USC Spring Sustainability Forum

Water Conservation

April 2019
Topics:

- Regulations
- Completed Projects
- Long Term Planning
- Net Zero Water
- Discussion
Regulations:
Policy that shapes strategy

• **2014:**
  o State of Emergency due to Drought
  o Expanded allowable uses of Recycled Water

• **2015:**
  o Executive Order – Mandatory 25% reduction

• **2017:**
  o Drought Emergency Lifted/Conservation Way of Life

• **2019:**
  o LA Mayor announces 100% of wastewater recycled by 2035
Completed Projects:
2020 projects completed

- Landscape/Hardscape
  - Native Drought Tolerant Plants
  - Drip Irrigation
  - Synthetic Turf
  - Water efficient equipment
  - Water bottle refill stations
Completed Projects:
2020 projects completed

• Sub-Metering
  o Phase 1 – 17 buildings

• Low Flow Fixtures
  o Housing has already replaced fixtures
  o 1,200 fixtures will be replaced
Completed Projects:
2020 projects completed

- Recycled Water
  - FMS install started late 2009
  - Master plan approved 2010
  - Main infrastructure completed Jan 2019
  - Will serve fields irrigation and cooling towers
  - LADWP will bring USC recycled water by end of 2024
Completed Projects:
2020 projects completed

- Stormwater Management
  - 2004 City of LA stormwater management requirements
  - 2011 Low Impact Development Ordinance
  - Captures rain runoff from an above avg. 24-hr storm
  - Reduces pollution from runoff
  - Recharges the groundwater table
Long Term Planning:

• Need to meet USC goal of 25% reduction
  o Convert more areas to native drought tolerant landscape
  o Sub-meters on bldgs
  o Low Flow Fixtures
  o Pipe cooling towers & fields with recycled water
  o Continue installation of Stormwater BMPs
Long Term Planning:

• Landscape
  o Trees
  o Grass/Events

• Recycled Water
  o None at HSC Campus
  o Dependent on LADWP

• Rain Capture & Reuse
  o Avg annual rainfall insufficient

• Graywater Capture & Reuse
  o Cost/benefit
Net Zero Water: Reality in LA Basin

- Alternative Water
  - Not enough rain
  - Cannot mine City Sewers/Storm drains
- Water Returned
  - No large areas of open space
- Water Use
  - Widespread change in mentality

Discussion:
Comments and questions