



### **Strategic Planning Retreat Held on April 8**



*Strategic Planning Workshop attendees at the Mission Valley Marriott Hotel. Adams and Adams facilitated the process.*

### **A Letter from Chairman Abarbanel and Vice Chair Winter**

Our personal, and professional thanks to all of you for the excellent planning workshop. Everyone was enthusiastic and willing to invent, and then sign up to work! It was a remarkable coincidence of events and very encouraging. We will all receive follow-up messages with our assignments and work plans. We certainly look forward to a productive year ahead.

For your calendars please note that next year's planning workshop will be in Del Mar at the Powerhouse Community Center on April 13, 2006 from 9 am to 4 am. We had opted for April 6, but the site was not available then. We hope this is convenient for all. Congratulations on an excellent session.

### **Member Agencies Work with San Diego on Finance Issues**

Terri Webster, Deputy Director, Services and Contracts for San Diego Metro Wastewater Department (MWWD) presented the Metro JPA/ Commissioners with an update of San Diego's current pension fund crisis by responding to previous questions asked by Commissioners. The information included pension costs, project postponement, bond issuance timing and future issues.

JPA agencies had previously agreed to pay their share of the interim financing arranged by San Diego which is \$7.5 million in upgrades, maintenance and expansion of the wastewater system planned through 2007. This was related to the short-term financing obtained by the San Diego City Council on behalf of the MWWD in anticipation of future bond financing that never materialized. Total installment payments due starting in April 2006 are approximately \$19 million. San Diego has placed a temporary halt on any capital improvement projects until new round of bond financing is secured.

The JPA's ad hoc committee of Jerry Jones - Lemon Grove, Ernest Ewin - La Mesa, and Merrilee Boyack - Poway have requested a meeting with City of San Diego. Metro TAC plans

to closely monitor the situation.

### **Point Loma Ocean Monitoring Progress and Primary Treatment Waiver**

A brief update was presented by MWWD Director Scott Tulloch on the status of San Diego's primary treatment waiver at the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant. An overview on the Ocean Monitoring Program was given as a preview of the full Scripps presentation at the JPA meeting in May.

### **Water Reuse Study Presentation**

The City of San Diego gave an update of the progress of its Water Reuse Study. The American Assembly II workshop is scheduled for July 11, 12 and 14, 2005. There may be one to two openings for JPA representatives to attend the workshop. Those interested should call Mike Wallace at 619/533-7570.

### **Metro JPA Votes To Proceed with Public Opinion Survey**

The Metro JPA voted to proceed with the Public Opinion Survey with Pt. Loma Nazarene University Summer Fellowship program under the direction of Professor Harry Watkins. Results of the survey will be presented at the August Metro JPA/Commission meeting.

### **Metro JPA/Commission to Meet on May 5**

The next monthly meeting of the Metro JPA and Commission will be held on Thursday, May 5 at 12 noon in the auditorium of the Metropolitan Operations Center (MOC II) at 9192 Topaz Way in Kearny Mesa. The agenda will include a briefing on the strategic implications of the City of San Diego's primary treatment waiver at the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant. An invitation has been extended to Congressional members and State Legislative members to attend.

### **Metro TAC to Meet on April 20**

Next meeting of the Metro JPA's Technical Advisory Committee (Metro TAC) will be Wednesday, April 20 at 11 a.m. at the Metropolitan Operations Center (MOC II).

### **Metro Commissioners**

Councilmember Henry Abarbanel, Del Mar - Chair  
Councilmember Mayda Winter, Imperial Beach - Vice Chair  
Mayor Steven Padilla, Chula Vista \* Not a Metro JPA member  
Councilmember Frank Tierney, Coronado  
Mayor Mark Lewis, El Cajon  
Councilmember Ernest Ewin, La Mesa  
Councilmember Jerry Jones, Lemon Grove Sanitation District  
Councilmember Luis Natividad, National City  
Councilmember Merrilee Boyack, Poway  
Scott Tulloch, Director, MWWD, City of San Diego  
Supervisor Dianne Jacob, County of San Diego  
Mark Robak, Otay Water District  
Augie Scalzitti, Padre Dam Municipal Water District

### **Metro JPA News Brief**

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