REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD SAN DIEGO REGION

SEPTEMBER 11, 2024 ITEM 4

SUBJECT

Annual Update on the Strategy for a Healthy San Diego Bay. (Wayne Chiu)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Informational item only; no recommendation.

KEY ISSUE

This item will provide the San Diego Water Board with an update on staff's implementation of the Board's <u>Strategy for a Healthy San Diego Bay</u>.

PRACTICAL VISION

Chapter 1 of the 2013 Practical Vision (2013 PV) outlined an approach to achieve healthy waters by developing clear overarching goals, establishing region-wide priorities, and remaining committed to those goals and priorities over an extended period of time. That focus was carried over into the Chapter 1 of the 2021 Practical Vision update. The 2013 PV described a seven-step process for the Board to effectively align its work with the most important goals and highest priorities to achieve or maintain healthy waters. As endorsed by the Board in Resolution No. R9-2015-0086, the "Strategy for a Healthy San Diego Bay" applies the seven steps presented in the 2013 PV to the Bay.

DISCUSSION

The key beneficial uses of the Bay, as outlined in the Strategy, are recreation, human consumption of fish and shellfish, and habitats and ecosystems. This year's report will discuss and provide examples of how the conditions of those key beneficial uses are used to prioritize the work of the Board's programs. Whereas last year's report discussed actions to remediate in-Bay hot spots of pollution, this report will focus on activities to prevent watershed-based sources of pollution. The following staff will provide information to the Board: Wayne Chiu, Carey Kowalski, Tom Alo, Sean McClain, Eric Becker, Jessica Taylor, and Jeremy Haas.

The Board will also hear from two invited speakers. Andy Yuen of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will discuss the <u>San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge</u>, and Irene McCormack of the <u>San Diego Working Waterfront</u> will talk about this year's <u>Operation Clean Sweep</u> that took place on August 24th.

LEGAL CONCERNS

None

PUBLIC NOTICE

The agenda notice for today's meeting was posted on the San Diego Water Board's website and sent to subscribers to the email list for Board meetings. This satisfies the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act requirements to publish the meeting notice and agenda.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None.