



International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

For immediate release
February 22, 2023

TIJUANA RIVER VALLEY WASTEWATER AND SEDIMENT PROJECTS FOCUS OF MARCH 2 PUBLIC MEETING

The United States Section of the [International Boundary and Water Commission](#) (USIBWC) has scheduled a public meeting of the USIBWC Citizens Forum on **March 2, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. PST via webinar**. The purpose of the Citizens Forum is to promote the exchange of information between the USIBWC and the community about Commission projects and related issues. The meeting will focus on work underway to upgrade wastewater collection and treatment systems along the San Diego, CA -Tijuana, BC border. During the meeting, U.S. Commissioner Maria-Elena Giner will discuss her priorities to respond to the region's sanitation challenges.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) staff will provide a status update on wastewater infrastructure projects to address transborder flow of pollution in the Tijuana River watershed, including the status of the pending Record of Decision under the National Environmental Policy Act.

USIBWC Environmental Management Division Chief Gilbert Anaya will provide an update on the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant (SBIWTP) Phase 1 Assessment. The presentation will touch on key activities that are underway to evaluate the SBIWTP and highlight pre-planning activities for the potential expansion of the plant.

Morgan Rogers, Area Operations Manager, San Diego Field Office (SDFO), USIBWC, will provide an update on transboundary flow events and other projects and initiatives being pursued by the SDFO.

Chris Helmer, Environmental and Natural Resources Director for the City of Imperial Beach, and Bryn Evans, Senior Project Manager at Dudek, will provide an overview of the City of Imperial Beach's recently completed Sediment Management Work Plan (SMWP). The SMWP identifies key Tijuana River watershed and sediment transport processes, sediment sources and receiver areas, and outlines sediment management approaches and pathways. The goal of this effort is to develop environmentally sustainable and cost-efficient processes to handle and beneficially reuse sediment, and support project planning and/or capital project development activities in the Tijuana River watershed.

To join our Teams Meeting, go to: <https://bit.ly/USIBWCinSD>. Click on the "Join" button. If you do not have Teams installed on the device you will use to attend the meeting, it will work through any internet browser. If possible, you may want to test connectivity on your own prior to the meeting by clicking on the Join link and ensuring your camera and microphone are functioning. Or join by phone: 1-872-240-1286 | Conference ID: 360 866 966# For those connecting via phone, the presentations will be available before the start of the meeting on the [USIBWC Citizens Forum page](#). If you would like to speak during public comment, please sign up ahead of time by contacting Sumner Corbett at sumnercorbett@rational360.com or 434-466-2266 by noon on March 2.

Media contact:

Sally Spener
sally.spener@ibwc.gov
915-832-4175

USIBWC CITIZENS FORUM
Thursday, March 2, 2023
5:30 – 7:30 p.m. PST
Teams Webinar

To join our Teams Meeting, go to our web page:

<https://bit.ly/USIBWCinSD> and click on the “Join” button. If you do not have Teams installed on the device you will use to attend the meeting, it will work through any internet browser. If possible, it may be helpful for you to test connectivity on your own prior to the meeting by clicking on the Join link and ensuring your camera and microphone are functioning.

Or join by phone: 1-872-240-1286 | Conference ID: 360 866 966#

Agenda

- **Welcome and Introductions** – Jill Galvez, Citizens Forum Co-Chair
- **Remarks from the Commissioner** – Dr. Maria-Elena Giner, P.E., Commissioner, USIBWC
- **NEPA / Record of Decision Status Update for San Diego-Tijuana Sanitation Projects** – Lily Lee, Manager, Water Infrastructure Section, Water Division, USEPA Region 9, and EPA Staff
- **South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant Assessment Update** – Gilbert Anaya, Chief, Environmental Management Division, USIBWC
- **USIBWC Update, Including Status of Repair of Pipeline PB1B in Tijuana and Associated Transboundary Flows** – Morgan Rogers, P.E., Civil Engineer, San Diego Field Office Area Operations Manager, USIBWC
- **Imperial Beach Sediment Management Plan Overview** – Chris Helmer, Environmental and Natural Resources Director, City of Imperial Beach; Bryn Evans, Certified Professional of Stormwater Quality (CPSWQ), Senior Project Manager, Dudek
- **Public Comment**
- **Board Discussion**
- **Suggested Future Agenda Items**

If you have a disability that you wish to self-identify confidentially that requires accommodation, please advise us ahead of time. For more information call 434-466-2266 or email sumnercorbett@rational360.com