

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA – INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT
TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP MEETING – MINUTES

Reference Number: IPM-TAG 73-02-18-20
Date: Tuesday, February 18, 2020
Time: 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.
Venue: County Government Center, 70 West Hedding Street,
East Wing 11th Floor, Conference Room 1-2

Special Information:

Tools Needed: Overhead Projector; Computer Projector; Flip Chart (Should you need any other material for your presentation or discussion, please let Chris Curry (408-993-4706) know about it in time, so that it can be accommodated)

A. Convene Meeting and Announcements

10:00AM – 10:15AM

1. Announcements, updates, and distribution of background information and letters from the public.

Naresh Duggal (ND) convene meeting at 10:02

ND: Review of the history of the ordinance, and its purpose - to reduce pesticide use as much as possible

Introductions of attendees:

Kathryn Matthewson - PASCC
Charlene Lilie - PASCC

Marion Blair -Valley Water
Jen Codianne – Valley Water

Chris Clarke – Public

Dan Guerrero – VMC
Poonam Erry – VMC

Peter Whelan - public

Michelle Duong – Dept. of Ag
Angela Xue – Dept. of Ag

Layma Aman – CEO admin
Elizabeth Lopez – CEO admin

Ron Neal – Roads

Mike Will – Parks
Dan Hill – Parks

Mikail Price – Pestec/Public

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Form 700 discussion, distribution, and collection

B. Pesticide Use Exemptions: Effectiveness

10:15AM – 11:15AM

1. Grant Park Dam Vegetation Control Project

Mike Will (MW) – state inspector report required removal of woody vegetation on Grant dam

Mechanical was used initially, but grow back was experienced
Imox was used as a cut-stump treatment to systemically kill plant

There may be some woody vegetation still alive and reapplication may be necessary

Procurement complications led to a late application in December

Chris Clark (CC) – do they pump water to the dam?

ND – no

ND: it is important to minimize soil disturbance on the dam

Anna Griffin (AG) – what kind of backup does Parks have for procurement issues?

MW – Issue with procurement is now resolved

AG – how often is dam inspected

MW – annually

Dan Hill (DH) – dam will be put into asset management system to ensure regular inspection

Kathryn – Spring is the best time for string trimming, soil biology should be healthy. Is water circulated?

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MW – No, it is not necessary

Peter Whelan (PW) – What are alternatives to continued spraying?

MW- Mechanical removal will be emphasized, while minimizing soil disturbance

2. Seasonal Right-of-Way Vegetation Control Projects

ND – There are 600 miles that Roads Department maintains, only 300 acres are chemically treated

JC – Does the County maintain Highway 17?

RN – No, Caltrans

RN – Grass dieback was seen 3-5 days after application. It was the department's first time using, so it is not known what to expect

JC – Valley Water are also seeing 3 to 5 day dieback with glyphosate as well

RN - Imox was applied at ½ gallon per acre, Promenade at 12 oz. per acre. Water conditioners and Seed oils were used as well

RN – 6 to 8 months of pre-emerge activity is expected, but there has been no rain to incorporate chemical in soil, so this remains to be seen

CC – Do we ever keep native grass in medians

ND – We have investigated it and irrigation infrastructure for establishment is not there

JC – There may not be enough evidence of carcinogenic status to eliminate glyphosate use

ND – When CalEPA decided to label glyphosate as carcinogenic, then County cannot use due to ordinance. We are not in a position to evaluate

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ND: If other agencies are willing to work together and with the IPM program, then we can continue to write exemptions for Dittrichia control.

Dittrichia control needs to be integrated, it is on disturbed soils and roadsides

Goats and cattle won't eat it

KM – Soil biology is problem because it does not support native plants to compete with Dittrichia

PW - Is there an impervious mulch that can be applied?

JC – mulch can spread pathogens

ND – There is a very large area that would need to be mulched. Thousands and thousands of yards of material.

ND – IPM tag has made significant progress: 98.8% chemical free in parks. 280 structures, 99% are managed non-chemically. We need to keep the program in context.

There were two unique situations where application was needed. We take decisions on chemical intervention very seriously.

C. Public Comment

11:15AM – 11:30AM

RN – We will be looking for any pre-emergent activities, we are spending 2 million per year on non-chemical activities

Angela Xue – I agree with IPM methods

Michelle Duong – We need to make sure we clean lawnmowers to not spread seed

Chris Clark – Lives near Benton, will be observing.

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JC – Departments are limited by resources and herbicides are an important tool in assuring that invasive weeds are controlled

Anna Griffin – The county has ordinances and policies pertaining to pest management that we need to follow

Charlene Lillie – very informative meeting

Kathryn – The cedars in from of VMC are not trimmed well and planted in wrong places. Cedar has natural pest control properties. Cedars should be planted in County and cedar chips should be spread.

JC – Spreading chips without bringing them to proper temp can spread phytophthora

Kathryn - All County agencies should have the “Commons Sense Pest Control” book

D. Adjourn

11:30 AM

-- In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for this meeting should notify Chris Curry 24 hours prior to the meeting at (408) 993-4706, TDD (408) 993-8272.