



December 17, 2015

Paul Casey
City Administrator
City of Santa Barbara
P.O. Box 1990
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

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PUBLIC WORKS

Dear Mr. Casey:

La Cumbre Country Club (or "La Cumbre") respectfully requests an opportunity to appear before the Santa Barbara City Council to present a proposal to purchase recycled water from the City of Santa Barbara. The recycled water would be used for golf course irrigation purposes – at present the course requires approximately 150 acre-feet per year (AFY), not including the greens (which are too sensitive to utilize recycled water) which use 20 AFY.

Our proposal would be beneficial to both La Cumbre and the City. It would benefit La Cumbre by ensuring a reliable ongoing source of water that is not vulnerable to shortfalls in times of drought. It would benefit the City by (i) providing a new customer for its recently-refurbished recycled water plant, which currently can produce 1,400 AFY but delivers to customers only about 800 AFY, and (ii) further demonstrating to the public and state conservation authorities the City's ongoing commitment to potable water conservation.

La Cumbre Country Club recently met with La Cumbre Mutual Water Company, and the Water Company is willing to participate in the transaction, so that the City can sell the recycled water to the Water Company, an existing customer, which, in turn, will sell the recycled water to La Cumbre Country Club.

The proposed recycled water purchase has a number of other positive features:

- a) Because we have a covered irrigation pond with a large 3 acre-foot capacity, La Cumbre can be flexible regarding timing and flow rate and can take recycled water at any time of the day or night. Moreover, we do not need pressurized water. This flexibility may help the City's recycled water system, which may have constraints pertaining to when recycled water can be utilized at the City's other recycled water customer (e.g. not sprayed during the day).
- b) La Cumbre is willing to enter into a multi-year contract at a competitive rate.

- c) La Cumbre is willing to pay the costs of connecting to the City's recycled water system. We understand the connection point is approximately 1,000 feet from our property line near Valle Verde Retirement Community on Calle de los Amigos. The connection pipeline would be installed entirely within City property up to the La Cumbre property line.
- d) Four of the other six major golf courses in our area already use recycled water. As you know, golf courses are logical users of recycled water, because it makes sense for the community not to use precious potable water on golf courses.
- e) La Cumbre has 810 member families, many of whom live within City boundaries.
- f) California Government Code, Section 56133, allows for contracts to transfer non-potable (i.e. recycled) water to users outside of any utility boundaries without third-party approvals. La Cumbre is contiguous to City limits on the City's west border. There is additional state legislation promoting use of recycled water, including across utility boundaries.

La Cumbre had an encouraging meeting with your Water Resources and legal staff, and believe that our proposal is viewed favorably by your staff.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Donald R. Logan
La Cumbre Country Club, Long Range Planning Committee

cc:

Joshua Haggmark, Water Resources Manager, City of Santa Barbara
Steven A. Amerikaner, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck
Wayne Mills, Golf Course Superintendent, La Cumbre CC