

**CITY OF TEMPLE TERRACE, FLORIDA
RIVER WATCH TASK FORCE
REPORT OF MEETING**

**Monday, May 17, 2010
Council Workroom
4:30 p.m.**

The Temple Terrace River Watch Task Force met on Monday, May 17, 2010, in the Council Workroom at City Hall.

PRESENT WERE: Task Force Chairman Jack Westberry and Task Force Members Frank Chillura, Terry McMahon, David Pogorilich, and Ron Smith.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Task Force Liaison Joe Gross, Legislative Secretary Sobeida LeBlanc, Staff Member Richard Scilabro, Dr. Marty Kelly, Phil Waller, and Jim Harris.

The meeting was called to order at 4:34 p.m. by Chairman Westberry.

1. Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Upon motion of Task Force Member Chillura, seconded by Task Force Member McMahon, and unanimously carried, the **REPORT** of the April 19, 2010, meeting was **APPROVED**.

Persons Wishing to be Heard on Items NOT Listed on the Agenda:

None.

2. Presentation – Phil Waller, MWH – Summary of Indirect Reuse Studies by the City of Tampa:

Chairman Westberry introduced Phil Waller of MWH. Task Force Liaison Gross briefly recapped how he first met Mr. Waller during his presentation to the City of Tampa City Council. He welcomed and thanked him for being there this evening.

Referring to a PowerPoint Presentation “Review of the Tampa Water Resource Recovery Project’s Previous Studies,” a copy of which is a part of the record, Mr. Waller summarized the project. He explained the project schematic, the supplemental advanced treatment plant process, displayed a picture of the pilot scale advanced treatment facility built and operated, and discussed the studies conducted on extensive health effects.

Mr. Waller recapped the program conducted to address the next project steps, explained the vigorous public involvement effort that was conducted, informed that the project received an “Intent to Issue” from FDEP for all major permits, and stated the Indirect Potable Reuse was one of three large projects under evaluation by the Tampa Bay Region.

In response to a question, Mr. Waller explained what is being looked at right now is aquifer recharge with reclaimed water, which is a way to build up stress water level in the aquifer and allow for some portion of what was recharged to be withdrawn from wells further inland.

Task Force Member Smith asked where Mr. Waller sees this project headed. Mr. Waller responded he thinks eventually they will see some higher level of reuse. The Task Force emphasized they have been on the side of water reuse for some time now in hopes of alleviating the burden on the Middle River.

3. Proposed Changes to Waterway Rules by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission:

Task Force Liaison Gross stated he doesn't have the specifics on this. He explained they are mainly voting rules related to 1) Uniform Waterway Markers; 2) Local Boating Ordinances; and 3) Special Purpose Marker Buoy Rule. He said he would include the information along with the meeting minutes.

Task Force Member Smith suggested the "slow speed zone" sign at the ramp on Fowler Avenue should say "Entire River." Staff Member Scilabro interjected that it actually does say that; he explained the problem is that people don't know the difference between slow and idle speed. Task Force Liaison Gross suggested the Task Force come up with a specific language for that sign or an additional sign, and he would approach the agency with their suggestions.

4. Boat Ramp Fees Update:

Task Force Liaison Gross stated that the City Manager and James Chambers reviewed the minutes of their last meeting and further discussed this issue. He reported that he, James Chambers, and Karl Langefeld went to look at several boat launches; none of the sites visited have an actual person collecting money; instead, they have drop boxes.

Task Force Liaison Gross said he still has no definitive answer as to where they are headed with this, but there is a lot of activity going on.

5. Current River water level:

Chairman Westberry requested an update on River levels. Dr. Marty Kelly responded he is surprised they are still not diverting water out of the By-Pass Canal for the minimum flows and levels. He said levels were starting to drop, but then it rained over the weekend. He said the rainy season typically starts around June 20th; therefore, water levels are looking real good compared to previous years. He added it has been predicted that there will be more than average number of tropical storms this hurricane season, which will make for a better than normal rainy season.

Dr. Kelly reported that Tampa Bay Water's reservoir is full. He submitted a copy of the USGS Real-Time Water Data Report for the record.

6. Update on River Tour, October 2010:

Task Force Liaison Gross said he has put a call in to Terry Neal, ex-member of the Task Force, to discuss some of the material he prepared last year for the River Tour of Orange Lake.

Task Force Liaison Gross stated he needs to know whether there are any places along the tour route where there are good examples of invasive stands of Brazilian pepper or some other plants. He asked the Task Force to be on the lookout for these stands as they travel the River so they can point them out as part of the tour.

7. Liaison report:

Task Force Liaison Gross said he submitted a new article on May 6th for the July-September issue of the City's Newsletter.

Task Force Liaison Gross reported the Technical Advisory Council met on April 20th; they reviewed City of Tampa's dock regulations, many of which are Temple Terrace standards. Also, he said, parks along the River will be featured in future copies of the "River News," published by The Planning Commission.

Task Force Liaison Gross continued that Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) had its Regional Water Shortage Plan meeting on April 29th; there are changes proposed to Rule 40 D-21 regarding future water shortages.

Task Force Liaison Gross recapped the Hillsborough River Roundtable meeting of May 7th; the City of Tampa Utilities Department is monitoring the Gulf oil crisis, and their next meeting will be at Blue Sink.

Task Force Liaison Gross listed upcoming meetings: Technical Advisory Council will meet on May 18th, at which Tampa Bay Water will discuss Consolidated Water Use Permit Renewal; Hurricane Expo 2010 will be on May 22nd at MOSI; SWFWMD's Regional Water Supply Plan 2010 Update in Tampa will take place May 24th; the River Board will also meet on May 24th; the Hillsborough River Roundtable will meet on June 4th; and EPC Board will meet on June 10th to discuss fertilizer regulations.

Task Force Liaison Gross reminded the Task Force that he has scheduling conflicts; therefore, he will not be able to attend the June 21st nor the July 19th River Watch Task Force meetings. He advised he would leave any available information with the Legislative Secretary to forward to the Task Force.

8. Marine Officer Report:

Chairman Westberry stated he has seen Officer Scilabro on the River a lot lately. Staff Member Scilabro reported he issued several warrants this weekend and made one arrest. In response to a question, Staff Member Scilabro explained the procedures he follows when making arrests on the River, adding they have a "no pursuit" policy.

9. Other business:

Chairman Westberry announced the next River Watch Task Force Meeting will be held on Monday, June 21, 2010, at 4:30 p.m.

There being no further business to consider, the meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Submitted by,

Sobeida LeBlanc
Legislative Secretary