

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS OFFERED BY MEMBERS TO THE ASSEMBLY OF ROUGE COMMUNITIES

Introduction

The Assembly of Rouge Communities (Assembly) has been periodically requested to adopt resolutions to support positions advocated by a particular members. These resolutions normally endorse actions already taken by an individual community member on a matters not directly related to operation of the Assembly itself. In general the purposes of the Assembly include advocacy on behalf of its members related directly to its purposes (i.e., management of water discharges, water flows and the protection and enhancement of related public beneficial uses). However, on some occasions, consistent with the primary purposes of the Assembly, it may choose to use the collective voice of the Assembly to address issues not directly related to Assembly operations. In order to establish criteria, and a process for review and consideration of such resolutions that may affect Assembly members, but that are not directly related to activities of the Assembly itself, the Assembly adopts the following policy.

Review Process

Members advocating the adoption of a resolution or similar action by the full Assembly on matters not directly related to the operation of the Assembly itself, shall bring it before the Executive Committee for consideration. The Executive Committee shall review the proposed action and, if it determines that the proposed action meets the general criteria outlined in this policy, refer the proposal to an appropriate Standing Committee of the Assembly for review and recommendation. If the Executive Committee determines that the proposed action is inconsistent with the criteria, it shall identify reasons that the proposed action was rejected and report their action at the next full meeting of the Assembly.

After consideration by a Standing Committee of an action referred to it by the Executive Committee, the Standing Committee shall make a recommendation. If time allows, the Standing Committee shall provide the recommendations to the Executive Committee for review prior to consideration by the Assembly. However, in the event the Assembly is scheduled to meet prior to the next meeting of the Executive Committee the Standing Committee recommendations shall go directly to the Assembly for consideration.

Every attempt will be made to notify Assembly members at least 10 working days prior to an Assembly meeting of any resolutions or similar actions recommended for adoption by the Assembly.

Temporary Suspension of Policy

By a two thirds vote of the members present at a regular Assembly meeting, the Assembly may temporarily suspend this policy to consider emerging and urgent issues that did not provide an opportunity for the normal review process established under this policy.

Criteria of Resolutions Not Directly Related to the Operation of the Assembly

- In order to be considered, the resolution shall be sponsored by a member of the Assembly
- The member sponsor must provide sufficient information for the Assembly to determine whether or not the issues addressed in the resolution
 - Are more than a local concern and potentially affect a significant portion of the entire Rouge River watershed.
 - Have a direct or significant indirect impact on the primary purposes of the Assembly (e.g., relate specifically to surface water in the watershed, water related uses of the residents of the watershed, or the control and management of waste discharges or water flows)
 - Do not adversely affect the interests of other members of the Assembly
 - Do not detract from the primary purposes of the Assembly as established in the Memorandum of Agreement.