



**CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**

**Council Chamber
1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena, CA 91030**

May 14, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC ADVISORY: THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS WILL NOT BE OPEN TO
THE PUBLIC**

NOTICE ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION & ACCESSIBILITY

Pursuant to Section 3 of Executive Order N-29-20, issued by Governor Newsom on March 17, 2020, the special meeting of the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission for May 14, 2020 will be conducted remotely and held by video conference. The Meeting will be broadcast live on the City's local cable channel and the City's website at: http://www.spectrumstream.com/streaming/south_pasadena_nrec/live.cfm.

Please be advised that pursuant to the Executive Order, and to ensure the health and safety of the public by limiting human contact that could spread the COVID-19 virus, the Council Chambers will not be open for the meeting. Commissioners will be participating remotely and will not be physically present in the Council Chambers.

If you would like to comment on an agenda item, members of the public may submit their comments in writing for Commission consideration by emailing them to: nrecpubliccomment@southpasadenaca.gov. **Public Comments must be received by 12 p.m., May 14, 2020** to ensure adequate time to compile and post. Public Comment portion of the email is limited to 150 words. Please make sure to indicate: 1) your name; 2) what agenda item you are submitting public comment on or if it is a general public comment; and 3) if you request for your public comment to be read at the meeting.

South Pasadena Natural Resources and Environmental Statement of Civility

As your appointed governing board we will treat each other, members of the public, and city employees with patience, civility and courtesy as a model of the same behavior we wish to reflect in South Pasadena for the conduct of all city business and community participation. The decisions made tonight will be for the benefit of the South Pasadena community and not for personal gain.

- CALL TO ORDER:** Madeline C. Di Giorgi
- ROLL CALL:** Commissioners Amy Davis Jones, William J. Kelly, Stephen Leider, Cynthia Liu, and Lauren Myles; Vice Chair Rona Bortz; and Chair Madeline C. Di Giorgi.
- COUNCIL LIAISON:** Councilmember Marina Khubesrian, MD
- STAFF PRESENT:** Arpy Kasparian, Water Conservation/Sustainability Analyst
Julian Lee, Deputy Public Works Director
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Madeline C. Di Giorgi

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

The Natural Resources and Environmental Commission (NREC) welcomes public input. Members of the public may address the NREC by emailing: nrecpubliccomment@southpasadenaca.gov. Public Comments must be received by 12 p.m., May 14, 2020 to ensure adequate time to compile and post. Public Comment portion of the email is limited to 150 words. Please make sure to indicate: 1) your name; 2) what agenda item you are submitting public comment on or if it is a general public comment; and 3) if you request for your public comment to be read at the meeting.

Pursuant to state law, the NREC may not discuss or take action on issues not on the meeting agenda, except that members of the NREC or staff may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising public testimony rights (Government Code Section 54954.2). Staff may be asked to follow up on such items.

Note: Public input will also be read during all agenda items.

PRESENTATIONS

- 1. **Budget Presentation by City Manager Stephanie DeWolfe and Finance Director Karen Aceves**

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 2. **Review of Revised NREC Work Plan**

ACTION ITEMS

- 3. **Approval of Minutes** – Meeting of January 28, 2020
- 4. **Proposed Fiscal Year 2020-21 Water Conservation Rebate Program**

Recommendation

It is recommended that Natural Resources and Environmental Commission (NREC) make a recommendation to the City Council to approve the proposed Water Conservation Programs for the 2020-21 fiscal year.

COMMUNICATIONS

- 5. **City Council Liaison Communications**
- 6. **Commissioner Communications**
- 7. **Staff Liaison Communications**
- 8. **Upcoming Events**
 - Virtual Climate Action Plan Public Meeting – 5/28/20 6:00pm

ADJOURNMENT

FUTURE NREC MEETINGS

May 26, 2020	Virtual Zoom	7:00pm
June 23, 2020	Virtual Zoom	7:00pm
July 28, 2020	TBD	7:00pm

PUBLIC ACCESS TO AGENDA DOCUMENTS AND BROADCASTING OF MEETINGS

Prior to meetings, agenda related documents and complete agenda packets are available for public inspection at online at <https://www.southpasadenaca.gov/government/boards-commissions/natural-resources-environmental-commission>. This Special Meeting will be broadcast live on Spectrum Channel 19 and AT&T Channel 99. This Special Meeting will also be streamed live via the internet at http://www.spectrumstream.com/streaming/south_pasadena_nrec/live.cfm.

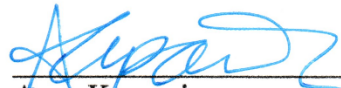
ACCOMMODATIONS



The City of South Pasadena wishes to make all of its public meetings accessible to the public. Meeting facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. If special assistance is needed to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk's Division at (626) 403-7230. Upon request, this agenda will be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with disabilities. Hearing assistive devices are available in the Council Chamber. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will assist staff in assuring that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility to the meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title II).

I declare under penalty of perjury that I posted this notice of agenda on the bulletin board in the courtyard of City Hall at 1414 Mission Street, South Pasadena, CA 91030, and on the City's website as required by law.

5/11/20
Date


Arpy Kasparian
Water Conservation and Sustainability Analyst

ITEM 2

Revised NREC 2020 Work Plan

Natural Resources & Environmental Commission

2020 Work Plan – Updated 5/11/20



Tasks and Activities	Lead Person(s)	Timeline	Desired Outcome
Presentation: Code of Ethics	City Clerk's Office to present	January 28	Commissioners are trained and understand new Code of Ethics
Discussion/Action: Earth Day	Staff Liaison		Create Earth Day Subcommittee and discuss ideas
Action: Approve 2020 NREC Work Plan	Staff Liaison		Final 2020 NREC Work Plan
-	-	February 25 Cancelled	-
-	-	March 24 Cancelled	-
-	-	April 28 Cancelled	-
Presentation: City Budget Update	City Manager; Finance Director	May 14 Special Meeting	Provide the commission with an update on the City's budget
Discussion: Review updated Work Plan	Staff Liaison		Review updated NREC 2020 Work Plan and provide comments
Action: Provide input on the proposed FY 20/21 Water Conservation Program (Goal II) (Goes to Council in June)	Staff Liaison		Input on proposed water conservation program
Presentation/Discussion: Climate Action Plan Emission Reduction Strategies	Staff Liaison; Rincon Consultants	May 26	Discuss strategies and provide Rincon with feedback
Discussion: Heat-Tolerant Trees List (Move IV.3.1)	Staff Liaison; Arborist		Provide feedback on heat-tolerant tree list
Update: Green Plan Progress Report	Staff Liaison		Update NREC on the progress of the FY19/20 Q3 moves
Discussion: Finalize Heat-Tolerant Trees List (Move IV.3.1)	Staff Liaison; Arborist	June 23	Finalize heat-tolerant trees list

Discussion: Current Tree Ordinance Review and Discussion (Move IV.4.1)	Staff Liaison; Operations Manager		Determine feasibility of tree ordinance as part of the Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP)
Presentation/Discussion: Draft Climate Action Plan	Staff Liaison; Rincon Consultants	July 28	Review draft of CAP and provide Rincon with feedback
Discussion: Second Review of Tree Ordinance (Move IV.4.1)	Staff Liaison; Operations Manager		Review tree ordinance as part of UFMP and discuss further input/changes if needed
Update: Green Plan Progress Report	Staff Liaison		Update NREC on the progress of the FY19/20 Q4 moves
Discussion: Review Mandatory Organics Recycling Ordinance (Move III; AB1826; SB1383)	Staff Liaison	August 25	Discuss scope and feasibility of implementing a mandatory organics recycling ordinance
Action: Recommend to Adopt Updated Tree Ordinance (Move IV.4.1) (Goes to Council in September)	Staff Liaison		Provide recommendation to Council on updated Tree Ordinance as part of UFMP if needed
Presentation/Action: Final Review and Recommendation to Adopt Climate Action Plan (Goes to Council in October)	Staff Liaison; Rincon Consultants	September 22	Review final draft of CAP and provide recommendation to Council
Discussion: First Review of SUP Ban Ordinance (Move I.1.3)	Staff Liaison		Review draft ordinance and provide feedback
Discussion: Second review of Mandatory Organics Recycling Ordinance (Move III; AB1826; SB1383)	Staff Liaison	October 27	Review updated ordinance and provide feedback
Update: Green Plan Progress Report	Staff Liaison		Update NREC on the progress of the FY20/21 Q1 moves
Discussion: Second Review of SUP Ban Ordinance (Move I.1.3)	Staff Liaison	November 24	Review updated ordinance and provide feedback
Action: Recommend to adopt Mandatory Organics Recycling Ordinance (Move III; AB1826; SB1383)	Staff Liaison		Provide recommendation to Council on Mandatory Organics Recycling Ordinance
-	-	December 22 Cancelled	-
Tree Removal Hearings	Staff Liaison	As-Needed	Approve/Deny tree removal requests

Removed from 2020 Work Plan			
Discussion: Earth Day 2020	Removed due to lack of resources. An event for Earth Day 2021 may be possible.		
Discussion: Review and provide input on City Environmental Preferable Purchasing Policy (Move I.1.1)	Will be incorporated into the Mandatory Organics Recycling Ordinance to satisfy SB1383 requirements.		
Added to 2020 Work Plan			
Discussion: Review Mandatory Organics Recycling Ordinance (Move III; AB1826; SB1383)	Staff Liaison	August 2020	Discuss scope and feasibility of implementing a mandatory organics recycling ordinance
Discussion: Second review of Mandatory Organics Recycling Ordinance (Move III; AB1826; SB1383)	Staff Liaison	October 2020	Review updated ordinance and provide feedback
Presentation/Action: Final review and recommendation to adopt Mandatory Organics Recycling Ordinance (Move III; AB1826; SB1383)	Staff Liaison	November 2020	Provide recommendation to Council on Mandatory Organics Recycling Ordinance
Moved to from 2020 to 2021 Work Plan			
Discussion: Review/Provide input on Zero-waste guide for City events	Staff Liaison	2021	Feedback on Zero-waste guide for City events
Discussion: Review Current Parking Lot Codes and Provide Recommendations (Move IV.1.1)	Staff Liaison; Building/Planning Department	2021	Determine if parking lot codes need to be updated and how
Discussion: Review Current Cool Roof Codes and Provide Recommendations (Move IV.2.1)	Staff Liaison; Building/Planning Department	2021	Determine if cool roof codes need to be updated and how
Action: Final Review and Recommendation to Adopt SUP Ban Ordinance (Move I.1.3) (Goes to Council in June)	Staff Liaison	2021	Provide recommendation to Council on SUP Ban Ordinance

ITEM 3

Approval of Minutes – January 28, 2020

CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION – SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES – January 28, 2020

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:04p.m. Present were: Amy Jones, Bill Kelly, Cynthia Liu, Rona Bortz, and Madeline Di Giorgi. Lauren Myles had an excused absence. Stephen Leider was absent Council Liaison Dr. Marina Khubesrian had an excused absence. Staff present: Julian Lee, Deputy Public Works Director; Arpy Kasparian, Water Conservation & Sustainability Analyst; Kristine Courdy, Deputy Public Works Director; and Garrett Crawford, Operations Manager.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Bob Joe – Mayor Bob Joe thanked the commission for their support, time, and service. He expressed his excitement for the implementation of the recently adopted Green Action Plan.

ACTION ITEMS:

1) Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Commissioner Liu nominated Chair Di Giorgi to continue as Chair for the year. Chair Di Giorgi accepted the nomination. MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LIU, SECOND BY VICE CHAIR BORTZ, CARRIED 5-0 to approve Chair Di Giorgi to continue as Chair.

Chair Di Giorgi nominated Vice Chair Bortz to continue as Vice Chair for the year. Vice Chair Bortz accepted the nomination. MOTION BY CHAIR DI GIORGI, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER KELLY, CARRIED 5-0.

2) Approval of Minutes – Meeting of December 10, 2019

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KELLY, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER BORTZ, CARRIED 5-0 to approve minutes.

3) Adoption of NREC 2020 Work Plan

Kasparian explained the only change made to the work plan since it was last discussed: the revision of the tree ordinance will work in conjunction with the development of the City's Forest Management Plan.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Bob Joe – Explained to the commission that the work plan would be presented at the Commission Congress and that he'd like to see all the different commissions working together throughout the year.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER JONES, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER LIU, CARRIED 5-0 to approve the NREC 2020 Work Plan.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

4) Tree Removal Hearing: 625 Fair Oaks Avenue

Courdy introduced the new Operations Manager, Garret Crawford, who is also a certified arborist and will be leading many of the tree hearings moving forward. Crawford reviewed the request of the applicant to remove 17 protected trees for a proposed Senior Housing Development located at 625 Fair Oaks Ave. The applicant reviewed plans and answered questions from the commission. Discussion ensued regarding choice of tree species, the survival of relocating existing trees, and locations for the new trees.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Michelle Hammond - Resident - Suggested the applicant consider adding a community garden or similar to the property. Applicant replied that there may be opportunities to add a private garden for tenants only.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER JONES, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER KELLY, CHAIR DI GIORGI ABSTAINED, CARRIED 4-0 to approve with conditions of approval and add a subsequent condition to plant additional shade trees on the parkway. City will work with the developer to plant either the new trees or the transplanted trees. If transplanted trees don't survive, City will require new trees.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

5) Review of City of South Pasadena Code of Ethics and Conduct

Kasparian reviewed the draft Code and provided feedback. Specifically, the commission asked the following questions and made the following comments:

Section 13. Advocacy

- At public meeting, events, etc., are commissioners allowed to state what their position is and say "I'm the NREC chair, but I'm not representing NREC today, I'm here as a South Pasadena resident" or would this be "allowing inference?"

Section 8. Conflict of Interest

- "appearance of conflict of interest" – define "appearance" more clearly
- How do you disclose your financial interests? Form 700?
- The entire section can be more specific

6) Earth Day 2020 in South Pasadena Discussion

Kasparian updated the commission on the Earth Day date and location options, scheduled Earth Day and Arbor Day proclamations, Dumpster Day scheduled for April 18th, and vendors for the Earth Day Expo. Discussion ensued and commissioners made additional suggestions including involving Food Forward, other eco-friendly vendors, involving Transition South Pasadena, and options for giveaways. Commissioner Jones provided updates on the Garden Tour.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Michelle Hammond – Resident – Hammond suggested ideas for the Earth Day events including using local vendors, working with the Chamber of Commerce, etc.

COMMUNICATIONS:

7) City Council Liaison Communications

Councilmember Khubesrian was absent from the meeting.

8) Commissioner Communications

Vice Chair Rona provided an update on the Community Dishes initiative and expressed support in being more involved with other commissions. Commissioner Liu expressed interest in starting the conversation on how to "green" the Pasadena Rose Parade. Chair Di Giorgi reiterated the success of the Community Dishes program. Commissioner Jones had no comments. Commissioner Kelly suggested implementing fees for package delivery services to address emissions from the City.

9) Staff Liaison Communications

Kasparian announced that City of South Pasadena won the ultimate champion award for the 2019 Champion for West Nile Virus Prevention Challenge. Kasparian reminded the commission of upcoming events.

10) Upcoming Events

- Free Smart Gardening/Intro to Composting Workshop – 2/8/20 (South Pasadena Library)
- South Pasadena Advisory Body Training – 2/18/20 6pm-8pm (City Council Chambers)
- Commission Congress – 2/25/20 6pm (War Memorial Building)

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DI GIORGI, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER KELLY, CARREID 5-0, to adjourn meeting at 9:16p.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing minutes were adopted by the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission of the City of South Pasadena at a meeting held on May 14, 2020.

Madeline DiGiorgi, Chair

ITEM 4

Proposed Fiscal Year 2020-21 Water Conservation Rebate Program



Natural Resources & Environmental Commission Agenda Report

ITEM NO. _____

DATE: May 14, 2020

FROM: Julian Lee, Deputy Public Works Director – Water & Sustainability
Arpy Kasparian, Water Conservation & Sustainability Analyst

SUBJECT: **Proposed Fiscal Year 2020-21 Water Conservation Rebate Program**

Recommendation

It is recommended that Natural Resources and Environmental Commission (NREC) make a recommendation to the City Council to approve the proposed Water Conservation Programs for the 2020-21 fiscal year.

Executive Summary

Annually, the City Council adopts a water conservation program funded through a water efficiency fee billed to all City of South Pasadena (City) water customers. The program includes rebates, education/outreach, water conservation materials, and projects to promote water conservation throughout the City. From July 1, 2020 to April 30, 2020, the program paid out approximately \$14,899.00 in incentives to South Pasadena residents and businesses. These efforts helped the City reduce its water usage by 23% since 2013. The previous year’s program focused on incentivizing and promoting outdoor water conservation efforts including upgrading irrigation systems, removing turf, and converting impervious surfaces.

However, this past year, participation in water conservation programs has significantly declined in the City, as well as throughout the region. This decline is likely caused by the lack of a drought condition and more relaxed views on water availability. In addition, promotion and outreach of the new rebates was paused for the most part of the fiscal year due to several factors including long processing times for MWD rebate updates, revisions to the outdated rebate applications, the reconstruction of the environmental programs website, and the Covid-19 pandemic.

The proposed water conservation program for the upcoming fiscal year will remain unchanged while staff conducts more in-depth research on local demand and new innovative water conservation methods. In addition, staff has worked with the City Public Information Officer (PIO) to create a Communications Plan to improve outreach on the program. In order to continue the City’s existing water conservation efforts and to further investigate the best available water conservation methods that would possibly lead to increased participation in the program, staff recommends that NREC make a recommendation to the City Council to approve the proposed Water Conservation Program for FY 2020-21.

Proposed Fiscal Year 2020-21 Water Conservation Rebate Program

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Background

Since the State of California declared a drought in January 2014, the City has made a concerted effort to increase water conservation and improve water efficiency. During the drought, the City met the State Water Resource Control Board (SWRCB) imposed water conservation requirements. Although the Governor rescinded the drought state of emergency in April 2017, provisions of Executive Order B-37-16, “Making Conservation a California Way of Life,” were proclaimed to remain in full force and effect. In November 2019, the South Pasadena Green Action Plan (Green Plan) was adopted with a timeline of January 2020 to June 2021. “Enhance Water Conservation Projects and Programs” is one of the main goals of the plan and includes actions such as evaluating the feasibility of a greywater rebate program, promoting water conservation rebates offered by MWD, and providing educational materials and expert advice on water conservation practices. For the past year, the City’s water use reduction was 23% in comparison to 2013. In order to improve the City’s water conservation efforts, staff proposes no changes to the program while new programs and current demands are investigated to improve effectiveness of the program.

Community Outreach

When approved, the FY 2020-21 water rebate program information including guidelines and application forms will be included on the City’s website, e-newsletter, and other social media channels. In addition, the budget includes sending out bill inserts and a newsletter which will incorporate information on water conservation rebates, education and programs. Lastly, staff worked with the City’s PIO to create a Communications Plan for rebate program outreach. The plan identifies objectives and strategies for increasing awareness of current programs. Though the City no longer has an acting PIO, staff hopes to implement the plan as best as possible.

Discussion/Analysis

Annually, the City Council has adopted a water conservation program that includes rebates, education/outreach, water conservation material, and projects to promote water conservation throughout the City. For FY 2020-21, no changes will be made to the amounts offered for all rebate programs. However, after observing low demand for these types of programs, the overall budget has been reduced from \$150,000 to \$115,000. The remaining \$35,000 will be reallocated to an educational project aimed to increase awareness of water conservation and related programs. The table below is a comparison of the proposed FY 2020-21 water conservation funding to the existing FY 2019-20 funding and expenditures:

Proposed Fiscal Year 2020-21 Water Conservation Rebate Program

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Proposed FY 2020-21 vs. Budgeted and Expended FY 2019-20 Water Conservation Rebate and Program Funding				
Water Conservation Rebate/Program	FY 2019-20 Budgeted	FY 2019-20 Expended (July 1 – April 30)	FY 2020-21 Proposed	Difference
MWD Additional Rebate Funding - Residential	\$20,000	\$7,205.04	\$25,000	\$5,000
MWD Additional Rebate Funding - Commercial	\$20,000	\$3,431.00	\$20,000	-
City Rebate Program - Residential	\$35,000	\$3,884.96	\$20,000	(\$15,000)
City Rebate Program - Commercial	\$30,000	\$378.00	\$20,000	(\$10,000)
Water-Use Surveys	\$20,000	\$0.00	\$5,000	(\$15,000)
Water Conservation Promotion	\$25,000	\$395.33	\$25,000	-
TOTAL:	\$150,000	\$15,294.33	\$115,000	(\$35,000)

The proposed water conservation program includes the following:

City Co-Funded Metropolitan Water District Rebates

The Metropolitan Water District (MWD) offers residential and commercial rebates on indoor and outdoor devices as well as turf removal through their SoCalWater\$mart Program. In addition, the City adds supplemental funds to these rebates. Residents and business owners can apply for these rebates directly through the SoCalWater\$mart website and receive rebate checks that include both the MWD and City contributions. The proposed budget includes \$25,000 for residential MWD rebates and \$20,000 for commercial MWD rebates.

For the FY 2020-21, MWD is offering the same rebates as the previous year; therefore, the proposed City incentives require the same funding amount as adopted in FY 2019-20. The overall residential MWD rebate budget for residential rebates is being increased by \$5,000. MWD offers a greater variety of rebates to residential customers; therefore, staff believe it would be best to reallocate some of the budget for City residential rebates to MWD-sponsored rebates and other programs. For a complete list of MWD rebates and City co-funding, see Tables 1 and 2 in Attachment 1.

Proposed Fiscal Year 2020-21 Water Conservation Rebate Program

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City Rebate Program

In addition to the MWD rebates, the City has its own rebate program that offers rebates on water conservation devices and landscaping that are not offered through MWD. These City rebates address our local water conservation needs and further encourage South Pasadena residents and business owners to implement water saving practices and play an active role in conserving our water sources. The proposed budget includes \$20,000 for residential City rebates and \$20,000 for commercial City rebates. For a complete list of City rebates, see Table 3 in Attachment 1.

The proposed City rebate program for FY 2020-21 will remain the same as the previous year. However, since the City offers only a few rebates, the overall budget for City residential and commercial rebates has decreased by \$15,000 and \$10,000 respectively. Reducing the budget allocated towards City rebates will allow staff to maximize resources for other water conservation programs.

Residential and Commercial Water-Use Assessments

The approved FY 2019-20 program included Residential and Commercial Water Audit Surveys budgeted for \$20,000. Recently, the City partnered with San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership (SGVEWP) Program, which offers free energy and water assessments for homeowners as well as renters. City staff are working with SGVEWP to promote this program in conjunction with the rebate program. Therefore, the budget for water-use assessments has decreased to \$5,000.

Water Conservation Promotional Materials and Activities

The proposed budget for promoting water conservation for FY 2020-21 is \$25,000. Examples of items that are used to promote water conservation are buckets, low-flow aerators, tree water aids, water conservation brochures/pamphlets, newsletters, and other print media. Funds can also be used for events, programs, outreach, and community classes related to water conservation education.

Staff recognizes the decline in participation in current rebate programs and predict several factors led to it. To prevent confusion and misinformation, promotion of the new rebates was paused while MWD updated the co-fund amounts (6-8 week processing time) and staff revamped the rebate process with new and improved application forms, new rebate procedures, updated promotional flyers, and an enhanced environmental webpage. This, along with the delay in the adoption of the rebates, likely contributed to the low expenditures this fiscal year. In addition, after consulting with other local entities, staff found that the decline in participation was occurring regionally, not just in South Pasadena. The motivation behind the program in its early years was the devastating drought that had a tangible impact on all. As the state has moved out of this drought phase, consumers developed a more positive outlook on water availability. The “doom and gloom” of the drought is no longer a motivator. Moreover, the long standing of the program suggests that residents have already taken as much advantage of the available rebates as possible and the program is in need of more innovative solutions to water conservation.

Proposed Fiscal Year 2020-21 Water Conservation Rebate Program

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With the completion of the program updates, the Rebate Communications Plan, and the improved rebate process, staff is hopeful that an increased number of residents and businesses will take advantage of the program. Furthermore, staff will reevaluate the water conservation program throughout the 2020-21 fiscal year to determine if the current rebates and budget accommodate the demand and the needs of the City's customers. New rebate programs, such as a greywater systems rebate, is already being investigated by staff.

Next Steps

1. Staff will review recommendations by the Commission.
2. Staff will present program to City Council for approval on June 3, 2020.

Fiscal Impact

The FY 2019-20 Budget includes \$115,000 under the City's water conservation fund (Account No. 503-6010-6713-8032) which can only pay for water conservation projects. The revenue for water conservation programs is collected through a water efficiency fee of \$0.14 per unit of water billed to all city water customers. Annually, the City collects approximately \$207,000 in revenue to fund the City's water conservation program, including rebates, projects, and staff oversight of the programs.

Public Notification of Agenda Item

The public was made aware that this item was to be considered this evening by virtue of its inclusion on the legally publicly noticed agenda, posting of the same agenda and reports on the City's website and/or notice in the *South Pasadena Review* and/or the *Pasadena Star-News*.

Attachment: Rebate Tables

Proposed Fiscal Year 2020-21 Water Conservation Rebate Program

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Rebate Tables

The tables below summarize the proposed MWD rebates which will have a total proposed budget of \$25,000 for residential and \$20,000 for commercial for FY 2020-21.

Table 1: MWD Residential Rebates – FY 2020-21			
Rebate	MWD Incentive	City's Incentive	Total Customer Incentive
High Efficiency Clothes Washer	\$85	\$165	\$250
Premium High-Efficiency Toilet (1.1 gallon per flush)	\$40	\$110	\$150
Rotating Sprinkler Nozzles	\$2	\$0	\$2
Weather Based Irrigation Controller (less than one acre)	\$80	\$100	\$180
Weather Based Irrigation Controller (one acre or more)	\$35 per station	\$15 per station	\$50 per station
Soil Moisture Sensor System (less than one acre)	\$80	\$70	\$150
Soil Moisture Sensor System (one acre or more)	\$35 per station	\$15 per station	\$50 per station
Rain Barrel	\$35	\$0	\$35
Cistern (200-500 gallons)	\$250	\$0	\$250
Cistern (501-999 gallons)	\$300	\$0	\$300
Cistern (1000+ gallons)	\$350	\$0	\$350
Turf Removal	\$2 per ft ² (up to 5,000ft ²)	\$1 per ft ² (up to 1,500ft ²)	\$3 per ft ²

Proposed Fiscal Year 2020-21 Water Conservation Rebate Program

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Table 2: MWD <u>Commercial</u> Rebates – FY 2020-21			
Rebate	MWD Incentive	City’s Incentive	Total Customer Incentive
Plumbing Flow Control Valve	\$5	\$0	\$5
Laminar Flow Restrictors	\$10	\$0	\$10
Premium High-Efficiency Toilet (1.1 gallon per flush) - Commercial	\$40	\$110	\$150
Premium High-Efficiency Toilet (1.1 gallon per flush) - Multifamily	\$40	\$110	\$150
Zero Water Urinals	\$200	\$0	\$200
Ultra Low Water Urinal	\$200	\$0	\$200
Weather Based Irrigation Controller (one acre or more)	\$35 per station	\$15 per station	\$50 per station
Central Computer Irrigation Controller	\$35 per station	\$0	\$35 per station
Soil Moisture Sensor System (one acre or more)	\$35 per station	\$15 per station	\$50 per station
Large Rotary Nozzles	\$13 per set	\$0	\$13 per set
Rotating Sprinkler Nozzles	\$2	\$0	\$2
In-Stem Flow Regulator	\$1	\$0	\$1
pH-Cooling Tower Controller	\$1,750	\$0	\$1,750
Cooling Tower Conductivity Controller	\$625	\$0	\$625
Dry Vacuum Pump	\$125 per 0.5 HP	\$0	\$125 per 0.5 HP
Connectionless Food Steamers	\$485 per compartment	\$0	\$485 per compartment
Ice-Making Machines	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
Turf Removal	\$2 per ft ² (up to 50,000ft ²)	\$0.50 per ft ² (up to 1,500ft ²)	\$2.50 per ft ²

Proposed Fiscal Year 2020-21 Water Conservation Rebate Program

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The table below summarizes the proposed City Rebate Program which will have a total proposed budget of \$20,000 for residential and \$20,000 for commercial for FY 2020-21.

Table 3: City Rebate Program - FY 2020-21	
Commercial and Residential Rebate	Rebate Amount
Water Efficient (Drought Tolerant) Plants	\$600
Native Trees (10 trees maximum)	\$50 per tree
Drip Irrigation Conversion	\$150
Rotating Sprinkler Nozzles (10-29 nozzles)	\$2 per nozzle
Impervious Surface Conversion (minimum 200 ft ² , maximum 1,000ft ²)	\$2 per ft ²



Climate Action Plan Virtual Community Meeting

Looking to join the conversation about the City's Climate Action Plan?

The City of South Pasadena is hosting a virtual community meeting to review the proposed greenhouse gas reduction measures that will be included in the City's Climate Action Plan. Join the meeting to learn about the proposed measures, ask questions, and provide your feedback!

WHEN: May 28, 2020
6:00 PM

WHERE: Virtual Zoom Meeting
RSVP by May 27, 6:00pm by emailing:
EnvironmentalPrograms@SouthPasadenaCA.gov

Can't make it to the meeting?

The meeting will be recorded and posted on the Climate Action Plan website to view at any time. Have your voice heard by submitting your comments online at:
www.southpasadenacap.rinconconsultants.com



For inquires on the Climate Action Plan community meetings or the Climate Action Plan process, contact Arpy Kasparian at (626) 403-7253 or akasparian@southpasadenaca.gov or visit www.southpasadenacap.rinconconsultants.com