

Council Meeting of
April 15, 2008

Honorable Mayor and Members
of the City Council
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of Torrance authorizing the Public Works Director to apply for grant funding from the First 5 LA organization for the installation of fluoridation treatment facilities at the local groundwater supply sources. Expenditure: None

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that the City Council adopt a **RESOLUTION** (Attachment A) authorizing the Public Works Director to submit a grant application to the First 5 LA organization for funding the installation of fluoridation treatment facilities at the local groundwater supply sources to provide a consistent and uniform level of fluoride throughout the Municipal water system.

Funding

Not applicable.

BACKGROUND

At the Council meeting of September 18, 2007, Your Honorable Body approved the implementation of a public notification plan mandated by the Department of Health Services (DHOS) to notify Municipal customers regarding the pending delivery of fluoridated water supplies from potable (drinking water) imported water purchased from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). Water purchases from the Metropolitan Water District currently constitute approximately 85% of TMW's potable water requirements. The notification program was completed and MWD began deliveries of optimally fluoridated water supplies to the Torrance Municipal service area in late November 2007.

Fluoridation of drinking water supplies has proven to be extremely effective in eliminating tooth decay, particularly in children. The U.S. Center for Disease Control (CDC) has proclaimed that water fluoridation is one of the ten greatest public health achievements of the past century.

The First 5 LA is a child advocacy organization created by the California voters to invest tobacco tax revenues into programs that benefit children, primarily from prenatal through the age of five. Since 1998, the organization has invested \$800 million in various grants and programs for health, education and safety causes for young children. Currently, First 5 LA is offering a grant opportunity to fund the capital cost of installing fluoridation

treatment in water systems with 10,000 or more service connections. The funding would not cover annual operating costs, which would primarily be fluoride treatment chemicals.

ANALYSIS

State legislation passed in 1995 (AB 733) requires all public water systems with 10,000 or more service connections to fluoridate their water system, provided funding for the capital project costs come from a source other than the agency's own internal funding sources. The grant opportunity offered by First 5 LA would provide a source of funding to install fluoride treatment facilities at TMW's two local groundwater supply sources: Well #6 at McMaster Park in north Torrance and the Goldsworthy Desalter at the City Services Facility Yard.

As previously indicated, the Metropolitan Water District began delivering optimal fluoridated imported potable water supplies to TMW at the end of 2007. These MWD supplies currently constitute approximately 85% of TMW's current drinking water requirements. Fluoridation of the TMW's local water supply sources would provide a consistent and uniform supply of optimally fluoridated water to the entire municipal water service area. The capital cost to install fluoridation facilities at the two local groundwater sources is estimated at \$150,000; this would be the amount requested in the grant application. The only costs that would be borne by TMW would be the annual operating cost of approximately \$15,000 to cover fluoride treatment chemicals.

In the prior Council Item of September 18, 2007, it was indicated that TMW's local water supply sources would be converted to fluoride treatment as soon as funding became available to cover project capital costs. The First 5 LA grant could provide the requisite funding and it recommended that the City Council approve the attached Resolution authorizing the Public Works Director to formally file a grant application for funding.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT J. BESTE
Public Works Director

CONCUR:



For
Robert J. Beste
Public Works Director



LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager



By: Charles J. Schaich
Senior Administrative Analyst

Attachment: A. Resolution authorizing grant application to First 5 LA

RESOLUTION NO. 2008 -**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR TO APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDING FROM THE FIRST 5 LA ORGANIZATION FOR INSTALLATION OF FLUORIDATION TREATMENT FACILITIES AT LOCAL GROUNDWATER SUPPLY SOURCES**

- WHEREAS,** the First 5 LA organization is a child advocacy organization that provides numerous services for children and has developed a grant program for the funding of fluoridation treatment facilities for public water systems to improve the dental health of children; and
- WHEREAS,** the majority of Torrance Municipal Water's service area is currently receiving optimized fluoridated treated imported water deliveries purchased from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; and
- WHEREAS,** the conversion of local potable groundwater sources to fluoridated treatment is highly desirable to provide a consistent and uniform optimized fluoride level for all potable supplies throughout the Municipal system; and
- WHEREAS,** current State legislation (AB 733) requires that all agencies with 10,000 or more service connections fluoridate their drinking water supplies when outside funding is available; and
- WHEREAS,** the First 5 LA grant funding could provide approximately \$150,000 in grant funding to offset the cost for the installation of fluoride treatment facilities at local groundwater supply sources.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Torrance authorizes the Public Works Director to seek and apply for grant funding from the First 5 LA organization for funding of fluoride treatment facilities at local groundwater supply sources.

INTRODUCED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2008.

ATTEST:

FRANK SCOTTO
Mayor, City of Torrance

SUE HERBERS
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED AS TO FORM

JOHN L. FELLOWS III
City Attorney

By _____
RONALD T. POHL
Assistant City Attorney

