



COMMITTEE REPORT

PRESENTED FOR COMMISSION MEETING DATE: 10/15/19

SUBMITTED BY: David Freedman

COMMITTEE NAME: Standing Committee on Water Conservation

SUBMITTED DATE: 10/04/19

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: 10/02/19

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: 11/07/19, 9 am

Committee Meeting Goals:

- City turf conversion project
- City water conservation rules and enforcement
- DWA liaison role
- Work plan for FY 19-20
- Schedule for future meetings
- Potential topics for ONE-PS Sustainability Brown Bag

Summary:

Manager Tallarico provided an update on the city turf conversion project. Following discussions with Desert Water Agency (DWA), the City will concentrate on turf removal projects for city-owned properties. Projects under consideration include a walking path around Victoria Park and the airport at a location to be determined. The Airport Commission has established a Landscape Committee to review landscaping needs at the airport. The Office of Sustainability has budgeted \$150,000 for City turf removal and these projects would be eligible for a \$3/square foot rebate from DWA, up to \$100,000, for a total of \$250,000 in turf removal. Additional funds may be available through Prop 1 for an airport demonstration project. Manager Tallarico will follow up with airport, parks and rec and maintenance staff on these projects.

Committee members discussed the City's water conservation rules under Palm Springs Municipal Code Chapter 11.06 and their enforcement. DWA also has water conservation rules, which are posted on its website. Manager Tallarico noted instances where water from sprinklers runs off onto driveways and streets, in violation of the City's and DWA's water waste prohibitions. He will follow up with Code Enforcement to see whether these cases are referred to DWA for its enforcement. He will also follow up with DWA on including a sprinkler use education brochure as a DWA bill insert after reseeding season.

Commissioner Freedman explained his role as the Commission's liaison to DWA, which is to attend its biweekly Board meetings and report back to the Commission at its monthly meeting. Commissioner Miller said she would join Commissioner Freedman at the DWA Board meetings beginning October 15, and Commissioner Freedman will introduce her to the DWA Board then. In response to Commissioner Miller's question on methane capture at the City's wastewater treatment plant, Manager Tallarico said he would follow up with the City Engineering Services Department.

Committee members agreed to meet the first Wednesday of each month at 9 am. The November meeting will be on the following day, as the Energy Code training session is on the first Wednesday in November. Committee members will discuss the FY 19-20 work plan at the next meeting.

Manager Tallarico noted that the Office of Sustainability will be leading the ONE-PS Brown Bag lunch on October 17, and each Standing Committee is being asked about topics in its area to be presented. Water conservation topics will be DWA's recently announced rebate program and water waste. Manager Tallarico will follow up with DWA to get information on their rebate programs and water restrictions to present at the Brown Bag.

Recommendation/Request:

As noted below.

ACTION ITEMS REQUEST TO COMMISSION	None at this time.
ACTION ITEMS REQUEST TO OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY	Work with airport, parks and rec and maintenance staff on turf removal projects. Work with DWA on water conservation education.
POTENTIAL FISCAL IMPACT/REQUEST IF ANY:	\$150,000 has been budgeted in FY 19-20 for the City turf conversion projects.