

## TOWN OF WINDSOR AGENDA REPORT

**Town Council Meeting Date:** November 1, 2006

**To:** Mayor and Town Council  
**From:** Richard W. Burt, Public Works Director/Town Engineer  
**Subject:** Update on City of Santa Rosa Incremental Recycled Water Program (IRWP)

### **Recommendation to Council:**

Hear a presentation from Santa Rosa representatives, and provide comments to Santa Rosa regarding potential recycled water partnering opportunities, including conveyance, storage, urban reuse, steam field injection, and discharge to surface waters.

### **Background:**

As the Town of Windsor considers a variety of recycled water options in the region (including Shone Farm, the Joint Use Study and the development of Ponds S & T), the City of Santa Rosa is proceeding with development of its Incremental Recycled Water Program (IRWP) Master Plan. This program involves projects to increase Santa Rosa's recycled water reuse and identify the most appropriate method and location for discharge to comply with increasingly stringent Regional Water Board regulations. The program consists of projects which could include partnering opportunities for the Town of Windsor.

The IRWP projects currently in the planning stage are:

- **Santa Rosa Urban Reuse Project.** This \$120 million project has been developed to annually replace 1,000 million gallons of potable with recycled water for landscape irrigation and other suitable uses. The project is currently in the pre-design phase and is scheduled to begin delivering water to customers in approximately 2010.
- **Discharge Compliance Project.** Particular criteria have been developed through a public process that led to the identification of particular locations for discharge. These locations include maintaining existing Laguna de Santa Rosa sites, four new direct discharge sites in the Russian River located between Mirabel and Alexander Valley Road, and three indirect discharge sites in Alexander Valley. Additional treatment facilities such as cooling and reverse osmosis as may be needed to meet Regional Water Board requirements are also under consideration. Additional recycled water storage is also being considered to help meet discharge requirements. The City is expected to identify alternatives for consideration in a project EIR in November 2006 and provide the Draft EIR for public comment in Spring 2007.
- **Seasonal Storage Project.** Additional storage is needed to support the Santa Rosa Urban Reuse Project and possibly the Discharge Compliance Project. A feasibility study is currently being conducted to identify storage sites and partnering opportunities to add about 500 million gallons of storage capacity to the City's existing 1,600-million gallon capacity. Approximately 32 sites from south of Rohnert Park to Alexander Valley are currently being evaluated according to particular criteria in an effort to screen down to approximately seven sites that will be evaluated in a project EIR in 2007.

- **Other Master Plan Projects.** The Master Plan establishes a 2,200-million-gallon (MG) reuse goal (of which 1,000 MG would be met by the Santa Rosa Urban Reuse Project). The City expects to allocate recycled water to projects that provide potable supply offset or otherwise enhances the water supply condition of the City and/or its Subregional System contractors. Projects under consideration include additional urban reuse in Rohnert Park and Cotati, agricultural irrigation in Alexander Valley, and additional Geysers steam field injection.

These projects are all underway at various levels of activity, and Town staff is monitoring their progress and status.

**Discussion:**

These projects and the fact that both the Town of Windsor and the City of Santa Rosa produce tertiary treated recycled water may provide opportunities for partnering by the Town with the City. Town staff has been in an ongoing dialog with City staff to identify mutually beneficial partnering opportunities including:

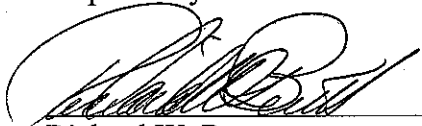
- **Conveyance.** Use of the Geyser's pipeline to convey the Town's recycled water to users with whom the Town would have an agreement.
- **Storage.** Partnering to optimize use of existing recycled water storage and on the development of additional storage that may be cost-effective for the Town and City.
- **Urban Reuse.** Co-development of urban reuse projects that offset potable supply that may be mutually beneficial.
- **Steam Field Injection.** Should the steam field operator and the City amend their agreement such that recycled water delivery could be increased, the City would consider an arrangement with the Town to deliver the Town's recycled water to the steam field.
- **Discharge.** Should the Town decide to study relocation of its outfall from Mark West Creek to the River, the City may be open to the Town including an alternative in which the Town would use a River discharge facility that may be constructed by the City.

In their presentation, Santa Rosa City staff will provide an update on its IRWP projects and discuss opportunities for partnering with the Town.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Town of Windsor comment letter on Santa Rosa IRWP

Prepared By:

  
 Richard W. Burt  
 Public Works Director/Town Engineer

Recommended By:

  
 J. Matthew Mullan  
 Town Manager



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**Council Members**  
Steve Allen  
Debora Fudge  
Lynn Morehouse

**Town Manager**  
J. Matthew Mullan

August 24, 2006

Glen Wright  
City of Santa Rosa  
100 Santa Rosa Avenue  
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Dear Mr. Wright:

**Subject: Incremental Recycled Water Program  
Notice of Preparation and Initial Study Comments**

The Town of Windsor appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on your Notice of Preparation and Initial Study for the Discharge Compliance Project. The project as proposed, is regional in scope, affecting communities from southern to northern Sonoma County. A project of such size can offer opportunities to other communities and agencies that have similar discharge and recycled water needs.

Last May, the Town hosted a Recycled Water Forum that the City of Santa Rosa participated in. The plans for recycled water in the north county were discussed at the Forum by the City of Healdsburg, the City of Santa Rosa, the Sonoma County Water Agency, and the Town of Windsor. What became apparent from the Forum was that several independent endeavors were being considered that were aimed at achieving similar ends. It was also apparent that there is considerable opportunity to collaborate on regional solutions that would benefit us all. The Discharge Compliance Project should address these opportunities for the region and identify project aspects that will benefit neighboring jurisdictions.

There are several subregional proposals that are under consideration, some of which Santa Rosa has been a participant. This past year a jointly funded report on the joint operation of facilities owned by Santa Rosa, the Sonoma County Water Agency and the Town of Windsor was completed. That report identified some important and valuable recycled water opportunities for irrigation, storage and discharge. The Sonoma County Water Agency has also shared their plans for recycled water transmission in their NSCARP project. It would seem appropriate that an alternative that considers regionally available facilities and plans for regional collaboration be considered and included in the analysis.

Reclamation storage was a common theme among the participants at the Recycled Water Forum. The Discharge Compliance Project should consider a storage component in the alternatives.

The City of Santa Rosa offers opportunities for regional discharge and reuse with this proposed project. That perspective should be included and highlighted in the project alternatives.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide our comments.

Sincerely,



Richard W. Burt  
Public Works Director/Town Engineer

Cc: Mayor and Councilmembers  
Matt Mullan – Town of Windsor  
Randy Poole – Sonoma County Water Agency  
George Hicks, City of Healdsburg  
Daren Jenkins – City of Rohnert Park  
Toni Bertolero – Winzler & Kelly  
Mike Ban – City of Petaluma  
Al Bandur – City of Sonoma  
George Roberts – Forestville County Water District  
Krishna Kumar – Valley of the Moon Water District  
Paul Helliker – Marin Municipal Water District  
Dave Smith – Merritt Smith Consulting