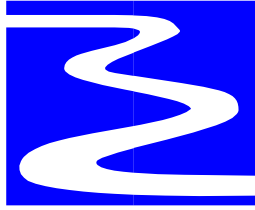




June 16, 2009
1:30 p.m.



www.hillsboroughriver.org



Tampa Union Station, 2nd Floor
601 N. Nebraska Avenue
Tampa, FL 33602
272-5940

Hillsborough River Technical Advisory Council AGENDA

- I. Call To Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Moment of Contemplation
- ★ V. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – 5/19/09*
- VI. Water Taxi Service Proposal for Speed Zones* (p. 6)
- VII. Hillsborough River Watershed Alliance Presentation
- VIII. Status of Hillsborough River Flows and Levels* (p. 11)
- IX. Agency Status Reports
- X. Jurisdictional Status Reports
- XI. Other Business

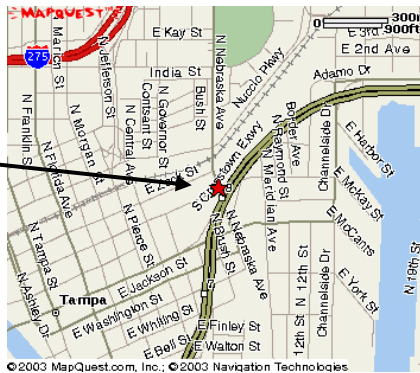
★ Indicates Action Required

* Indicates backup material provided

Presentations limited to 10 minutes. Public comment limited to three minutes please.

General Location Map to TAC Meeting

Tampa Union Station
601 N. Nebraska Ave.
2nd Floor Conference Room
Elevator Access Available



Parking

All meeting participants are requested to park in the south parking lots designated with the signs AMTRAK Passengers only. AMTRAK passengers are to be afforded the courtesy of parking in the front of or immediately adjacent to the building. Parking in spaces not marked as AMTRAK Passengers only are reserved for those who pay for monthly parking, **and may result in your vehicle being ticketed.**

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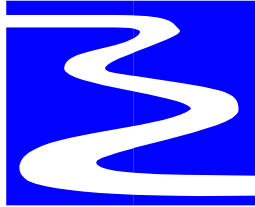
AGENDA ITEM V.

Approval of Previous Meeting
Minutes





May 19, 2009
1:30 a.m.



www.hillsboroughriver.org



Tampa Union Station, 2nd Floor
601 N. Nebraska Avenue
Tampa, FL 33602
272-5940

Hillsborough River Technical Advisory Council
Meeting Summary

Present

Robert Carnahan* Derek Doughty*
Richard Booth* Peter Owens*
Darlene Dannels** Joe Gross•
Tom Willett** Jackie Julien
Kathleen Venzon Tony D'Aquila
Shawn College

Absent

Cori Cuttler* Suzanne Cooper*
Renee Benton* Ben Koplin•
Charles Kovach*
Thalia Potter*
Sylvia Espinola*
Mario Cabana•

* Denotes TAC Members ** Denotes Alternates
• Denotes Staff Ex Officio Members

I. Call To Order

TAC chair Robert Carnahan called the meeting to order at 1:33.

II. Roll Call

Members were sufficient to establish a quorum.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Carnahan led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Moment of Contemplation

Chair Carnahan led the Council in observing a moment of silent contemplation

V. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Minutes 4/21/09 were approved without modification.

VI. Residential Fertilizer Application

Mr. D'Aquila gave an overview of events leading to the consideration of a Landscape/Fertilizer Ordinance. Mr. D'Aquila stated that they had met with Pat Bean and that she concurred with their approach. Mr. D'Aquila said staff would ask the EPCHC Board to allow them to prepare a new set of rules incorporating the state model and possibly exceeding it in some instances. Mr. D'Aquila said Senate Bill 494 includes a finding that regulating residential fertilizer application would help protect water quality. Mr. College asked if SB 494 still allows for either EPC rules or municipal ordinances. Mr. D'Aquila said it does. Mr. College asked who would decide if a rule or ordinance is more stringent than the state model under SB 494's provisions. Mr. D'Aquila said EPCHC would make that determination. Mr. Doughty said enforcement will be an issue and stated that the LDC may be at odds with the state model. Mr. Doughty said education would be very important. Mr. College asked if the state ordinance allows for a black-out period. Mr. D'Aquila said it does not allow for a specific calendar period black-out, only for a black-out associated with a rain event.

VII. Consistency Determination: TPA Permit 09-049, Rosa Riverfront, LLC

A finding of consistent was recommended to the River Board for TPA Permit 09-049.

VIII. Status of the Hillsborough River Flows and Levels

It was noted that water levels in the river had risen about 2 feet with the recent rains, but were still much lower than the top of the dam.

IX. Agency Status Reports

Mr. Owens stated that the reservoir was at 20.7 feet. Mr. Owens said the regional reservoir was undergoing a temporary repair that is expected to last 5 years.

X. Jurisdictional Status Reports

Mr. Gross stated that the DEP is objecting to SWFWMD's proposed rule change for the Tampa Reservoir. He expects the SWFWMD to withdrawal the rule change. Mr. Booth said that the Port notifies the army corps or significant projects. Mrs. Dannels said they have jurisdiction over small dock projects in much of the river. Mrs. Dannels said she would send Mr. Booth the information on the Army Corps' jurisdiction.

XI. Other Business

Mr. College handed out a copy of an article on Senate Bill 2080 and noted that while this bill would allow home owner's to install Florida Friendly landscape regardless of deed restrictions, the bill would also take the responsibility for approving water use permits out of the hands of Water Management District governing boards and allow WMD Executive Director to approve WUPs without a public hearing.

Meeting was adjourned.

AGENDA ITEM VI.

Water Taxi Service Proposal for
Speed Zones



Speeders spoil river outings

By JOSE PATINO GIRONA jpatino@tampatrib.com

Published: May 26, 2009

TAMPA - Laurence Salkin and Cliff Conatser spend most days cruising up and down the lower Hillsborough River, enjoying the scenery, connecting with nature and making a living.

The men, who operate two Tampa water taxi companies, say serene outings on the river are tainted by boaters who travel at excess speeds and pose a danger to other motorboaters, kayakers and rowing teams on the increasingly populated downtown waterfront.

"They open their throttle and they think this is a drag strip," said Salkin, who has seen boats traveling 60 to 70 mph.

"You have potentially a serious problem," Salkin said.

Earlier this month, both men asked the Tampa City Council to look into the situation on the river from the Cass Street Bridge at the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center upstream to the Rick's on the River waterfront bar and restaurant - a mile-long stretch where there is no limit on boaters' speed.

Council members asked their staff to return in July with a position on imposing speed restrictions.

Salkin and Conaster said boaters are aggressive on the stretch of the river through downtown. They would like to see it posted as a no-wake zone.

Both men said they aren't seeking a change for the sake of their businesses. In fact, they said, a slow-speed mandate would harm them because it would take longer to get customers from one point to another.

Their intent, they said, is to keep people from being injured.

"Does the city want to wait until someone gets hurt to address it?" Salkin said. "When something happens on the water it is not a fender bender."

Imposing speed restrictions on the Hillsborough River is complicated, however, because boat speed is controlled by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, said Scott MacLean, an officer with the Tampa Police Marine Unit.

The state agency determines speeds on the Hillsborough River downstream from the river's dam at 30th Street, he said.

The matter of restricting boaters' speeds on the lower Hillsborough River comes up every few years, MacLean said, but the stretch doesn't meet state guidelines for such a designation.

There must be public boat ramps, public docks, fuel docks or a history of boating mishaps along a waterway for state officials to take action, MacLean said.

There are three docks at Julian B. Lane Riverfront Park at 1001 North Boulevard, but they aren't public and are operated by the Stewards Foundation, an organization that promotes rowing.

The area in question doesn't have a history of boating accidents. In the seven years MacLean has been with the marine unit, he isn't aware of an accident there, he said.

In the past 10 years, the city three times has reviewed the same stretch of the river, said police spokeswoman Andrea Davis. The matter last was studied four years ago. Police and state officials looked into the matter and found no safety problems, she said.

The city's police marine unit patrols the area heavily, she said, adding the agency will study the matter again but as of last week had not received an official request to do so.

Tom Feaster, president of the Stewards Foundation, said the group works with children and adults who don't have much rowing experience. When a boat creates a large, powerful wake, he said, it can be a problem.

"They are learning how to row and these boats are going really, really fast," Feaster said.

The river has seawalls on both banks, causing waves to sweep back and forth for several minutes, he said. College rowing teams that train in the river complain that large wakes can flood or flip their racing shells.

Feaster would like a mandate to reduce wakes the length of the mile-long stretch and a no-wake zone near docks.

"You have a death valley there," said Feaster, who is a board member of the United States Rowing Association.

City Councilman John Dingfelder knows firsthand how treacherous it is to be on a racing shell, rocking back and forth.

"It's not fun," Dingfelder said. "It's pretty scary. That's just from the waves."

Dingfelder said there should be a no-wake zone from Rick's on the River to the river's mouth for safety and to protect manatees.

"The city would do it right away if it wasn't the state regulatory process impeding us," Dingfelder said.

Reporter Jose Patino Girona can be reached at (813) 259-7659

AGENDA ITEM VII.

Hillsborough River Watershed
Alliance Presentation

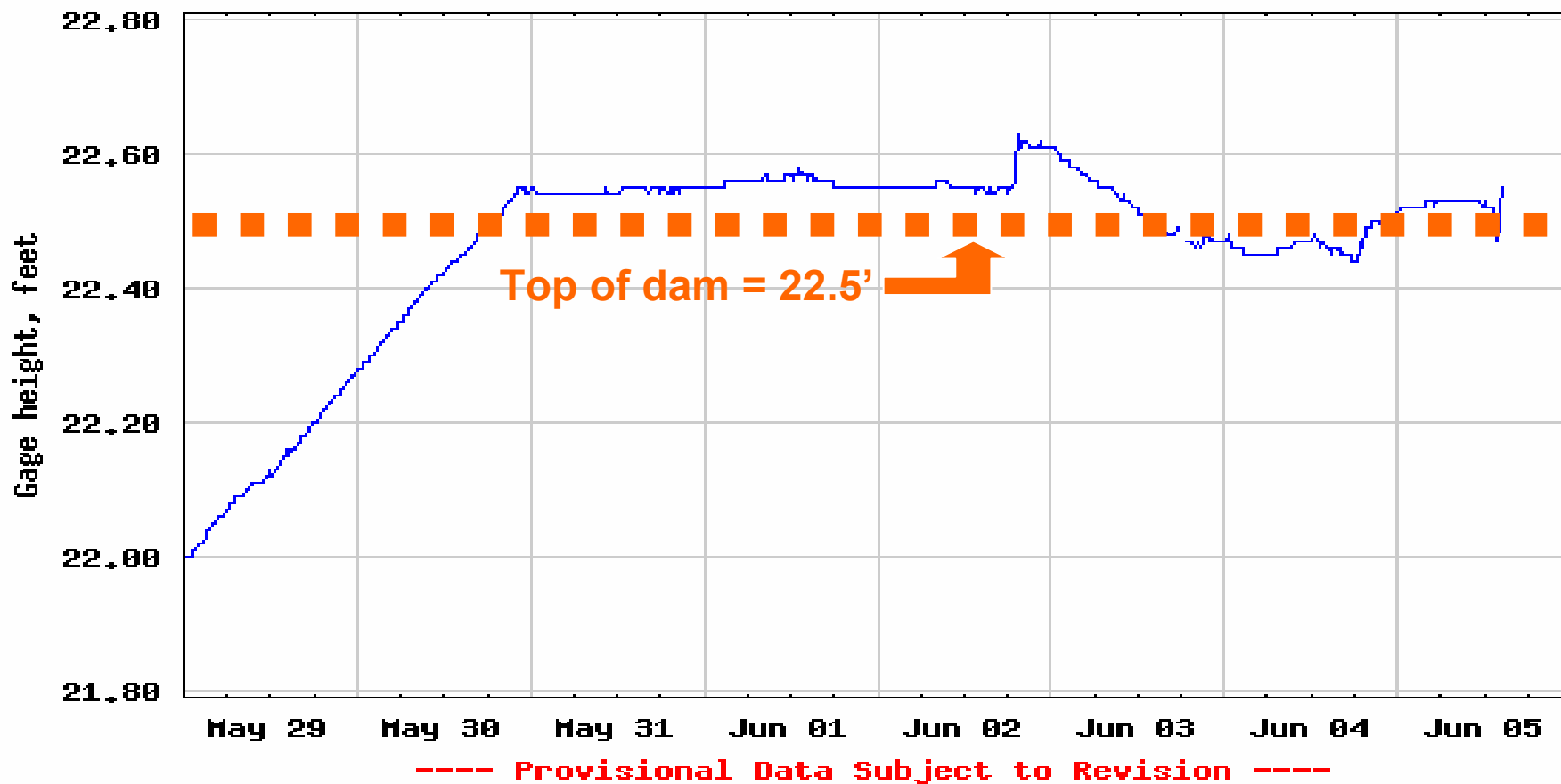


AGENDA ITEM VIII.

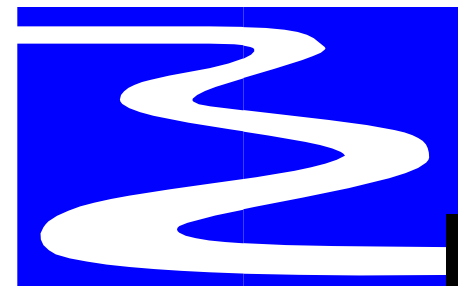
Status of Hillsborough River Flows
and Levels



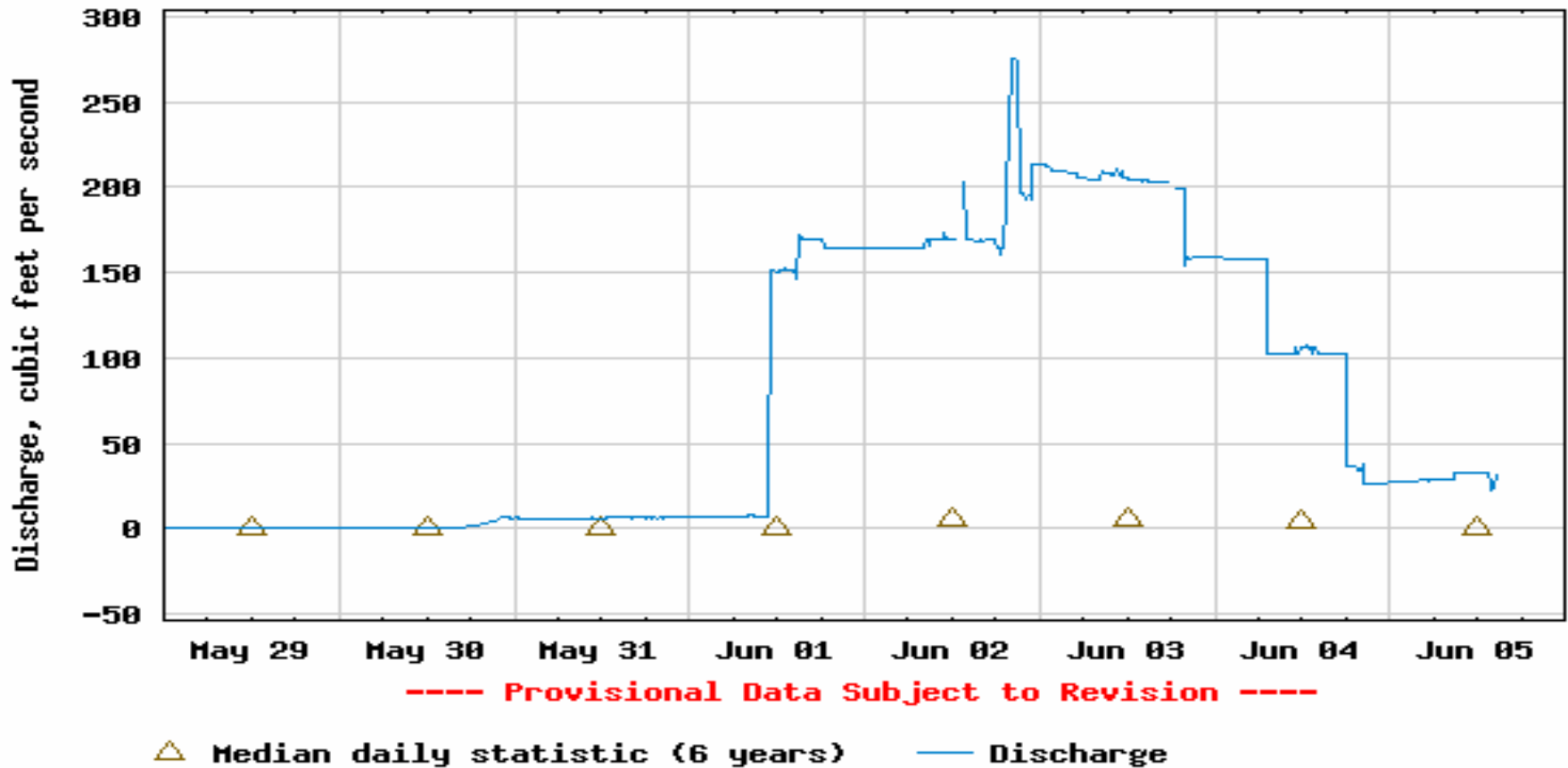
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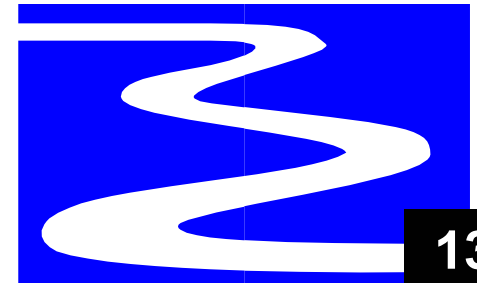
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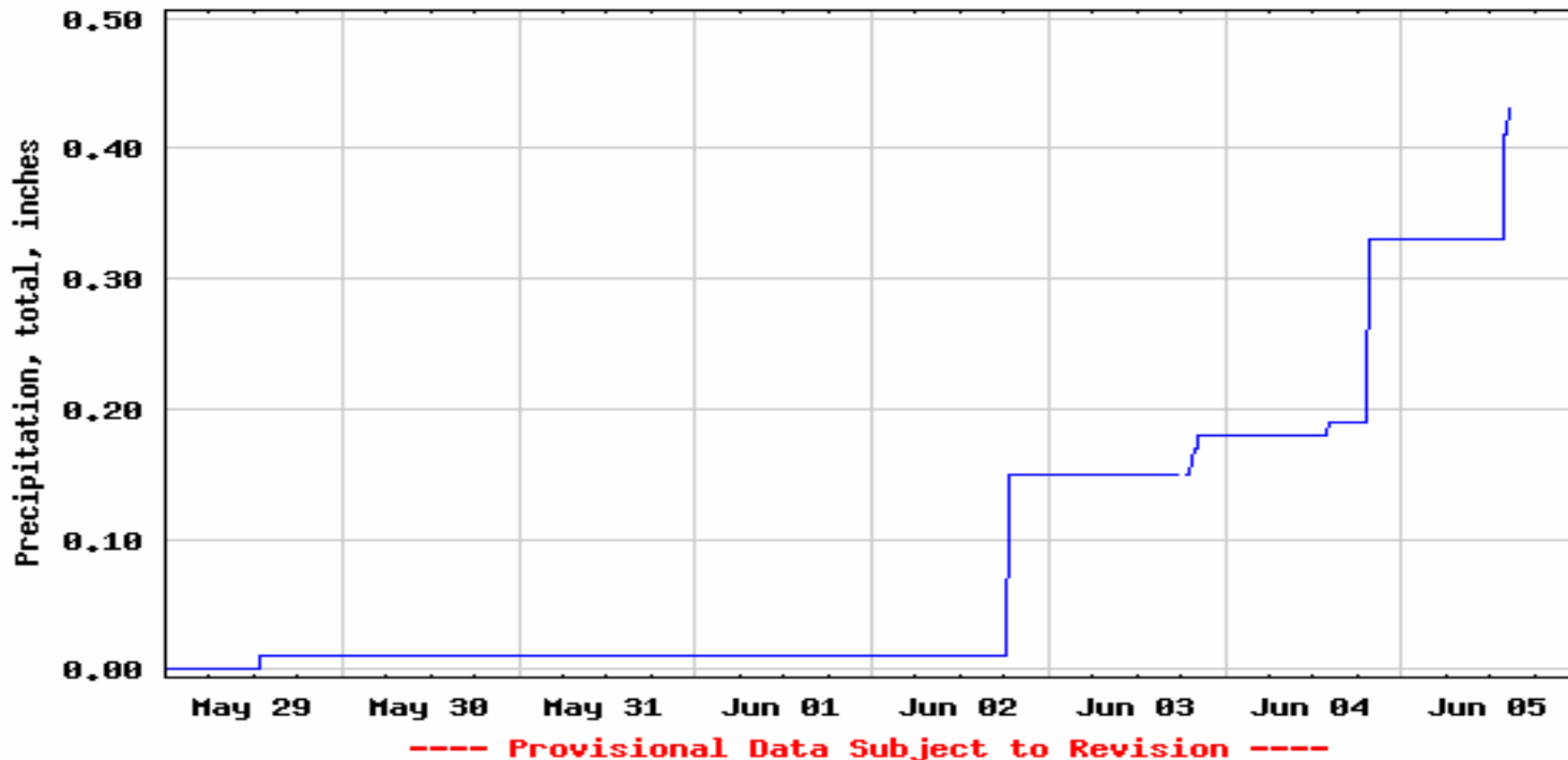
USGS 02304500 HILLSBOROUGH RIVER NEAR TAMPA FL



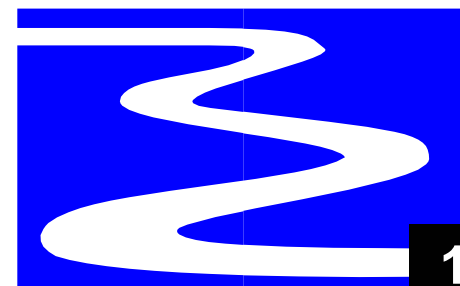
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USGS 02304500 HILLSBOROUGH RIVER NEAR TAMPA FL



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AGENDA ITEM XI.

Other Business



Tampa system for reclaimed water to grow

By [Janet Zink](#), Times Staff Writer

Published Thursday, May 28, 2009

TAMPA — A \$340 million plan to put the city's treated wastewater to good use took a tiny step forward on Thursday.

The City Council voted to start expanding the system that now makes reclaimed water available to about 8,700 users in South Tampa to another potential 9,000 customers in an area loosely bordered by Bayshore Boulevard, Ballast Point and North Hyde Park. The expansion, which could be completed in five years, also would take the water to big users such as the Tampa Sports Authority and International Plaza.

Other parts of the plan will be considered later, including:

- Requiring people who have access to reclaimed water to use it instead of potable water for lawn watering as of Dec. 1.
- Allowing Tampa Bay Water to take up to 20 million gallons of reclaimed water a day to Pasco County to recharge the aquifer.
- Requiring people with access to reclaimed water lines to pay a fee even if they don't use the water.

"I don't want to be the big daddy of big government and say you shall," Charlie Miranda said of the possibility that those who have access to reclaimed water would have to rely on it for irrigation.

Council member John Dingfelder said the Dec. 1 deadline is too soon to put the requirement in place. "We will freak people out too much," he said.

Council members also said they want to find a way to minimize the cost of connecting to the system, which can reach about \$800, and possibly exempt people with established lawns who worry the treated water will harm such plants as azaleas and laurel oaks.

"It would be tough to require them to use reclaimed water that's going to kill their plants," Council member Mary Mulhern said.

Dingfelder raised questions about Tampa Bay Water's recharge plan. Studies have shown that even highly treated wastewater contains pharmaceutical residue, he said, and some people balk at having it drain back into drinking water supplies. "We need to be very cautious about this," he said.

Tampa Bay Water would help pay to build the system, which would offset the cost of taking reclaimed water to North Tampa by 2024. That may be appealing financially, Dingfelder said.

"It might not be appealing on a community level," he said.

The city currently dumps 55 million gallons of highly treated wastewater into Tampa Bay each day. The water contains pollutants that can harm marine life.

For more than 10 years, city leaders have struggled to find a way to use the water for irrigation and industry. Last year, Mayor Pam Iorio pledged to develop an aggressive, long-range reclaimed water plan. Thursday's recommendations are the product of a \$140,000 study by consultants.

Janet Zink can be reached at jzink@sptimes.com or (813) 226-3401.