

WEST BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

MAY 10, 2005 - Water Resources
Little, Baker

MAY 23, 2005 - Board Meeting

Prepared by: Gus Meza

Submitted by: Paul Shoenberger

Approved by: Richard Nagel

INFORMATION CALENDAR

PROPOSITION 50 – SURFRIDER FOUNDATION PARTNERSHIP

SUMMARY:

Several months ago, staff presented its conservation programs to the Surfriders Foundation. Information was provided on the District's Ocean-Water Desalination, Recycled Water and Conservation Programs. The overall presentation was well received. At the meeting, the Southern California Regional Manager for the Surfrider Foundation, Mr. Joe Geever, expressed interest in partnering with the District on gardening workshops.

In an effort to build a stronger relationship with the Surfrider Foundation, staff encouraged Mr. Geever to submit a program proposal to the District. The proposal discussed a partnership between Surfrider and the District to offer "Ocean Friendly Garden" workshops to residents throughout West Basin's service area.

The workshops would provide information to the public on various subjects, including the use of native plants, weather-based sprinkler controllers to conserve water and reduce run-off, gardening and irrigation design, and information on water supply and water quality issues affecting the local waterways and the ocean.

The District currently has an opportunity to seek Proposition 50 funding to fund the workshops. Four grant applications have been submitted in order to seek funding for centralized irrigation controllers for large landscapes. There is a small window of time to include the workshop component into the grant applications. A grant application providing more detail will be submitted to seek funding for the following components:

- Large Landscape Weather-Based Irrigation Controllers;
- Residential Weather-Based Irrigation Controllers; and
- "Ocean Friendly Garden" Workshops.

The workshop concept would tie-in nicely with the irrigation controllers. The workshop would provide a great mechanism to educate the public on irrigation controllers and also provide them with the devices and/or rebates.

The funding for the workshops would be included as part of the grant application and would be provided by the State. If the grant is awarded, then there would be no incurred costs to the District.

Staff will proceed with the development of a "Memorandum of Understanding" to enter into a partnership with the Surfrider Foundation to seek Proposition 50 funding for the development and implementation of "Ocean Friendly Garden" workshops.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

Not applicable.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

Not applicable.

COMMITTEE STATUS:

This item was reviewed by the Water Resources Committee on May 10, 2005 and was agendaized to the May 23, 2005 Board meeting as information for discussion.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

This item is for information only.

LIST OF EXHIBITS:

None.

G:\directors\wbmwd\05may003