

**PORT OF LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WATER QUALITY SUBCOMMITTEE**

Port of Los Angeles
425 S. Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, California

Minutes
May 17, 2007

ATTENDEES

PCAC MEMBERS

Cathy Beauregard, Chair
Donna Ethington, Voting Member
Joe Gatlin, Voting Member
Janet Gunter, Alternate Member
Jody James, Alternate Member
Jayme Wilson, PCAC Co-Chair
Kathleen Woodfield, Alternate Member

PORT STAFF

Kathryn Curtis

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Lou Baglietto

- A. Call to Order: 5:05PM
- B. Sign In / Introductions
- C. Agenda Approved
- D. Minutes Approved for the November 16, 2006 & February 15, 2007 W.Q. Meetings
- E. Public Comment: None
- F. Discussion:
 - Anchorage Road Soil Storage Site
Kathryn Curtis reported that the Port staff response to motion #66 that was adopted by the Wilmington Waterfront Development Subcommittee and approved by PCAC, regarding Anchorage Road, was going to the Board on June 7, 2007. The staff report is available on www.portoflosangeles.org.
 - Wetlands Restoration in Harbor
Kathleen Woodfield stated that restoration projects in the harbor could potentially help to clean the harbor. Ms. Curtis reviewed the status of the Port's progress on Biological Mitigation Projects in the harbor area. She explained that based on community input, the Port has committed to moving forward on the Cabrillo Salt Marsh, as well as doing something at Machado Lake. Presently the Port is tracking the Prop O Projects on Machado Lake to see if or where the Port can assist.

Cathy Beauregard suggested that subcommittee members review the materials that were distributed and that perhaps the Subcommittee could make a recommendation in support of one or both of these projects. Ms. Beauregard requested a list of the projects that were submitted to the City for Prop O funding. Ms. Curtis agreed to provide this list.

- **Testing and Storage of Dredge Materials**
Material at the storage site is tested prior to disposal at the site. Sediment at the dredging site is tested prior to dredging any material, based on the proposed dredge footprint. A sampling and analysis plan is developed and approved by the LA Regional Water Quality Control Board, the EPA, and the Army Corp of Engineers, for sampling the material and analyzing it to determine the types and levels of contamination, which dictates where the dredge material can be disposed. A sediment characterization report is written and submitted to the regulatory agencies and, for larger projects, to the Contaminated Sediment Task Force. The regulatory agencies who issue the permits must approve the disposal location based on the sediment sampling results.

The sediment characteristic reports for every dredging project are part of the Water Quality Study/Sediment Quality Data Base. Ms. Curtis agreed that she could provide information on types of contaminants. Ms. Beauregard suggested that the Subcommittee draft a list of specific contaminants that the Port could report on.

- **Water Quality at Cabrillo Beach**
Ms. Woodfield shared her concerns about ships contributing to the poor water quality of the beach, and stated that the San Pedro Waterfront project would exacerbate the water pollution at Cabrillo Beach, if a cruise ship berth was to be built in that area. Ms. Curtis stated that this is not the case and that the elevated bacteria levels are in the ankle deep water. Bacteria appear to be coming from a combination of sources, which are being addressed (leaking sewer pipes, bird droppings, diapers in the water, retention of bacteria in the sand, etc.).
- **Westway**
Janet Gunter requested an accounting of the conditions, the cost, and the assessment for remediation at Westways. She was also concerned with the various contaminants that are leaching into the harbor. Ms. Curtis stated that she was directed by City Attorney not to discuss the case at this point. Negotiations are still going on between the Port and Westways.
- **The Dominguez Channel – Discussion postponed**
- **The Ports’ Clean Water Action Plan**
Identified data gaps are being addressed between the Port, the Regional Board and the US EPA. The Port has funded a lot of the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Studies, putting good data into the hydrodynamic models.
- **TMDL’s – Ms. Ethington requested a map depicting the storm drains where TMDL tests are being done. The Enhanced Monthly Water Quality Testing is feeding into the (TMDLs). A listing from the Clean Water Act, 303D list that**

identifies all the areas in the harbor that require a TMDL can be obtained on the internet.

Ms. Woodfield stated that she would like to see the subcommittee focus on areas where the Port is solely responsible for cleaning up the harbor, before addressing outside issues. Ms. Beauregard stated that the sources of pollution needed to be addressed at the same time in order to stop pollutants from entering the harbor.

- Hull Cleaning Technology

Ms. Ethington raised the question on how the Port could help to support new technology for ship hull cleaning. Ms. Curtis stated that regulatory agencies need to approve new technology. She stated that she would be happy to help set up a presentation to the Port, but that the Port could not become an advocate for any technology that has not gone through the proper regulatory approval channels.

- Schedule for Regular WQ Subcommittee Meetings:

The Subcommittee agreed to change the regular meeting date from the 3rd Thursday to the 3rd Wednesday of the month, to avoid overlapping meetings with the Board of Harbor Commissioners.

G. Non-Agenda Items:

Ms. Curtis reported that Port staff had met with the Deputy Directors of the County Department of Public Works regarding the trash in Dominguez Channel, and the need for additional measures beyond the existing boom. Executive Director Geraldine Knatz requested that the County extend their existing trash pick up contract to include the area along the Dominguez Channel from Vermont Avenue down to Henry Ford, once a week until the rainy season begins, as cleaning during the rainy season is risky. The County will also continue to maintain and clean the existing boom.

H. Agenda Items for next meeting, June 21, 2007

- Clean Water Action Plan
- Wetland Restoration – Potential Action Item
- Westway – Potential Action Item
- The Dominguez Channel

I. Adjournment: 6:20PM

Signature on File

Donna Ethington, Co-Chair
Water Quality Subcommittee

Signature on File

Debra Babcock-Doherty, PCAC Secretary