

**2018 Resolutions**  
**Adopted**  
**By**  
**The SFPUC**  
**Full Citizens'**  
**Advisory**  
**Committee**

## **Resolution in Support of San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) Class A Biosolids Local Distribution Program**

WHEREAS, biosolids are a valuable product of the wastewater treatment process as it enhances soil fertility by replenishing depleted carbon and nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium in depleted or distressed soils as well as reduces the need for synthetic fertilizer; and

WHEREAS, biosolids stabilize soils against erosion, increase the water storage capacity and reduce the need for irrigation, particularly important in times of drought; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission wastewater treatment plants currently produce Class B biosolids which meet local, state and federal regulations; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, the SFPUC transported 53% (34,173 wet tons) of Class B biosolids approximately 45 - 58 miles for alternative daily cover at landfills in Alameda and Solano County, the other 47% (29,574 wet tons) of Class B biosolids were transported for soil growing animal forage approximately 48 - 110 miles to Sacramento and Solano County creating significant carbon emissions; and

WHEREAS, California legislation, AB1594 and SB1383, will reduce the use of biosolids for alternative daily cover at landfills by 2020 in support of statewide greenhouse gas reduction targets; and

WHEREAS, Class B biosolids are currently given away and not sold, and the SFPUC bears all transportation costs to distribute the biosolids; and

WHEREAS, future improvements to treatment processes will create higher quality, Class A, biosolids which are allowed as fertilizer to land growing food crops, home garden use, and can be sold, with such improvements expected at the Oceanside Treatment Plant and at Southeast Treatment Plant in 2018-2019 and 2025 respectively; and

WHEREAS, biosolids management supports the City of San Francisco's efforts toward zero waste as disposing biosolids to a landfill would have increased the tons of waste by 11% in 2016; and

WHEREAS, local use of Class A biosolids would promote community engagement through city park demonstration projects, urban farms and potting soil sold in local nurseries to name a few; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the SFPUC Citizens' Advisory Committee supports efforts of SFPUC to:

- distribute Class A biosolids within the City of San Francisco for local use by the SFPUC, other city departments as well as private residents, and
- engage in robust stakeholder outreach and community education throughout the life cycle of the Class A SFPUC biosolids product.

**As Adopted by the Full Citizens' Advisory Committee on August 21, 2018.**

## **Resolution in Support of Improved Communications Related to the San Francisco Groundwater Supply Project**

WHEREAS, in November 2014 the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) adopted a resolution in support of the agency's San Francisco Groundwater Supply Project ("Project"), which is in the process of installing six wells in order to help diversify San Francisco's water supply; and

WHEREAS, the SFPUC CAC and its water subcommittee have held regular meetings to follow the progress of the project, and several members have appeared at hearings before the Board of Supervisors to speak in support of the Project; and

WHEREAS, members of the public have expressed significant concerns with the Project and have appeared before the CAC and the Board of Supervisors to express those concerns; and

WHEREAS, the Project began blending San Francisco groundwater with system water in 2017; and

WHEREAS, the SFPUC has developed a webpage in order to make water quality information about the blended water publicly available; and

WHEREAS, the Project currently operates in a testing phase and will be operated to deliver an average of 1 million gallons per day (mgd) for the first year of operations and ultimately deliver up to an average of 4 mgd of groundwater; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the SFPUC CAC continues its support for the San Francisco Groundwater Supply Project; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that in order to ensure that the public has timely and relevant information about the Project, the SFPUC provide regular updates and present data and trends as the Project is implemented using data visualization and infographics that make the data more accessible to the public; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SFPUC work with the Board of Supervisors to provide notice of future hearings about the Project to the SFPUC contact lists; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the CAC would like to have an ongoing discussion with the SFPUC about whether water quality target levels should be established at levels lower than regulatory requirements for blended water supplies.

**As Adopted by the Full Citizens' Advisory Committee on August 21, 2018.**