



## METRO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MetroTAC)

The MetroTAC is made up of professionals with a background in Wastewater systems. Originally, a group of city engineers from some of the Participating Agencies (PA's) met informally on a regular basis to share inter-city information about wastewater issues, mainly related to the early 1960's contract with the City of San Diego's Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant. Currently, it's membership is generally the Public Works Directors, General Managers, and Operational Managers and Engineers from the PA's as well as San Diego staff overseeing wastewater activities and MetroTAC/JPA's consultant Atkins North America, Inc..

The purpose of the MetroTAC is to provide professional review of all matters that are associated with operation of City of San Diego's Metropolitan Wastewater System, as well as any other issue related to wastewater that would affect the PA's. The type of items that MetroTAC reviews include: modifications to the METRO SYSTEM, METRO Capital Improvement Projects, METRO operational costs, and METRO operational and financial practices. The MetroTAC will also work on regulatory items such as the implementation of the State's Waste Discharge Requirements for our agencies. MetroTAC meetings also provide opportunities for participants to work together on common issues and needs affecting their agencies. Additionally, the MetroTAC works on projects that the METRO JPA Board assigns. A copy of the most recent Metro TAC Work Plan follows this write-up. The work plan is updated monthly at the Metro TAC meeting. Recent updates to the work plan are shown in red italics.

MetroTAC members and METRO JPA Board members work closely on many items. MetroTAC provides staff recommendations to the METRO Commission and METRO JPA on Wastewater issues. MetroTAC members elect their own chairperson, who represents their group at the METRO JPA meetings. ALL MetroTAC meetings are open and occasionally JPA Board members attend. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month in the auditorium of the MWWD office, located at 9192 Topaz Way.

2013

THE JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY PROACTIVELY ADDRESSING REGIONAL WASTEWATER ISSUES



**MetroTAC**  
**2012/13 Work Plan**  
**March 2013 (Revised Per Metro TAC)**

MetroTAC Items	Description	Subcommittee Member(s)
Strength Based Billing Evaluation	<i>3/20/13: Brown and Caldwell presented their draft results to Metro TAC. This has been added as a standing item to the Metro TAC agenda for discussions on the recommendations.</i>	
IRWMP	<i>Bob Kennedy attended the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) meeting of April 3, 2013. Minutes from this meeting are attached.</i>	Bob Kennedy Greg Humora
Fiscal Items	The Finance committee will continue to monitor and report on the financial issues affecting the Metro System and the charges to the PAs. The debt finance and reserve coverage issues have been resolved. Refunds totaling \$12.3 million were sent to most of the PA's. 10/26/11: 2010 will be the first year where the PAs will be credited with interest on the debt service reserve and operational fund balances. Interest will be applied as an income credit to Exhibit E when that audit is complete.	Greg Humora Karen Jassoy Karyn Keese
Recycled Water Revenue Issue	Per our Regional wastewater Agreement revenues from SBWTP are to be shared with PA's. 4/11: City has agreed to pay out revenue to Wastewater Section and PA's credit will be on the Exhibit E adjustments at year end Open issues: Capacity reservation lease payments and North City Optimized System Debt service status. 12/11: Letter sent to San Diego regarding outstanding recycled water revenue issues. 2/13: Karyn Keese continues to meet with City staff to determine the basis of the water department's administrative charges.	Scott Huth Scott Tulloch Karyn Keese
Water Reduction - Impacts on Sewer Rates	The MetroTAC wants to evaluate the possible impact to sewer rates and options as water use goes down and consequently the sewer flows go down, reducing sewer revenues. Sewer strengths are also increasing because of less water to dilute the waste. We are currently monitoring the effects of this. 2/2011: wastewater revenues are declining due to conservation and flow reductions and agencies are re-prioritizing projects to be able to cover annual operations costs	Eric Minicilli Bob Kennedy Karyn Keese
"No Drugs Down the Drain"	The state has initiated a program to reduce pharmaceuticals entering the wastewater flows. There have been a number of collection events within the region. The MetroTAC, working in association with the Southern California Alliance of Publicly-owned Treatment Works (SCAP), will continue to monitor proposed legislation and develop educational tools to be used to further reduce the amount of drugs disposed of into the sanitary sewer system. 8/2010: County Sheriff and Chula Vista have set up locations for people to drop off unwanted medications and drugs. 4/11: Local law enforcement has taken a proactive role and is sponsoring drug take back events. 3/11: TAC to prepare a position for the board to adopt; look for a regional solution; watch requirements to test/control drugs in wastewater. 10/26/11: A prescription drug take back day is scheduled for 10/29/11. Go to <a href="http://www.dea.gov">www.dea.gov</a> to find your nearest location. 4/12: East County to host a prescription drug take back 4/28/12. <i>3/27/13 is scheduled to be a county wide take back day. Locations can be found on the DEA website.</i>	Greg Humora
Flushable Items that do not Degrade	Several PAs have problems with flushable products, such as personal wipes, that do not degrade and cause blockages. MetroTAC is investigating solutions by other agencies, and a public affairs campaign to raise awareness of the problems caused by flushable products. We are also working with SCAP in their efforts to help formulate state legislation to require manufacturers of products to meet certain criteria prior to labeling them as "flushable." Follow AB2256 and offer support. <i>3/13: A discussion on this issue is planned for the spring ____ conference.</i>	Eric Minicilli



MetroTAC Items	Description	Subcommittee Member(s)
Grease Recycling	To reduce fats, oils, and grease (FOG) in the sewer systems, more and more restaurants are being required to collect and dispose of cooking grease. Companies exist that will collect the grease and turn it into energy. MetroTAC is exploring if a regional facility offers cost savings for the PAs. The PAs are also sharing information amongst each other for use in our individual programs. 3/11: get update on local progress and status of grease rendering plant near Coronado bridge	Eric Minicilli
Padre Dam Mass Balance Correction	11/11: Padre Dam has been overcharged for their sewage strengths since 1998. Staff from City of San Diego presented a draft spreadsheet entitled Master Summary Reconciliations Padre Dam Mass Balance Corrections Calculation. Rita Bell and Karyn Keese were elected to review the documentation and report back to Metro TAC. 2/12: Audit complete. Item added as Standing to Metro TAC agenda. 4/12: This issue is scheduled as a standing item and discussed at each Metro TAC meeting until it is resolved. Currently Metro TAC is focusing on the statue of limitations. 2/13: The PAs have received a joint letter from Padre Dam/City of San Diego. The PA's attorneys group continues to meet on this issue. <i>3/13: The attorney's group has requested an extension to 4/23/13 to respond to San Diego's letter.</i>	Rita Bell Karyn Keese
Waiver and Recycled Water Study Implementation	11/12: Metro TAC requested a timeline from City staff including milestones for the waiver process. The waiver is due no later than 7/30/15. However, the application needs to be submitted six months prior to the July date (2/1/15). Preparation of the waiver will begin in the early part of FYE 2014. 2/13: City staff has met to start coordination of the waiver process. Staff in attendance included Roger Bailey, Marsi Steirer, Guann Hwang, Steve Meyers, and Allan Langworthy.	Al Lau Scott Tulloch Karyn Keese
City of San Diego Recycled Water Rate Study	San Diego is working on a rate study for pricing recycled water from the South Bay plant and the North City plant. Metro TAC, in addition to individual PAs, has been engaged in this process and has provided comments on drafts San Diego has produced. We are currently waiting for San Diego to promulgate a new draft which addresses the changes we have requested. 10/26/11: draft study still not issued	Karyn Keese Rita Bell
City of San Diego Revised Procurement Process	8/12: San Diego City Engineer James Nagelvoort reported on recent changes to San Diego's procurement process to move projects through more quickly. Technically any CIP projects under \$30 million may no longer need to be reviewed by the Metro TAC or JPA prior to City Council approval. Chairman Humora requested San Diego prepare a summary of the recent changes and the decision points for consideration of the TAC at the September meeting. 10/4: Metro Commission requests further review by TAC to recommend an appropriate level for CIP's to be brought forth to the Commission. 11/12: MetroTAC recommended leaving the thresholds as they are today and therefore everything will go through TAC and then to the JPA for formal action. The policy will be placed on the JPA website. The Metro Commission approved the policy at their November 2012 meeting. San Diego's CIP will become a standing item on the Metro TAC agenda.	Metro TAC
Salt Creek Diversion	9/2010: OWD, Chula Vista and San Diego met to discuss options and who will pay for project; Chula Vista and OWD are reviewing options. 2/2011: OWD and PBS&J reviewed calculations with PUD staff; San Diego to provide backup data for TAC to review. This option is also covered in the Recycle Water Study. 10/26/11: Back-up information has still not been received from staff. 8/12: San Diego to conduct business case evaluation and add to Capital Improvement Program as recommend by Metro Commission to San Diego City Council on July 17, 2012 in support of the Recycled Water Study.	Roberto Yano Bob Kennedy Karyn Keese Rita Bell



MetroTAC Items	Description	Subcommittee Member(s)
Recycled Water Study Cost Allocation	A small working group was formed to discuss options to allocate PLWTP offset project costs among the water and wastewater rate payers; Concepts will be discussed at TAC and JPA Board in near future.7/12: Subcommittee to meet with PUD staff & consultants to review TM 8 and economic model.8/12: Subcommittee has meet with City staff and consultants. Economic model has been received. City will not pursue cost allocations until Demonstration Project is complete due to staffing constraints.	Roberto Yano Al Lau Karyn Keese Rita Bell
<b>Board Members' Items</b>		
Rate Case Items	1/12: San Diego is in the process of hiring a consultant to update their rate case. As part of that process, Metro TAC and the Finance Committee will be monitoring the City's proposals as they move forward. 6/12: San Diego hired Black & Veatch as their rate consultant. 2/13: Preliminary results were reported at the IROC Meeting of 2/19/13. Karyn Keese will be working with the IROC Finance Committee to review details. <i>3/13: Karyn Keese attended a joint workshop with IROC to review the draft revenue requirement for the Rate Case.</i>	Karyn Keese
Exhibit E	Metro TAC and the Finance Committee are active and will monitor this process. Individual items related to Schedule E will come directly to the Board as they develop. 2/13: 2010 and 2011 audits are ongoing. <i>3/13: The 2010 audit is complete and has been presented to Metro TAC &amp; the Finance Committee. Will move forward to Commission at 6/13 meeting. 2011 field work is complete. 2012 sample selected.</i>	Karen Jassoy Karyn Keese
Future bonding	Metro TAC and the Finance Committee are active and will monitor this process. Individual items related to bonding efforts will come directly to the Board as they develop. 10/26/11: San Diego is issuing an RFP for a cost of service study to support a future bond issue potentially in mid-2013. Kristin Crane to sit on the selection panel. 2/13: San Diego's preliminary rate case does not show the issuance of additional debt until FY 2018.	Karen Jassoy Karyn Keese Kristen Crane
Changes in water legislation	Metro TAC and the Board should monitor and report on proposed and new legislation or changes in existing legislation that impact wastewater conveyance, treatment, and disposal, including recycled water issues	Paula de Sousa
Role of Metro JPA regarding Recycled Water	As plans for water reuse unfold and projects are identified, Metro JPA's role must be defined with respect to water reuse and impacts to the various regional sewer treatment and conveyance facilities 2/12: Scott Huth removed as member due to new position. JPA/Metro TAC needs to appoint a new representative.	Karyn Keese
Border Region	Impacts of sewer treatment and disposal along the international border should be monitored and reported to the Board. These issues would directly affect the South Bay plants on both sides of the border. 2/12: This Item does not have a champion. Should we remove?	
SDG&E Rate Case	8/19: Karyn to check with Paula regarding latest SDG&E issues.11/12: Sophie Akins from BBK will present updated information to Metro TAC.	Paula de Sousa
Metro JPA Strategic Plan	6/12: Chairman Ewin to establish a subcommittee to monitor the progress of strategic plan initiatives.	<i>Who should take over?</i>



Completed Items	Description	Subcommittee Member(s)
Debt Reserve and Operating Reserve Discussion	In March 2010, the JPA approved recommendations developed by Metro JPA Finance Committee, MetroTAC, and the City of San Diego regarding how the PA's will fund the operating reserve and debt financing. MetroTAC has prepared a policy document to memorialize this agreement. <b>Project complete: 4/10</b>	Scott Huth Karyn Keese Doug Wilson
State WDRs & WDR Communications Plan	The Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs), a statewide requirement that became effective on May 2, 2006, requires all owners of a sewer collection system to prepare a Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP). Agencies' plans have been created. We will continue to work to meet state requirements, taking the opportunity to work together to create efficiencies in producing public outreach literature and implementing public programs. <b>Project complete: 5/10.</b> 2/12: State has proposed new WDR regulations. Metro TAC will not reopen but Dennis Davies will stay on top of the issue.	Dennis Davies
Ocean Maps from Scripps	Schedule a presentation on the Sea Level Rise research by either Dr. Emily Young, San Diego Foundation, or Karen Goodrich, Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve <b>Project complete: 5/10</b>	Board Member Item
Secondary Waiver	The City of San Diego received approval from the Coastal Commission and now the Waiver is being processed by the EPA. The new 5 year waiver to operate the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant at advanced primary went into effect August 1, 2010. <b>Project complete 7/10</b>	Scott Huth
Lateral Issues	Sewer laterals are owned by the property owners they serve, yet laterals often allow infiltration and roots to the main lines causing maintenance issues. As this is a common problem among PAs, the MetroTAC will gather statistics from national studies and develop solutions. 4/11: There has been no change to the issue. We will continue to track this item through SCAP and report back when the issue is active again. <b>Efforts closed 3/11</b>	Tom Howard Joe Smith
Advanced Water Purification Demonstration Project	San Diego engaged CDM to design/build/operate the project for the water repurification pilot program. 2/8/11: <i>Equipment arrived 3/2011; tours will be held when operational (June/July 2011 timeframe).</i> 2/12: Tours are available. San Diego whitepaper on IPR distributed to Metro TAC members. <b>Closed 4/18/12</b>	Al Lau
SDG&E Rate Case	SDG&E has filed Phase 2 of its General Rate Case, which proposes a new "Network Use Charge" which would charge net-energy metered customers for feeding renewable energy into the grid as well as using energy from the grid. The proposal will have a significant impact on entities with existing solar facilities, in some cases, increases their electricity costs by over 400%. Ultimately, the Network Use Charge will mean that renewable energy projects will no longer be as cost effective. SDG&E's proposal will damage the growth of renewable energy in San Diego County. A coalition of public agencies has formed to protest this rate proposal. 2/12: PUC has not accepted SDG&E's filing. Metro TAC move to close this item. Will continue to monitor this. 8/19: Karyn to check with Paula regarding latest SDG&E issues.	Paula de Sousa
Metro JPA Strategic Plan	2/2011: committee to meet 2/28/11 to plan for retreat to be held on 5/5/11 Retreat held and wrap up presented to the Commission at their June Meeting. JPA strategic planning committee to meet to update JPA Strategic Plan and prepare action items. 1/12: Draft strategic plan reviewed by Board and referred to Metro TAC for input. MetroTAC has created a subcommittee to work on this project. 2/12: Metro TAC has completed their final review. Forwarded to Commission. 4/12: Adopted at April 2012 Metro JPA Meeting. Project complete.	Augie Caires Ernie Ewin



Completed Items	Description	Subcommittee Member(s)
Recycled Water Study	As part of the secondary waiver process, San Diego agreed to perform a recycled water study within the Metro service area. That study is currently underway, and MetroTAC has representatives participating in the working groups. TM #8 Costs estimates are out and PAs provided comments on TM#8 and have asked for a technical briefing. 10/16/11: Final draft of report is due out in November 2011. 1/12: Final draft of report is due in March 2012. 3/12: Final draft available for comments until 3/19/12 4/12: PUD staff to give presentation to Metro JPA at their May meeting. 5/12 PUD staff presented the Recycled Water Study to the Metro JPA at their May meeting. Metro JPA approved the Study as a planning document. Study to move forward to SD City Council in July 2012 with letter of support from JPA. 7/12: City of San Diego approved the Recycled Water Study; Study submitted on time to Coastal Commission. Final report uploaded to JPA website. 11/12: San Diego received a letter from the Coastal Commission. Metro Commission consensus was that based on the tone of the Coastal Commission letter the region may be seeing some time line changes relative to San Diego's projections on the implementation of IPR and that the MetroTAC needs to manage all aspects including the Coastal Commission and multiple issues such as desalination water, Coastal Commissions attitude at this point and pending IPR programs we have heard about.	Scott Huth Al Lau Scott Tulloch Karyn Keese
IRWMP	4:12: Metro TAC received a presentation from Cathy Pieroni (City of San Diego) on the Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP). Group is still relatively informal but plans to become more structured during its upcoming 2 year plan update. There is a governance & finance work group that starts in the 3rd quarter of 2012 and at that point the JPA role will be examined. Padre Dam and Chula Vista are regular participants. 9/19: Cathy Pieroni gave an update. Recommendation by IRWM to the RAC to include a seat for the Metro JPA. Bob Kennedy will attend the October 3, 2012 meeting representing the JPA. 11/12: At their November 2012 meeting the Metro Commission unanimously appointed Bob Kennedy of Otay Water District as primary and Metro TAC Chairman Greg Humora as alternate to the IRWMP RAC. 2/13: On February 6, 2013 Bob Kennedy attended the IRWMP meeting. Metro JPA has been added as a permanent member of the Water Quality subcommittee of the RAC. The City of San Diego presented an overview of the Recycled Water Study. Next meeting scheduled for April 3, 2013. <i>Closed 4/12 as the Metro JPA has become a member.</i>	Bob Kennedy Greg Humora