



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT**

375 11th Street, Oakland, CA 94607

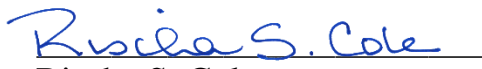
Office of the Secretary: (510) 287-0440

Notice of Time Change

**PLANNING COMMITTEE
Tuesday, December 10, 2024
9:30 a.m.
Boardroom
375 11th Street
Oakland, CA 94607**

Notice is hereby given that the Tuesday, December 10, 2024 Planning Committee meeting of the Board of Directors has been rescheduled from 9:15 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. The meeting will be held in the Administration Building Boardroom at 375 11th Street, Oakland, California.

Dated: December 5, 2024


Rischa S. Cole
Secretary of the District

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT**

Office of the Secretary: (510) 287-0440

**AGENDA
Planning Committee
Tuesday, December 10, 2024
9:30 a.m.
Boardroom
375 11th Street
Oakland, CA 94607**

***** Please see appendix for public participation instructions*****

Committee Members: Directors Marguerite Young {Chair}, April Chan and Doug A. Linney

ROLL CALL:

PUBLIC COMMENT: The Board of Directors is limited by State law to providing a brief response, asking questions for clarification, or referring a matter to staff when responding to items that are not listed on the agenda.

DETERMINATION AND DISCUSSION:

1. Backflow Prevention Program Update (Yezman)
2. Discovery of Golden Mussels in the Delta (Tognolini)

ADJOURNMENT:

Disability Notice

If you require a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in an EBMUD public meeting please call the Office of the Secretary (510) 287-0404. We will make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility. Some special equipment arrangements may require 48 hours advance notice.

Document Availability

Materials related to an item on this agenda that have been submitted to the EBMUD Board of Directors within 72 hours prior to this meeting are available for public inspection in EBMUD's Office of the Secretary at 375 11th Street, Oakland, California, during normal business hours, and can be viewed on our website at www.ebmud.com.



APPENDIX

Planning Committee Meeting

*EBMUD Board committee meetings will be conducted in person and via Zoom.
These meetings are recorded and live-streamed.*

Online*

<https://ebmud.zoom.us/j/94576194030?pwd=dWZlc3hNU3JNUVBQYmNKWjJSNVZQdz09>

Webinar ID: 945 7619 4030

Passcode: 925293

By Phone

Telephone: 1 669 900 6833

Webinar ID: 945 7619 4030

Passcode: 925293

International numbers available: <https://ebmud.zoom.us/u/kdmpbwwlg2>

*To familiarize yourself with Zoom, please visit <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-Joining-a-Meeting>

Providing public comment - *The EBMUD Board of Directors is limited by State law to providing a brief response, asking questions for clarification, or referring a matter to staff when responding to items that are not listed on the agenda.*

- Each speaker is allotted 3 minutes to speak; the Committee Chair has the discretion to amend this time based on the number of speakers
- The Secretary will track time and inform each speaker when the allotted time has concluded
- Comments on **non-agenda items** will be heard at the beginning of the meeting
- Comments on **agenda items** will be heard when the item is up for consideration
- The Secretary will call each speaker in the order received

In person

- Fill out and submit a blue speaker card which is available in the meeting room

Via Zoom

- Use the raise hand feature in Zoom to indicate you wish to make a public comment
<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/205566129-Raising-your-hand-in-a-webinar>
 - If you participate by phone, press *9 to raise your hand
- When prompted by the Secretary, please state your name, affiliation if applicable, and topic

Submitting written comments or materials

- Email written comments or other materials for the Board of Directors to SecOffice@ebmud.com
- Please indicate the meeting date and agenda item number or non-agenda item topic in the subject of the email. Contact information is optional.
- **Please email by 4 p.m. the day prior to the scheduled regular meeting;** written comments and other materials submitted to the Board of Directors will be filed in the record.

To observe the Planning Committee Meeting,
please visit: <https://www.ebmud.com/about-us/board-directors/board-meetings/>

EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

DATE: December 5, 2024

MEMO TO: Board of Directors

THROUGH: Clifford C. Chan, General Manager *CCC*

FROM: Crystal J. Yezman, Manager of Maintenance and Construction *CJY*

SUBJECT: Backflow Prevention Program Update

SUMMARY

In December 2023, the California State Water Resources Control Board adopted the *Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook (CCCPH)*, which expands existing regulations for cross-connection control. At the October 8, 2024 Planning Committee meeting, staff reviewed California's new CCCPH and provided information about how new requirements may impact the District and its customers. Staff subsequently met with state regulators to discuss proposed actions and timelines for compliance. This memorandum provides information about the CCCPH and the impact to the District. This information will be presented at the December 10, 2024 Planning Committee meeting.

DISCUSSION

New state backflow prevention requirements are more stringent than existing requirements in several key areas. The CCCPH requires a written plan be developed by each water provider and submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Drinking Water (DDW) by July 1, 2025. The plan must describe how the CCCPH requirements will be met and how backflow protection assemblies (BPAs) will be tracked and managed. A BPA protects the District's water distribution system from contamination due to cross connections associated with customer plumbing.

On November 6, 2024, staff met with DDW to review the CCCPH and discuss the District's interpretation of specific sections and requirements. For most aspects of the program, DDW agreed that the District's existing programs are sufficient. However, DDW indicated areas of attention where additional resources may be needed; these are detailed below.

Auxiliary Water Sources on Residential Services (Wells)

For residential services with wells on the premise, the District currently installs, tests, and maintains the BPA, as guided by Section 26 of the District's Regulations Governing Water Service. There are currently about 4,600 residential services with known wells and BPAs. Of

these BPAs, roughly 4,000 have double check (DC) assemblies. The CCCPH now requires a reduced pressure (RP) assembly to provide a higher level of backflow prevention. The District is proposing an upgrade schedule for the DC assemblies coinciding with maintenance or failure of the devices.

Per Section 26, the District currently pays for installation and maintenance of DC assemblies for residential services. These assemblies were selected because they are underground and generally inside the utility box, similar to a residential water meter. In contrast, a RP assembly must be installed aboveground. For some customers, significant work will be needed to re-route water lines around driveways, walkways, retaining walls, and landscaped areas. Upgrading each assembly will range from several thousand to tens-of-thousands of dollars. Approximately 4,000 residential BPAs will need to be upgraded in the next 20 years. Additionally, staff are in the process of inspecting an additional 3,200 properties that county records indicate may have a private well. These properties likely have no BPA and will need one under the new CCCPH.

Residential Fire Sprinklers

The CCCPH requires an assessment of residential fire sprinkler systems to ensure appropriate backflow prevention. District staff are working with local fire departments and DDW to provide passive protection without a separate backflow device which would be far less expensive for homeowners. The simplest form of passive protection for new installations is to connect the fire sprinklers to other house plumbing to prevent water stagnation in the fire sprinkler system. The District is proposing that prior installations be exempted from new requirements as they were built to code at the time of installation and do not present a major health risk.

Hydrant Meters

The District has an existing program for providing temporary water services via connections to fire hydrants (usually for construction). Upon request, the District supplies a three-inch water meter with an internal check valve which the customer attaches to a hydrant. The CCCPH requires temporary connections, like a hydrant meter, to have a RP assembly, which is more expensive and heavier. The District would need to retrofit approximately 750 hydrant meters at a cost of approximately \$1.5 million. Alternatively, the District could build a one-inch water meter with a RP, which would work for a majority of the applicants and would be less expensive. The District would still need three-inch hydrant meters with a RP assembly for contractors who need higher flow. Purchasing one-inch water meters with RPs and adding RP to existing three-inch meters would cost approximately \$500,000 to \$1 million.

Residential Re-survey Program

The District's existing cross connection survey program for single-family residences focuses on residences with private wells. The CCCPH requires the District to survey all single-family residences at some frequency. The vast majority of the District's residential customers do not have or need a BPA. DDW indicated that the required periodic hazard assessments (i.e., re-

surveys) could be performed in the course of other work (such as meter replacement or repair, or with other data such as applications for business licenses. Such assessments could reduce the cost of a separate on-site inspection. Staff is investigating various options for a residential re-survey program that will be acceptable to DDW.

Commercial Re-survey Program

There are approximately 62,000 commercial services in the District's service area, and about 14,000 currently have BPAs. The District currently re-surveys these businesses upon change of ownership. The CCCPH requires a regular re-survey program for commercial accounts. The District is proposing an interval of 30 years. DDW has preliminarily indicated that this may be acceptable if a protocol for prioritizing surveys is developed for high-risk businesses, low-pressure services, and locations that have not been surveyed in the last 30 years.

FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact of complying with the CCCPH requirements will not be known until spring 2025, after DDW reviews the District's implementation plan. By far, the largest fiscal impact is associated with upgrading residential services with a RP assembly. These costs (up to \$20 million over time) could be borne by customers with modifications to Section 26 of the District's Regulations Governing Water Service; customers could also avoid this cost by opting to eliminate the on-site hazard.

Additional costs could include purchase of backflow devices for hydrant meters (\$500,000 to \$1 million, one time) and resources to conduct re-surveys and program administration (up to \$500,000 annually).

NEXT STEPS

Proposed modifications to District regulations and assignment of fees and installation costs will be discussed with the Planning Committee at the December 10, 2024 meeting. Staff will continue to work with DDW to meet the requirements in the CCCPH. Staff will update the Planning Committee in spring 2025 with more specific cost estimates needed to implement the program as directed by DDW.


CCC:CJY:sd


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EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

DATE: December 5, 2024

MEMO TO: Board of Directors

THROUGH: Clifford C. Chan, General Manager 

FROM: Michael T. Tognolini, Director of Water and Natural Resources 
for MTT

SUBJECT: Discovery of Golden Mussels in the Delta

SUMMARY

In mid-October 2024, the invasive freshwater species *Limnoperna Fortunei*, commonly known as Golden Mussel, was discovered in the waters of the California Delta near Stockton. This marks the first known occurrence of Golden Mussels in North America. It is believed that the Golden Mussel was introduced through ballast water at the Port of Stockton. Since their initial discovery, the mussels have been found throughout the southern Delta, extending as far south as San Luis Reservoir near Los Banos, which is jointly owned and operated by the Central Valley Project and State Water Project. This item will be discussed at the December 10, 2024 Planning Committee meeting.

DISCUSSION

The Golden Mussel is native to Southeast Asia but has spread rapidly in South America since its introduction in the early 1990s. They are known for their ability to quickly colonize freshwater environments, forming dense clusters that can disrupt local ecosystems and water infrastructure. These mussels can clog water intake and conveyance facilities, threaten native species, and disrupt the balance of the food web. Additionally, large-scale die-offs of mussel colonies can lead to significant water quality issues.

Golden Mussels are resilient and capable of surviving in a wide range of conditions, but the extent to which the species will thrive – or even survive – in California is uncertain. While California's climate differs from the regions where the mussels have historically colonized, there is no evidence to suggest that they cannot establish themselves and thrive here as well.

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife is coordinating surveys and sampling throughout the Delta to assess the speed and extent of the mussels' spread. Over time, further research will help answer questions regarding their ability to survive and adapt to the Delta environment. The District is conducting sampling at its East Bay reservoirs, as well as Pardee and Camanche reservoirs, and to date, no mussels have been detected in either their adult or larval form.

To protect District assets, the Camanche Reservoir boat launch facility has been closed, effective November 25, 2024, until comprehensive mitigation measures can be identified and implemented. The boat launch facilities at Pardee and San Pablo reservoirs are closed for the season and will not reopen until appropriate mitigation measures are put in place. Staff is also reaching out to other reservoir owners in the Mokelumne watershed (e.g., PG&E) and in California (e.g., U.S. Bureau of Reclamation), and evaluating mitigation measures for other District facilities (e.g., Freeport and reservoirs in the East Bay).

NEXT STEPS

Staff are gathering more information, meeting with other agencies, and developing monitoring, protection, and mitigation strategies. Staff will provide additional updates to the Board, as needed.

CCC:MTT:dec