP)
 - WDSMP presents evaluation of distribution network and recommended improvements to meet demands and address infrastructure conditions
 - Discussion of evaluation results, including infrastructure improvements

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

- Areas of discussion; recommendations and feedback provided:
 - Questions as to where population data is acquired
 - Clarification of SANDAG and Census data
 - Discussion of new development in service area
 - Questions on new bayfront development and water needs
 - Clarification that most development in the service area is redevelopment
 - Discussion of new building requirements for multi-family units regarding submetering
 - Questions on groundwater aquifer being overdrawn
 - Clarification of monitoring wells to look at effects of groundwater pumping and seawater intrusion
 - Discussion of costs of imported water and why the Authority is looking at diversifying local water portfolio to keep costs low

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

- Questions regarding who prepares planning documents and historical use of staff vs. consultants
- Question of other water districts needs compared to the Authority's
 - E.g. Otay Water District may have less pipeline requirements in their planning documents since their pipelines are newer
- Kudos to Customer Service Field team for help with Flume installation
- Question re: special meeting on floating solar project