



City of Santa Cruz Water Department and Soquel Creek Water District
scwd² Desalination Program

Monthly Project Update & Latest News– August 2012

Upcoming Series in the Santa Cruz Sentinel

JM Brown, staff writer for the Santa Cruz Sentinel, is preparing an upcoming series of articles that will feature the proposed desalination project and the water shortages facing the City of Santa Cruz Water Department and Soquel Creek Water District. Numerous articles, covering a three-day span, will be published in September 2012.

Latest News on Ballot Initiative on Desalination

The Santa Cruz City Council, at its July 24th meeting, accepted the City Clerk's certification that a sufficient number of signatures were collected to place a charter amendment measure on the ballot for the November 6, 2012 general election. This will require a two-step voting process. First, a vote in November is to amend the City's Charter with language that would require a second vote for approval to construct the project after completion of the environmental review in June or November 2014. A "yes" or "no" vote on the charter amendment should not be considered a vote "for" or "against" the construction of the proposed project.

The City Council has already adopted an ordinance in March 2012 that allows City residents to vote on the desalination project in June or November 2014. Additionally, Soquel Creek Water District officials are also discussing options on how District customers can vote on the proposed project.

Upcoming Water Awareness Booth at the Aptos Farmers Market

Come on by the Water Awareness Booth at the Aptos Farmers Market located at Cabrillo College on August 18 and September 15 (8 a.m.-noon) for information on local water shortage issues, ways to conserve water, and why desalination is being evaluated as a supplemental supply. The booth will be staffed by Soquel Creek Water District to educate the community about the current 5% water curtailment that is in effect through October 2012.

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