

TOWN OF FAIRFAX STAFF REPORT

TO: Mayor, Members of the Town Council **DATE:** February 1, 2012

FROM: Michael Rock, Town Manager
Judy Anderson, Town Clerk



SUBJECT: Interview and appointment of candidate(s) to serve a full four-year term on the Fairfax Planning Commission to February 29, 2016

Recommendation

Motion to appoint Barbara Coler for a full four-year term on the Fairfax Planning Commission to February 29, 2016.

Discussion

Barbara Coler was appointed October 5, 2011. Since it was such a short term, she is not planning to attend this interview but requests appointment for the full four-year term. I haven't received any other applications for this position.

Fiscal Impact

None

Attachments:

Barbara Coler application

AGENDA ITEM # L



TOWN OF FAIRFAX

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE

TO: Mayor and Fairfax Town Council

Date: 10/23/2010

Please consider this as an application for appointment to:

- Affordable Housing Committee
- Design Review Board
- General Plan Advisory Committee
- Measure F Oversight Committee
- Measure K Oversight Committee
- Open Space Committee
- Planning Commission
- Parks and Recreation Commission
- Volunteer Board
- Other

(Your completed application will become a public record upon submittal to the Town)

Name: Barbara G. Coler

Address: 14 Ace Court, Fairfax, CA 94930

Telephone: (Office) 415-749-4970 Home: 415-453-2516

Email Address: bcoler@sbcglobal.net

Number of Years in Fairfax: ~15 years

Education Bachelor's & Master's degrees -
see resume attached

Please list the names of professional societies, clubs, and other organizations to which you belong.

N/A

Fairfax Open Space Committee member

Briefly describe your employment background. See resume attached,

I currently work for the Bay Area
Air Quality Management District as
a manager in Enforcement, Significant CEQA and
redevelopment experience

What is your vision for the Town of Fairfax? the Town of

Fairfax will be economically stable,
self-sufficient and an environmentally
sustainable community.

Please describe possible areas of conflict of interest. None at

this time.

Briefly explain your interest in serving on this Board, Commission, or Committee. _____

Having lived in Fairfax for 15 years,
I feel I would like to contribute
to environmentally sound planning
decisions for the Town.

Signature Baron G. Cole

See attached resume

Please return this completed, signed form to:

Town Clerk, Town of Fairfax, 142 Bolinas Road, Fairfax, CA 94930

BARBARA COLER

14 Ace Court - Fairfax, California - 94930 - Home (415) 453-2516 - Work (415) 749-4970
Email bcoler@sbcglobal.net

PROFILE

Twenty-four years experience at all levels in the creation, development and implementation of California's Superfund, Brownfields and federal/state hazardous waste and air quality enforcement programs. As Division Chief, directed multidisciplinary staff in the development/implementation of diverse and complex regulatory programs. Extensive experience in developing a strategic vision of program priorities, effectively communicating objectives, and ensuring that the vision is fully implemented by the management team and staff. More than 27 years experience in regulatory policy, legislation development, hazardous waste site assessment/remediation, environmental monitoring, air quality enforcement, public outreach and facilitation of meaningful public involvement. Extensive contacts among key external stakeholders such as elected officials, legislative staff, regulatory agencies, industry representatives, lending institutions, community groups, environmental attorneys and environmental consultants. Substantial experience in coordinating and negotiating with diverse stakeholder interest groups to resolve contentious and complex technical and policy issues.

EXPERIENCE

BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (BAAQMD)

Air Quality Program Manager Compliance & Enforcement Division

February 2009 – current

Manager responsible for enforcement of air quality regulations to meet federal and state air attainment standards for the nine Bay Area counties within the jurisdiction of the Air District. Leads strategic initiatives for air quality program development combining compliance assistance and enforcement approaches. Developed and implemented the first comprehensive mobile source enforcement program for an air district in California. Responsible for leading, directing, planning, prioritizing and organizing the activities of multidisciplinary staff working in the Division.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL (DTSC)

Senior Policy Advisor Office of Data Evaluation and Environmental Indicators

April 2007 – January 2009

Senior Policy Advisor in DTSC's Office of Data Evaluation and Environmental Indicators (ODEEI). The role of the Office is to identify data gaps and future research needs for environmental indicators and other emerging issues. As the mission and structure of DTSC evolved from "cradle-to-grave" to "cradle-to-cradle," to use of balanced scorecard/performance measurement, to a focus on green chemistry, among other initiatives, the Office led efforts to transparently communicate scientific information and develop data management tools for both internal and external stakeholders. Ms. Coler managed primary environmental information management contracts, with major objectives to increase transparency and accessibility of DTSC's actions. Ms. Coler led initiatives on climate change and resource strategy matters, in addition to developing grant proposals to fund key initiatives of the Office and the DTSC Director.

Career Executive Assignment II
Division Chief
Permitting and Corrective Action Division
May 1, 2003 – April 2007

Statewide position responsible for the technical, administrative and fiscal management of approximately 130 division staff housed in DTSC's four regional office locations. U.S. EPA has authorized DTSC to implement the Resource, Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) program in California which is a large component of the division's mission. Responsible for leading, directing, planning, prioritizing and organizing the activities of a multidisciplinary staff working within this complex regulatory program. Oversaw managers and staff responsible for permitting facilities to treat, store, dispose and transfer hazardous waste in accordance with federal, state and local laws. Permitting responsibilities included assuring these facilities met requirements for environmental safety, financial assurance, and environmental monitoring. As Division Chief, also responsible for corrective action and closure, including the long-term maintenance for more than 300 closed hazardous waste facilities (and generating revenue of more than \$3 million in cost reimbursement per year to support staff work). Significantly increased productivity (~ 300% increase) and timeliness (reduced from average of about 4.5 years to 2+ years) while ensuring environmentally protective permitting of hazardous waste facilities.

In October 2004, Ms. Coler was awarded a U.S. EPA Leadership Award for Corrective Action Environmental Indicators (EIs). As a result of her leadership, her Division received awards from U.S. EPA for achieving its targets for EIs, permits and corrective action milestones in 2004, 2005 and 2006. Ms. Coler represented Region 9 States on U.S. EPA's RCRA 2020 Corrective Action Initiative national workgroup. As a key member of the group, Ms. Coler was a leader in developing national policy to implement this component of the RCRA 2020 vision. Ms. Coler also represented California and Region 9 States on the Association of State and Territorial Management Officials' (ASTSWMO) Corrective Action and Permitting Task Force.

At request of the then DTSC Director, Ms. Coler acted as the lead negotiator with a responsible party (PRPs) group (of over 25 members) to takeover and assume financial responsibility for operations at a hazardous waste landfill in Southern California. Under Ms. Coler's direction, DTSC was able to affect a voluntary agreement with the parties for monthly payments for operations of the landfill systems resulting in multimillion dollar savings/recovery for DTSC. With her further management, a Consent Decree was signed in early 2006, and the PRPs assumed lead on the landfill operations.

Career Executive Assignment II
Division Chief
Statewide Cleanup Operations Division
July 1994 – April 2003

Statewide position responsible for the technical, administrative and fiscal management of approximately 120-150 division staff housed throughout California. Responsible for leading, organizing, planning, directing and prioritizing the activities of multidisciplinary staff and multi-layered management team to develop and implement innovative, diverse and complex regulatory programs and initiatives. Oversaw all activities pertaining to site identification and prioritization; revenue generation through cost recovery; assessment and remediation of most DTSC and Federal Superfund sites (except military facilities); assuring meaningful public involvement throughout the process; and allocation and expenditure of orphan site funding. Responsible for staff and monetary resource budgeting for the division including several major federal grants.

- Established DTSC's overall Brownfields program which provides several tools to encourage and facilitate contaminated site reuse. Broad and substantial experience working with representatives from community groups, environmental organizations and private industry in developing and maintaining the program. Effectively communicated program objectives in non-technical terms to diverse stakeholder interest groups; critical to continued success of the program.

- Led and directed staff in formalizing the Voluntary Cleanup Program which fosters environmentally sound redevelopment and/or revitalization of Brownfields and other contaminated properties.
- Led Total Quality Management (TQM) Team to develop DTSC's Prospective Purchaser policies, aimed at fostering Brownfields reuse while protecting human health and the environment.
- Completed DTSC's "site" database validation project, deleting approximately 24,000 invalid listings which resulted in removing the perceived "Brownfields stigma" from these properties.
- Key DTSC representative regarding State Superfund Statute Reauthorization.
- Developed legislation and infrastructure for DTSC's environmental schools program; the first of its kind in the nation. Involved diverse stakeholder groups to resolve contentious and complex technical and policy issues while developing the program.
- Represented California and the National Governor's Association (NGA) on key legislative debates regarding Federal Superfund Reform; testified on behalf of the Governor and NGA before the U.S. Senate Environment & Public Works Committee.
- Chair of the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials (ASTSWMO) Brownfields Task Force for eleven years. Leader on national policy regarding voluntary cleanup, Brownfields redevelopment and Superfund cleanup. Also represented California on ASTSWMO's CERCLA Committee which develops national policy in conjunction with U.S. EPA. Chaired and developed five ASTSWMO Voluntary Cleanup/Brownfields Symposia for all States and U.S. EPA.
- Listed by CA Department of Justice as Expert Witness on the federal National Contingency Plan.

Montrose Site settlements – In partnership with U.S. EPA, with the California Department of Justice, Ms. Coler acted as the lead negotiator for the State of California with the Montrose PRPs ("the DDT dischargers"). Three significant settlements were achieved under her leadership for the Montrose site in Southern California. The first 2002 Consent Decree settled the Natural Resources Damages lawsuit and CERCLA claims against the Montrose entities - the companies paid \$73 million to cleanup DDT contamination and restore the ocean environment off the coast of Palos Verdes. The latter two Consent Decrees settled the liability of the PRPs for the surface water pathway from the Montrose site and the residential neighborhood, resulting in payments of nearly \$2.5 million and a savings of more than \$10 million for the residential cleanup.

Previous Positions

In addition to other DTSC management positions, Ms. Coler has served as a project manager responsible for cleanup of regional groundwater sites in Southern California. She was an environmental consultant at the Savannah River Nuclear Production facility in South Carolina. She was a research associate conducting environmental monitoring for the State of Kansas Biological Survey.

EDUCATION

Master of Arts, Entomology (4.0 G.P.A.)
 Emphasis: Environmental Monitoring/Assessment of Water Quality Impacts from Sewage Effluent
 University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas

Bachelor of Science, Systematics and Ecology (Honors, 3.5 G.P.A.)
 University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas

PUBLICATIONS

American Bar Association, "Institutional Controls and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control – Uses of Institutional Controls and Challenges" (Book Chapter, "Implementing Institutional Controls at Brownfields and Other Contaminated Sites," pages 133 – 148, July 2003).

Golden Gate University Law Review, "Brownfields and the California Department of Toxic Substances

Control: Key Programs and Challenges" (Volume 31, Number 4, Spring 2001).

Hydrobiologia, "Emergence of Chironomidae (Diptera) from a Delta-Swamp Receiving Thermal Effluent" (Volume 174, No. 1, 1989, pages 67-77). *Assessed impacts of nuclear production activities on key biological receptors.*

Listed above are peer-reviewed publications; primary author of and collaborator on numerous articles on brownfields and hazardous waste site cleanup, DTSC policies, guidances and regulations.

Invited speaker at numerous Superfund, Hazardous Waste and Brownfields redevelopment and land reuse conferences and workshops throughout California and the nation; inception and management of first joint DTSC/U.S. EPA Brownfields Reuse conference, March 1996; credited for bringing diverse stakeholder interests together to discuss and develop land reuse planning strategies at sites throughout California.

REFERENCES

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*Former Region 9 Administrator,
U.S. EPA over CA, NV, AZ & Pacific Islands
Served 2001 - January 2009.*

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Environmental Protection Agency from its
creation in 1991 - served through 1997.
Confirmed by the U. S. Senate as the
Assistant Administrator for Enforcement for
the United States Environmental Protection
Agency - served from 1989 through 1991.*

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*Former Chair, National Research Council
committees: Water Science and Technology
Board (1988-1991); Alternatives for
Groundwater Cleanup (1992-1994);
Radioactive Waste Management 1996-
2000). Elected into the National Academy of
Engineering in 1998.*

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*Board member of California League of
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President Clinton to the Presidio Trust.*

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