

Environmental Justice Symposium Follow-up



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE GOAL

“...to restore and protect waters in underserved areas, and by doing so, make a positive difference in the health and lives of the local environmental justice community members.”



San Diego Water Board Practical Vision



A Strategic Plan

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD,
REGION 9, SAN DIEGO BASIN

November 1, 2013



California Environmental Protection Agency
San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board

June 10, 2017

WELCOME & BIENVENIDOS

Environmental Justice
Symposium

Reunión Sobre Justicia
Ambiental









***“We too often think of water and air as monetary
and forget that they are life itself”***

Georgette Gomez, San Diego Councilmember, District 9


THREE KEY QUESTIONS BOARD WANTS COMMUNITY TO ANSWER:

1. What are the **most important water quality problems and needs** in environmental justice communities?
2. What **actions could the Water Board** (in its traditional or nontraditional role) take to address these problems?
3. What **novel approaches could the Water Board and its partners undertake to support** environmental justice communities (including possible legislative proposals and potential funding sources)?



“Your issues are our Issues...”

Water Board’s message to environmental justice communities
Tomas Morales, San Diego Water Board Member



***“We want clean water, air, and soil...
like everyone else”***

Olympia Beltran, EJ Community Member

Five Problem Areas

- I. Tijuana River Valley Sewage, Trash And Sediment**
- II. Homeless Encampments (And Hepatitis A)**
- III. Trash And Dumping / Education and Outreach**
- IV. Chollas Creek, Paradise Creek & Wetlands & Canyons**
- V. “Other”**

NEXT STEPS

1. Incorporate priority projects into **2018 Operational Plan**
2. Participate in **Statewide Roundtable**



**San Diego Regional
Water Quality Control Board**





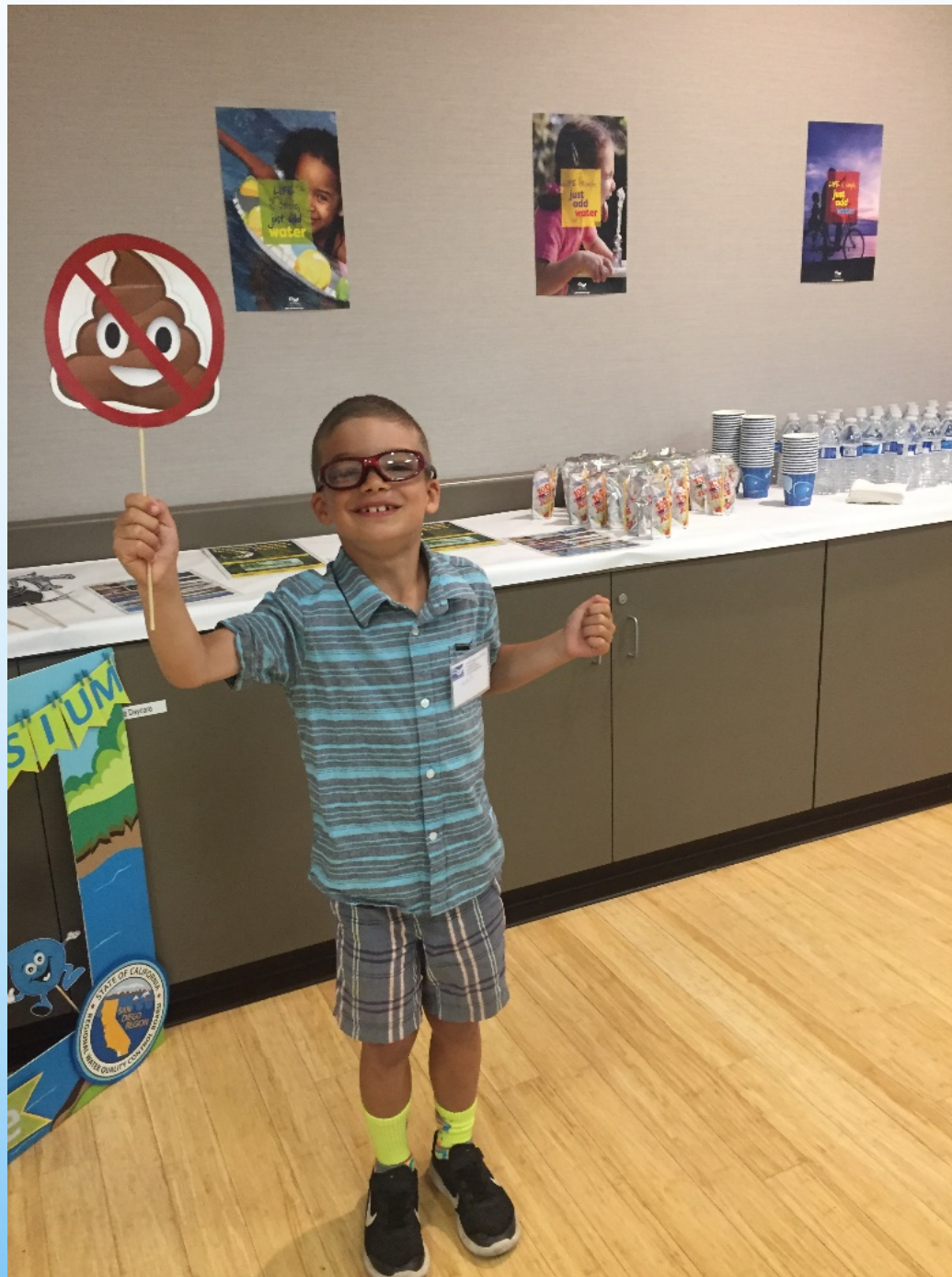














Action Plan I: Tijuana River Valley Sewage, Trash and Sediment

- Provide an update on the Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team (TRVRT) Five Year Action Plan
- Conduct outreach with elected officials and south San Diego County non-governmental organizations (NGOs) at the Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve (TRNERR)
- Investigate extent and magnitude of contamination throughout the Tijuana River Valley
- Develop total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for (1) pathogens/contaminated water; and (2) trash/solid waste in the Tijuana River Valley pursuant to anticipated 2018 Triennial Review Tier I Priorities
- Refocus Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team efforts
- Keep elected officials informed on the status of Tijuana River Valley issues

Action Plan II: Homeless Encampments (and Hepatitis A)

- Meet with sister State agencies regarding homeless encampments
- Conduct outreach with San Diego County NGOs regarding homeless encampments
- Conduct outreach with Riverside County elected officials/NGOs regarding homeless encampments
- Agendize and discuss homeless encampments at San Diego Water Board meetings
- Assist municipal emergency sanitary measures for street disinfection
- Investigate public health risk of discharges from homeless population
- Engage and collaborate with municipalities to reduce and eliminate human sources of wastes associated with homeless persons and encampments

Action Plan III: Chollas Creek, Paradise Creek and the Wetlands and Canyons Surrounding EJ Communities (South of I-8)

- Prioritize Chollas Creek, Paradise Creek and the wetlands and canyons surrounding EJ communities (south of I-8) for funding opportunities
- Prioritize Chollas Creek, Paradise Creek and the wetlands and canyons surrounding EJ communities (south of I-8) for restoration opportunities
- Support/partner with small non-profits dedicated to Chollas Creek, Paradise Creek and the wetlands and canyons in EJ communities (south of I-8)

Action Plan IV: Trash and Dumping / Education and Outreach

- Encourage municipalities to provide additional waste disposal services in EJ communities
- Encourage municipal copermittees to provide additional education and outreach to EJ communities
- Encourage municipal copermittees to request SDG&E provide targeted outreach to EJ communities
- Ensure municipal copermittees consider EJ when implementing the new Trash Amendments
- Integrate EJ considerations into the renewal Regional Municipal Storm Water Permit²⁵

Action Plan V: “Other”

- Keep EJ communities informed and engaged, and continue targeted outreach
- Keep elected officials informed and engaged, and continue targeted outreach
- Keep EJ community leaders and members informed and engaged
- Support/partner with small NGOs committed to environmental justice
- Communicate with elected officials and municipal copermittees on drainage/flooding issues
- When developing workplans for the Site Cleanup, 401 Certification, and Compliance Assurance Programs, evaluate EJ factors and consider giving high priority to EJ benefitting projects
- Initiate collaboration with California Air Board on issues that impact EJ communities
- Support supplemental environmental projects (SEPs) benefitting EJ communities
- Encourage school districts/colleges to give course credit for cleanups and other NGO events

Action Plan V: “Other” (cont.)

- Plant vegetation everywhere possible to improve air and water quality and provide a limited visual and sound barrier between residential neighborhoods and industry
- Consider providing land with clean soil for EJ community gardens
- Provide owl and bat boxes for effective rodent and insect control (safe, fun, educational)
- Support a legislative ban on styrofoam
- Exchange styrofoam food packaging for paper packaging at local eateries
- Consider exchanging a bag of fresh produce for a bag of “collected” trash