



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

**TUESDAY, October 18, 2016 7:00 p.m.
AMEDEE O. "DICK" RICHARDS, JR. COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena, CA 91030**

Commissioners: Al Benzoni, Hailey Bugg, Kay Findley, William Kelly, Scott Kuhn, Stephen Leider,
Noah Puni, and Nancy Wilms
City Council Liaison: Council Member Robert S. Joe
Staff Liaison: Jennifer Shimmin

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting: September 27, 2016.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Time reserved for those in attendance who wish to address the Commission. All attendees should be aware that the Commission may not discuss details or vote on non-agenda items. Your concerns may be referred to staff or placed on a future agenda. Note: public input will also be taken during all agenda items.

BUSINESS ITEMS

- 1) **Use of pesticides and fertilizers at City parks (Shimmin)** – Begin considering recommendations to be incorporated as part of the next park landscape maintenance contract (Council request).
- 2) **Graywater (Benzoni)** - Discussion and possible recommendation of language on graywater for update of city municipal building code. (10 minutes)
- 3) **Tree Ordinance Review (Kelly)** – Begin discussing potential recommended revisions to city tree ordinance. (15 minutes)
- 4) **Water Conservation Programs and Drought Update (Shimmin)** - City had a total water reduction of 28% for September 2016 versus 2013. (10 minutes)

INFORMATION ONLY (No Discussion Required) (15 minutes)

- 5) **Urban Forest Update (Shimmin)**
- 6) **Upcoming Events –**

**CHAIR COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS
STAFF LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS
COUNCIL LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS**

ADJOURNMENT – Next Regular Meeting – November 22, 2016

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES)

I declare under penalty of perjury, that I am an employee of the City of South Pasadena, and that I posted this Agenda on the bulletin board in the courtyard of the City Hall at 1414 Mission Street, South Pasadena on 10-13-16, as required by Law.

Date: October 13, 2016 Signature: 

Any disclosable public records related to this meeting distributed to the Commission fewer than 72 hours prior to the meeting shall be available for public inspection at the Public Works Office, 1414 Mission Street, Room #201, prior to the meeting. Copies of the agenda packet and any supplemental documents will be available at the meeting. Any documents distributed at the meeting will be made available following the meeting at the Public Works Office during normal business hours.

City of South Pasadena/ Redevelopment Successor Agency/ Public Financing Authority Agenda Report

Item No. 1
Marina Khubesrian, M.D., Mayor/Authority Chair
Robert S. Joe, Mayor Pro Tem/Authority Vice Chair
Michael A. Cacciotti, Council/Authority Member
Diana Mahmud, Council/Authority Member
Richard D. Schneider, M.D., Council/Authority Member

Evelyn G. Zneimer, City Clerk/Authority Secretary
Gary E. Pia, City Treasurer

COUNCIL AGENDA: July 16, 2014
TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
VIA: Sergio Gonzalez, City Manager
FROM: Paul Toor, P.E., Public Works Director
Gabriel B. Nevarez, Public Works Operations Manager
SUBJECT: **Public Works Department Use of Chemicals and Pesticides**

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Council receive and file this report.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with the presentation of this report.

Commission Review and Recommendation

This matter has not been reviewed by any commission.

Background

The City Council has requested a report on the Public Works Department use of chemicals and pesticides in its operations.

Analysis

The following is a report on chemicals and pesticide use in Public Works operations.

The Park Division uses the following chemicals and pesticides in its operations:

- Roundup, Isopropylamine salt of glyphosate is used for weed control as a post emergent application for all weeds in city parks and parkland areas. This product is used twice a year in March and October to abate weeds. This product is hazardous according to OSHA and the Material Data Sheets provide specific instruction for application and storage as well as ecological and toxicological information to be used by professionals in the field.
- Turflon Ester, Butoxyethyl Ester is used as a broadleaf control in turf. This produce is used once a year during over-seeding of Arroyo South field. This product is hazardous according to OSHA and the Material Data Sheets provide specific instruction for application and storage as well as ecological and toxicological information to be used by professionals in the field.

Public Works Department Use of Chemicals and Pesticides

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- Mauget Stemix Plus is a fertilizer injection for trees. This product is used on a on City trees at parks and parkland areas approximately six to ten times per year to fertilize trees. Stemix Plus dilute aqueous fertilizer is a ready-to-use micro-injector that is basically a non-hazardous product according to Material Data Sheets that may be washed into soil or into drains.
- Safer Soap-Fatty Acids and Wasp/Hornet Control – Pyrethrum. (FILL IN TO ANSWER SAME QUESTIONS ABOVE)
- Graffiti Abatement uses include the application of citric acid and high water pressure to remove graffiti on structures as it occurs in parks and parkland areas. This application does not use chemicals.
- NPK – Turf Supreme is a product applied to encourage growth of grasses, turf on athletic fields (fill this in accurately). The material data sheets show that this product does not impact the environment in a negative way (include information on environmental impacts from MDS).

The Street and Sewer Division use the following chemicals and pesticides in its operations:

Graffiti Removal:

- The Street and Sewer Divisions use Graffiti and Spray Paint Remover to remove graffiti on city signs, sidewalks, curb, gutters, bridge overpasses, and infrastructure in the public right-of-way. The composition and information on ingredients list is attached for your information. This product is used frequently as part of the graffiti abatement program to abate graffiti vandalism as it occurs to public property.

Other graffiti removal products include:

- Heritage Graffiti Remover is a unique product blended specifically for the removal of spraycan type paints and other markers from brickwork, stonework and masonry on old buildings. Regulatory information regarding this product is attached in its material data sheets. This product is used by all divisions of Public Works operations especially the Building Maintenance Division to remove graffiti as part of its maintenance of city facilities including the Library, Senior Citizen's Center, War Memorial Building, Eddie Park Clubhouse, etc. on a daily basis to keep these areas safe and free from graffiti vandalism.
- Bare Brick Stone and Masonry Graffiti Remover is used for removal of spray can paint (graffiti) from unpainted brick, stone and masonry surfaces. It is a product similar the above-mentioned and material safety sheets are attached for your information. This product will biodegrade when entering soil and exposed to the presence of microorganisms, moisture and oxygen.

- Feltpen Fadeout is used for the removal of permanent marker and some spraycan paint stains from most surfaces. This product is used in all division of Public Works operations. This product will biodegrade like the above-mentioned graffiti removal product and the complete material safety data sheet is attached for your interest.
- Sensitive Surface Graffiti Remover is an environmentally friendly blend of natural plant oils and alcohols designed to remove graffiti generated by use of marking pens and spray can paints from many surfaces without damage to the underlying surface. It is ideal for signage, plastics and graffiti from paintwork and coated surfaces. Public Works Department uses this product to remove graffiti. It is used on a frequent basis as graffiti occurs in these areas of operation.
- Graffiti Safewipes is an impregnated toweling wipe designed for the removal of spraycan type paints and other markers from painted and smooth surfaces.

The Building Maintenance Division uses the following chemicals and pesticides in its operations:

- Paint is purchased from Dunn-Edwards company and is low in VOC (Volatile organic compounds). Paints are used periodically in the Building Maintenance Division to paint and maintain exterior and interior areas at City facilities.
- Simple Green All-Purpose Cleaner is used to clean various structures in the Building Maintenance Division including sanitizing sink drains after removing stoppages. The ecological information provided in the material safety data sheet for this product includes a low hazard to wild animals and aquatic organisms based on its toxicological profile. It is also a product that is readily biodegradable based on its biodegradation profile. This product is used in-house by building maintenance personnel on a daily basis for the maintenance of city buildings.
- Precor 1% Emulsifiable is used as an insecticide by All Pro Pest Control. This material is not considered to be a carcinogen by the National Toxicology Program, the International Agency for Research on Cancer, or the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. The ecological information explains that the product is not intended for aquatic environments as pyrethroids are potentially toxic to aquatic organisms. In addition, the product contains no CFC or other ozone-depleting substances and confirms that Federal regulations prohibit CFC propellants in aerosols.
- Termidor SC is used as a termiticide/insecticide by All Pro Pest Control. This pesticide is toxic to birds, fish and aquatic invertebrates. It warns not to apply directly to water, or to areas where surface water is present. Pesticide wastes are acutely hazardous and waste handling and disposal methods must be followed.

- Borid with boric acid is a nonflammable, stainless, odorless powder that will control cockroach infestations in homes and other buildings.
- Phantom is a termiticide/insecticide used for pest management in city buildings. The environmental hazards are like Precor: hazardous to aquatic organisms, birds and wildlife and the product warns not to apply where surface water is present. The objective of soil treatments with Phantom is to establish a treated zone between the wood and other cellulose material in the structure and the termite population(s) in the soil for the purpose of protecting the structure from termite infestation or for controlling existing termite populations. This product has the same environmental hazards as other insecticides detailed above.
- Talon-G is used to effectively control commensal mice and rats. The objective is that the animal ingest a lethal dose in one feeding and the expectation is to find dead rodents four or five days after treatment begins. This product is used by All Pro Pest Control to control rodents. This product is toxic to fish, birds and wildlife, and can pose a secondary hazard to birds of prey and mammals and further warns to keep it out of any body of water. Treatment areas for the application of this rodenticide are selected carefully only where signs of rodents are present. Ecological information on this product emphasizes the need to apply product to target animals and store it properly.
- Gentrol Aerosol is intended for use as a general surface spray, spot, or crack and crevice application for the control of cockroaches by disrupts normal development of mature insects. This product is used by All Pro Pest Control to control cockroaches.

The following products are used in contract janitorial services to all city facilities by Bell Building Maintenance Company and all the following products are Green Seal Certified:

- Glacier is a streak free glass and surface cleaner. This product is a safe, environmentally preferable glass and surface cleaner formulated with hydrogen peroxide and modified citrus derivatives.
- Pristine is a safe, environmentally preferable, heavy duty cleaner degreaser. This product is used to clean floors, walls, appliances and countertops.
- Shimmer is an environmentally preferable washroom and tile cleaner. It is used to clean walls, countertops, tiles and restroom fixtures.
- Maintex is a multi-purpose, neutral pH, germicidal detergent and deodorant used to disinfect, clean and deodorize floors, walls, metal surfaces, stainless steel, glazed porcelain, and plastic surfaces.

In conclusion, Public Works Staff has researched the use of chemicals and pesticides by the City of Santa Monica's Office of Sustainability and the Environment and has found that more environmentally friendly alternatives may be available for graffiti removers, paints and for structural pest control.

Graffiti Removers

While the City of Santa Monica does not have formal specifications for graffiti removers they offer the following tips:

- Do not purchase products containing toluene, xylene or methylene chloride.
 - Consider using reusable pump spray containers instead of aerosol sprays.
 - Always obtain a material safety data sheet to identify product specific hazards and ways to reduce exposure. Review this information with employees that will be using the product.
 - Always follow the instructions for proper and safe use listed on the label and in product literature, and wear personal protective equipment, such as protective gloves.
 - Always use products in well ventilated areas or provide natural or mechanical ventilation as required to reduce employee or user exposure. Wear a respirator, if required by law.
- They say the cost of less toxic graffiti removers is comparable to toxic graffiti removers and offer a vendor list that includes Taginator for masonry surfaces, Soysolv Graffiti Remover, Motsenbockers Lift Off and Soytek for painted surfaces.

Paint

Specifications for paints vary widely depending on the application. They say to avoid purchasing paints with the following heavy metals and toxic organic compounds: antimony, hexavalent chromium, lead, and mercury. Many other chemicals – including formaldehyde, benzene, toluene, and methylene chloride – also pose health risks to paint users and occupants of buildings. The City purchases recycled paint to cover up graffiti among other uses, and pays approximately one-quarter the cost of new paint. They offer vendors for recycled content latex paint including Dunn-Edwards. In product selection they provide the following tips for painting:

Consider designing surfaces that don't require painting, such as integrally pigmented plaster walls and natural wood trim.

- Choose durable paints that meet all performance requirements.
- Use light colored paints for interior ceilings and walls to help distribute day lighting and minimize the electric lighting requirements.
- When choosing paint for a chemically sensitive person, no product can be considered safe until that person has tested it. Suppliers of paint to the chemically sensitive are aware and can provide their products in small sample packages for such tests.
- Buy paints from companies that actively encourage or sponsor paint collection and recycling programs.
- Choose paints with the lowest VOC levels possible, especially if the space to be painted will be occupied soon after painting, or if it contains fabrics or other materials that can absorb and later re-release VOCs.

- Choose paints that have been independently certified by an ecological labeling group, such as Green Seal or Scientific Certification Systems, to avoid the inclusion of especially toxic ingredients.
- Check Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for paints to determine potential health effects of major constituents. MSDSs' don't list ingredients used only in small quantities, however, such as preservatives.
- Consider oil-based paint only for use over bare wood, or over old surfaces with layers of old, chalking, oil-based paint. Even on these surfaces, investigate latex options first.

Structural Pest Control

The City of Santa Monica has had a very successful Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program in place since 1996. The longevity of control can be much greater than that of conventional pesticide use. In addition the cost of pest control can be reduced due to not paying for unnecessary services and treatments. They have established techniques for managing pests that invade structures and by monitoring pest activity in order to only treat infestations as they occur. They offer the following checklist:

- Obtain material safety data sheets (MSDS) for pesticide products.
- Use or specify in contracts least toxic pest control methods and products to reduce the use of chemical pesticides.
- Correct situations that attract and harbor pests with proper food and trash storage and landscaping.
- Use traps, baits, and barriers to control pests.
- Use less toxic pesticides, such as insecticidal soaps, oils, and microbials and apply on an "as-needed" basis versus set schedule.
- Replace aerosol products with non-aerosol alternatives.

In addition, they offer specifications for City of Santa Monica IPM services that the City may use to obtain requests for proposal to incorporate these methods into South Pasadena's operations.

The City of Santa Monica's Office of Sustainability and Environment has done the research to recommend purchasing products and application methods that are less toxic and less polluting to the environment. Another excellent resource for South Pasadena purchasing of environmental products is Green Seal (www.greenseal.org). This nonprofit organization certifies environmental products and contains over 70 paint products meeting Green Seal's criteria for hideability, wearability, scrubability, maximum VOC limits and prohibited heavy metals and toxic organic substances. South Pasadena's contract service company, Bell Building Maintenance, has been using only Green Seal certified products in its operation since 2004. South Pasadena Public Works Department can adopt these practices and purchasing recommendations to improve its operations.

Legal Review

The City Attorney was not asked to review this item.

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*.

Attachments: Material Data Sheets - all products