




Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District

Water Resource Planning

Overview of Planning *Process*



The key question the HBMWD Board wants your help answering is...

How does our community want us to protect and use our water resource and address these important issues?



Water Resource Planning

An introduction

A process whereby the District's wholesale customers, stakeholders, and interested members in the community are invited to *engage in an innovative public process* to:

- ***learn about this issue***
- ***provide input as to what is important to the community***
- consider and evaluate options
- formulate recommendations to HBMWD's Board



What are we trying to accomplish?

- The community understands the issues and opportunities facing HBMWD
- HBMWD Board understands the community's priorities regarding Mad River and its use
- The District is able to make the case for "due diligence" to the State and is in a stronger position to maintain control of its water rights
- The Board is positioned to make decisions that broadly benefit the community by summer of 2010
- The community has a better relationship with and more trust in the District

We're also trying to improve *how* we interact with the public

Much consensus that current public processes are not working well

Hope to achieve...

- Sound recommendations that are better understood and supported
- Increased sense of community and ability to conduct more effective dialogue about tough issues

Hope to avoid...

- Bad or unsupported decisions
- Polarized community
- Delays and/or stalemate
- Wasted time and dollars

How are we going to accomplish this?

In the other introductory presentation, you were just introduced to the District and the fundamental issue we face.

The loss of our industrial customers has implications for...

- ✓ The District's water **rights** and whether we are able to maintain control of them for the benefit of our community
- ✓ Water **rates** that have gone up significantly and will continue go up in the coming years if we cannot sell water that is now available



How are we going to accomplish this?

- The HBMWD Board will make the final decision as to what “to do” to address this important issue

But

- The HBMWD Board created an Advisory Committee – comprised of customers and diverse stakeholders – to assist with this important endeavor



Advisory Committee Composition

Stakeholders with various perspectives including:

- Environmental
- Economic Development
- Business/ Chamber of Commerce
- Organized Labor
- HBMWD
- Fisheries
- Blue Lake Rancheria
- Real Estate
- Municipal Customers



Advisory Committee's role

- Learn about this issue, gather information, develop and evaluate options, and make a recommendation to the HBMWD Board (with staff support, including from an experienced water law attorney)

and

- Involve the public - help educate them, and *genuinely* listen to, and collect their input and feedback

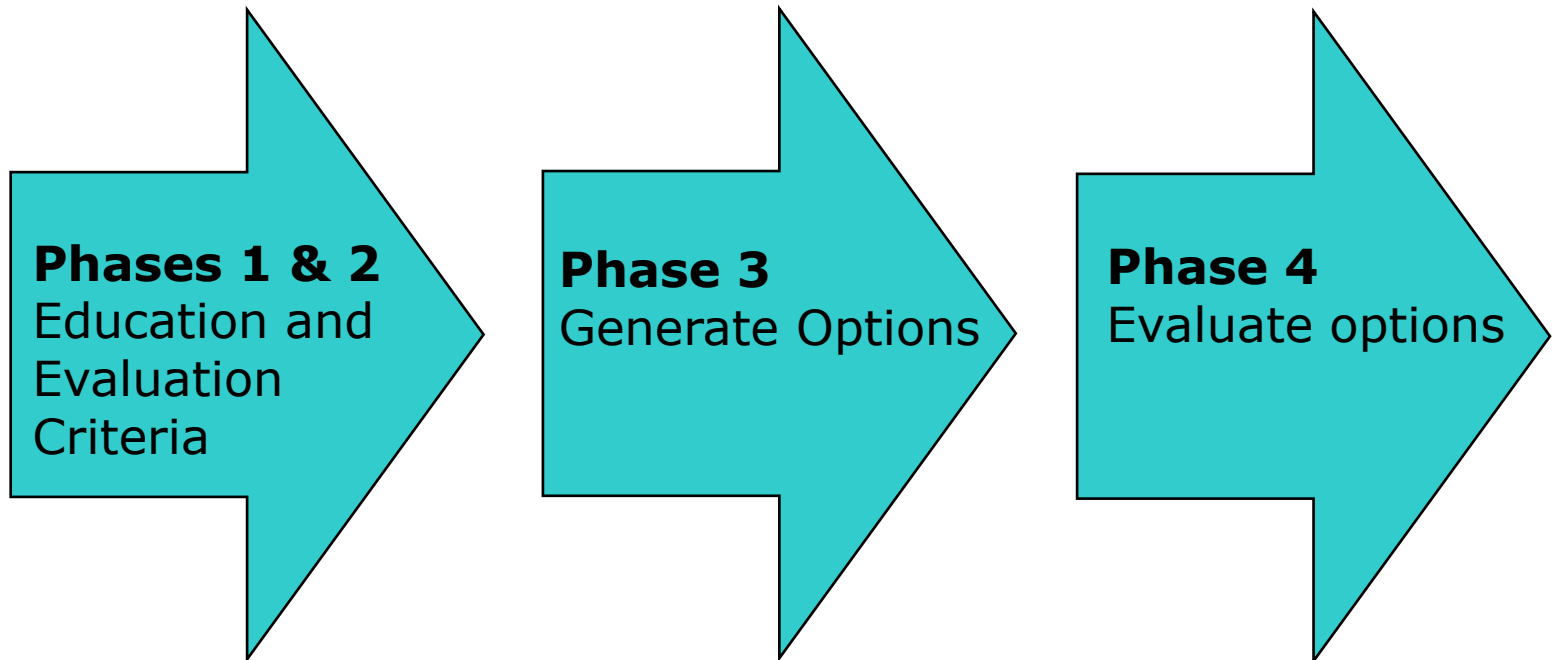


Two ways public will be involved

- **Citizens' Study Group**
 - Additional stakeholders
 - Randomly-selected citizens (from District voter rolls)
 - Advisory Committee sits on this too
 - This group has agreed to participate and provide input at three distinct times
- **Public At-Large**
 - Public will be invited to learn about the issue and to provide input or feedback at three distinct times too

Phases and timeline

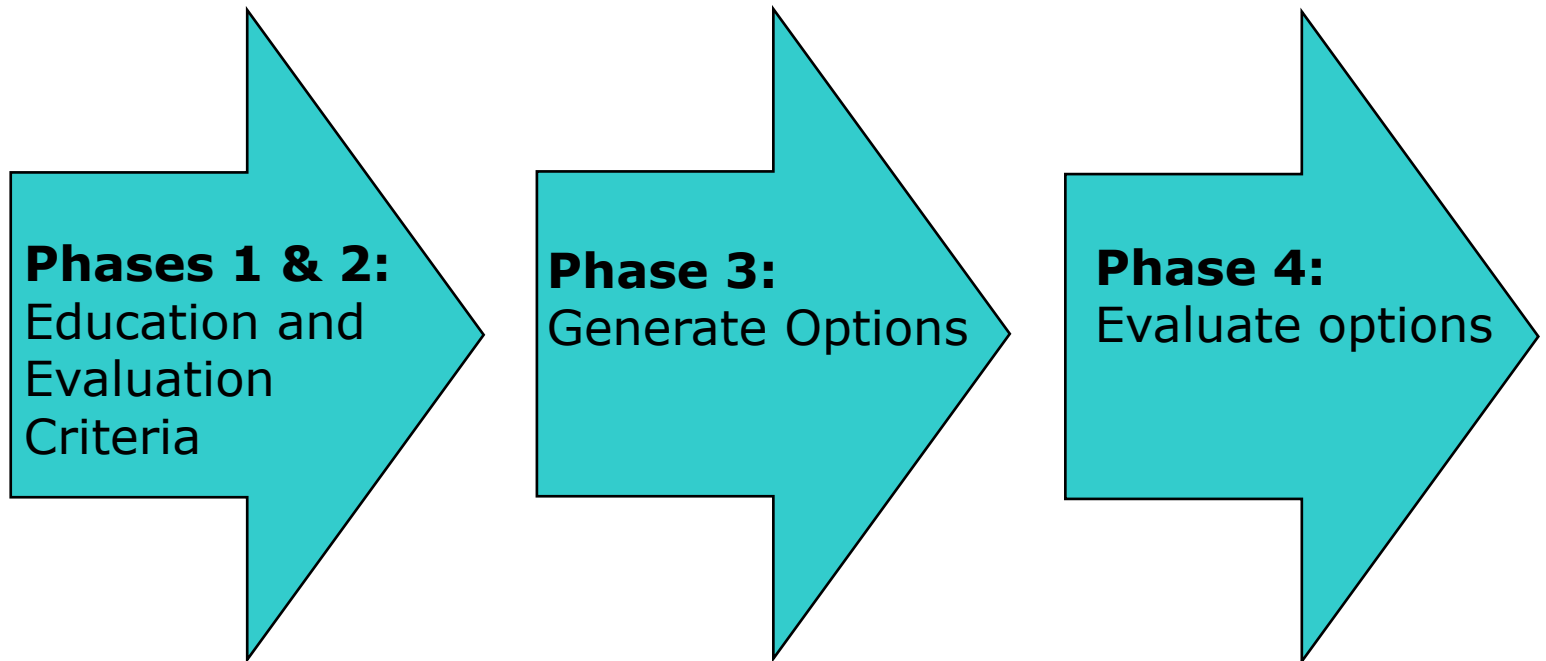
Sept.—Dec. '09	Jan.—Feb., '10	March—April, '10
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Purpose of each phase

Phases 1 & 2 Education & Evaluation Criteria	Phase 3 Generate Options	Phase 4 Evaluate Options
<p>Educate the public about HBMWD's situation and what it means</p> <p><i>What's important to the community?</i></p> <p>Develop criteria against which options will be evaluated</p>	<p>What options does HBMWD have to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Maintain control of it water rights•Maintain or possible lower water rates	<p>Evaluate options and develop recommendations to HBMWD Board</p>

How we will accomplish each phase



Advisory Committee charged with developing recommendations at each phase to HBMWD based on:

1. Legal advice from experienced water law attorney
2. Research into water use options
3. Significant public involvement and input