



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held October 16, 2007, the Board took the following action:

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Donald L. Wolfe, Director, Dean D. Efstathiou, Chief Deputy Director, Department of Public Works, and William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer, presented a report on the status of water conservation measures being implemented or considered by the County and on the attached report on various water supply proposals being considered by the Legislature and the Governor, with recommendations on which proposals the County should support or oppose.

After discussion, Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“The Board’s discussion today addressed the need to conserve water in Southern California. It is essential that local government work to reduce our dependency on water from outside the Los Angeles basin. One measure we can adopt relatively quickly is an ordinance requiring that new development in County unincorporated communities include drought-tolerant and native landscaping. This will minimize the need for excessive watering of plants that are not native to Southern California or otherwise require a lot of water to survive.

“County staff should conduct further research to identify other measures—such as drip-irrigation sprinkler systems, dual-piping for recycled water, and similar equipment—that the Board can consider adopting in the near future.”

Therefore, Supervisor Antonovich made a motion that the Director of Public Works, working with the Director of Planning and County Counsel, be directed to prepare an ordinance for the Board amending Los Angeles County’s Zoning Ordinance and building codes to require that drought-tolerant and native species be required in all new developments in unincorporated Los Angeles County, to be brought before the Board within 60 days; and report back to the Board at that time identifying other potential water conservation measures.

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In addition, Supervisor Antonovich requested that the Chief Executive Officer be directed to communicate to the State Legislature the Board's position to support a hybrid solution for the issue of water conservation, addressing both water storage and its quality and conservation.

At the suggestion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, Supervisor Burke introduced a recommendation that Supervisor Antonovich's motion be amended to include the following in the report back:

1. Identify conservation codes already in place, how these codes are enforced, as well as possible recommendations for revisions or additions to make water conservation more effective;
2. Report on what County facilities can do to step up water conservation programs and reduce water use, particularly as it relates to landscaping and irrigation and how the County's Smart Gardening program can be adapted to County grounds and parks; and
3. Provide a status report on the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) efforts and what projects have been identified to reduce water use throughout the County IRWMP region.

Supervisor Antonovich accepted Supervisor Yaroslavsky's amendment.

Further, Supervisor Burke requested that Supervisor Antonovich's motion be amended to include an update on Board Order No. 17 from January 16, 2007, on what has happened since its adoption in relation to requiring drought-resistant landscaping in all new County buildings, wherever feasible. Supervisor Antonovich accepted Supervisor Burke's amendment.

On motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Burke, unanimously carried (Supervisor Yaroslavsky being absent) the Board took the following actions:

1. Directed the Director of Public Works, working with the Director of Planning and County Counsel, to take the following actions and report back to the Board within 60 days:
 - Prepare an ordinance for the Board amending Los Angeles County's Zoning Ordinance and building codes to require that drought-tolerant and native species be required in all new developments in unincorporated Los Angeles County, to be brought before the Board within 60 days;

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- Identify conservation codes already in place, how these codes are enforced, as well as possible recommendations for revisions or additions to make water conservation more effective;
 - Report on what County facilities can do to step up water conservation programs and reduce water use, particularly as it relates to landscaping and irrigation and how the County's Smart Gardening program can be adapted to County grounds and parks;
 - Provide a status report on the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) efforts and what projects have been identified to reduce water use throughout the County IRWMP region;
 - Provide an update on Board Order No. 17 from the January 16, 2007 Board meeting, on what has happened since its adoption in relation to requiring drought-resistant landscaping in all new County buildings, wherever feasible; and
 - Identify any other potential water conservation measures; and
2. Directed the Chief Executive Officer to communicate to the State Legislature the Board's position to support a hybrid solution for the issue of water conservation, addressing both water storage and its quality and conservation.

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Attachment

Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor
Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Director of Public Works