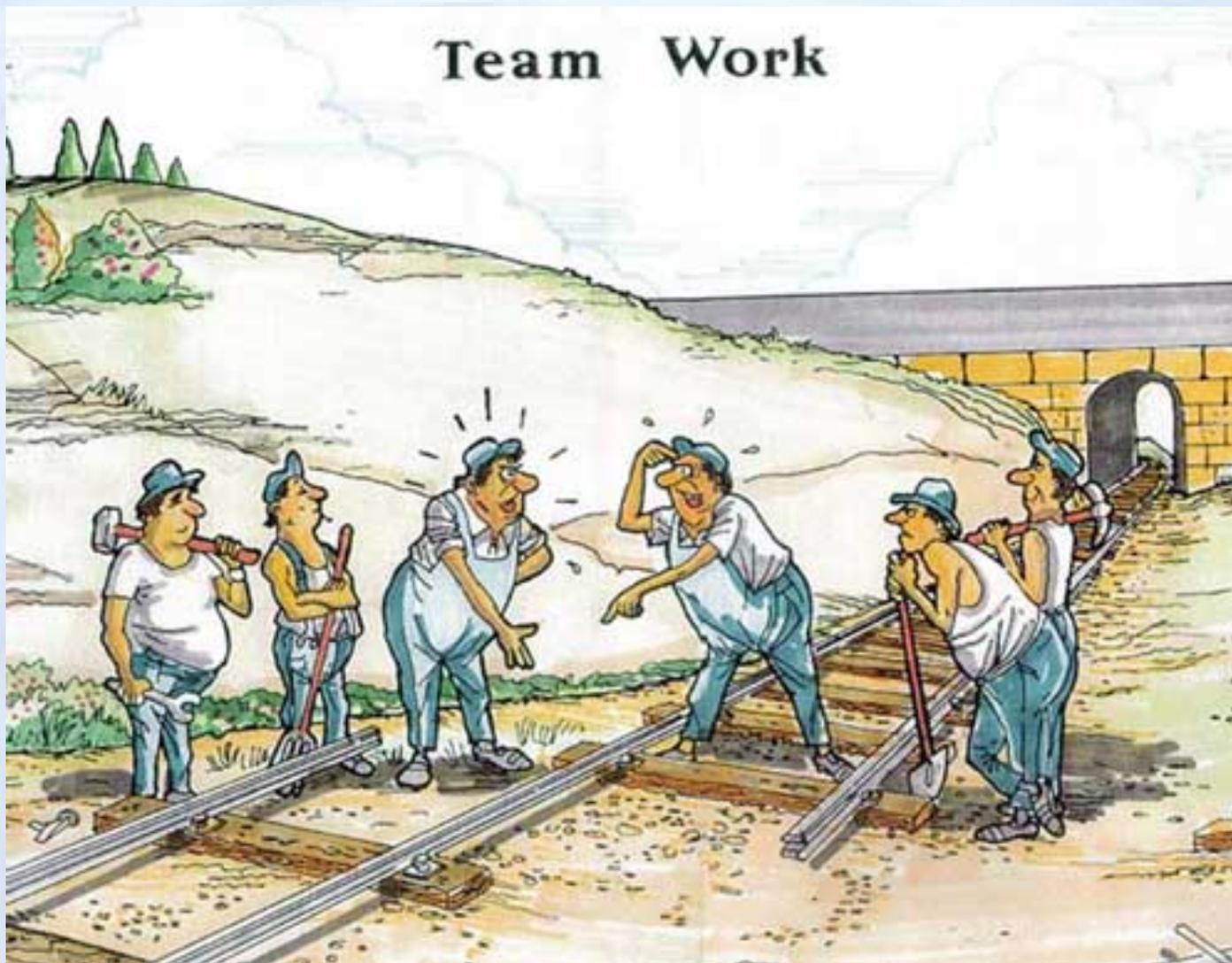


How Interagency Collaborations Can Increase Program's Effectiveness



Karin D. North
City of Palo Alto

Why do we need interagency communication?



Need for Interagency Collaborations

- Common goal
- One voice representing many agencies is stronger than just one
- Driven by regulations
- One clear message to the public
- Sound science
- Why reinvent the wheel
- Utilize shared resources

Examples of Interagency Collaboration

- Wastewater and stormwater agencies are all connected to the San Francisco Bay
- Within Bay Area many different interagency collaborations
- Wastewater and stormwater agencies are looking for more ways to work with HHW groups

Continuum of Interagency Organizations

**Special
Purpose
Districts**

**Joint Power
Agreement**

**Memorandum
of
Understanding**

**Informal
Groups**

**Most
Structured**

**Least
structured**



Continuum of Interagency Organizations

Special Purpose Districts

Joint Power Agreement

Memorandum of Understanding

Informal Groups

State Legislation

Receives funds by providing a service

Local agencies lose authority

Mutual agreement
Financially bound

Executive Board/
Director

Manages funds

Created agency has power

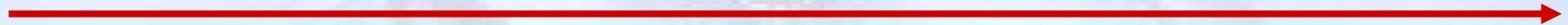
Mutual agreement

Does not always require money

May handle funds

Informal Agreement

Common goal



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**East Bay
Municipal
Utility District
(EBMUD)**

Special Purpose District: East Bay Municipal District

- Formed through Municipal Utility District Act passed by the California Legislature in 1921
- The Act permits formation of multipurpose government agencies to provide public services on a regional basis.
- Voters in the area created EBMUD in 1923 to provide water service.
- Publicly owned utility representing areas within the East Bay – water purveyor and wastewater treatment plant
- Serves over 1.2 million customers



East Bay Municipal Utility District

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**South
Bayside
Sewer
Authority**

**Bay Area
Clean
Water
Agencies**

Joint Power Agreement: South Bayside Sewage Authority

- Multiple local agencies signed a JPA to treat wastewater
- JPA created a separate entity/ regional plant to treat their wastewater
- SBSA has the power to make decisions for the local agencies regarding wastewater issues
- Requires a financial contribution

Joint Power Agreement

Bay Area Clean Water Agencies

- 5 largest wastewater treatment plants in Bay Area – formed a public agency
- Wastewater agencies continue to run and operate individual plants
- Requires a financial contribution
- Executive board has representatives from the 5 agencies
- Work collaboratively on common goals



Joint Power Agreement

BACWA's Purpose

- Represents agencies by negotiating NPDES permit requirements
- Collect data on the aquatic life and quality of waters of the San Francisco Bay system
- Interpret and manage data collected to assess the effects of pollution and other factors on the Bay
- Develop and disseminate information about the Bay

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**Bay Area
Stormwater
Management
Agency
Association
(BASMAA)**

**Santa Clara
Valley Urban
Runoff
Pollution
Prevention
Program
(SCVURPP)**

**Santa Clara
Basin
Watershed
Management
Initiative
(SCBWMI)**

Memorandum of Understanding

BASMAA

- Bay Area Stormwater Management Agency Association
- Consortium of 8 bay area municipal stormwater programs
- Started by local government in response to National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting program



Bay Area
Stormwater Management
Agencies Association



Memorandum of Understanding

BASMAA (cont)

- All members signed the MOU
- Sets policies regarding roles and responsibilities
- Every year members pay dues for “baseline” program
- Program has an executive director
- Board and committees meet monthly



Bay Area

Stormwater Management

Agencies Association



Memorandum of Understanding

SCVURPPP

- Regional Board issued one stormwater permit per County
- MOU covers billing, attendance, voting etc.
- No new official agency formed because Water District is the treasurer
- Voting is in accordance to amount of money contribute



Santa Clara Valley
Urban Runoff
Pollution Prevention Program



Memorandum of Understanding

SCBWMI

- WMI MOU approved by City Council
- No financial contribution
- Consortium of public and non-profit agencies
- Agree to certain tasks
- Does not transfer authority
- Creates an annual work plan



SANTA CLARA BASIN

Watershed Management Initiative



Continuum of Interagency Organizations

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**Bay Area
Pollution
Prevention
Group
(BAPPG)**

**Media
Relations
Committee**

Informal Groups

Bay Area Pollution Prevention Group

- Originally formed to share information
- Spurred by the Regional Board requiring pollution prevention in permits
- Agencies work together to pool resources to create bay-area wide solutions to problem
- Now have a small budget and are under Bay Area Clean Water Agencies

Informal Groups

Media Relations Committee

- Group where wastewater and stormwater agencies work together to create media pitches
- Informal committee established by Bay Area Clean Water Agencies and Bay Area Stormwater Management Agency Association
- Create media pitches that are related to water quality

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Ability to handle funds

May handle funds

Local agencies lose authority

Created agency has power

Need To Expand Interagency Groups

- **Pharmaceutical Issue**
 - Common issue for both wastewater and HHW programs
 - Noticed the need to work together to find a solution
 - One example of emerging issues that will affect multiple agencies

In the Future

- Hope to create a group where we have representatives from HHW groups as well as from Wastewater/Stormwater Groups work together
- Contact your local wastewater agency to see if there are ways to collaborate!

Any questions?



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