

Agenda Item

DATE: September 23, 2022
TO: Facilities Committee Members
FROM: Bettina Mayer, PE District Engineer
SUBJECT: MS4 Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP) Annual Report

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the Committee provide opportunity for public comment on the Storm Water Management Plan and direct staff to file the Annual report.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

DISCUSSION:

In 2013, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) issued a new National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for storm water discharges from small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s), Order 2013-0001-DWQ which replaces the general permit under which the Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP) was developed in 2009. One of the primary purposes of this new order is to ensure statewide consistency for regulated MS4s and to streamline the requirements and implementation of storm water programs. Under the Order, each small MS4 is required to prepare a storm water management document, referred to as the Guidance document, which provides an outline of how requirements of the Order will be met. In accordance with section F.3. Maximize Efficiency, non-traditional small MS4s may use existing programs to meet required storm water provisions in order to leverage existing staff and resources. Since the District's 2009 Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) already meets many of the requirements of General Permit, the District will continue use programs and BMPs developed in the SWMP. The new Guidance document submitted to the SWRCB in February 2014, and approved July 8, 2015, references and updates existing SWMP elements to meet many of the requirements of the new General Permit. The annual report for the SWMP 2020-2021 year is attached for review and comment.

The District has consistently been proactive in promoting information and practices that benefit the community and environment overall. The SWMP provides a framework to track and report on

the effectiveness of the storm water pollution prevention activities. On an annual basis, the District is required to document and evaluate each element of the SWMP program. The purpose of this annual report is to evaluate the effectiveness of the SWMP.

The Public Education and Outreach, and Public Involvement and Participation elements of the program are, for the most part, BMP's that are part of a countywide effort to prevent storm water pollution. In past years the District participated regularly with the County and other local agencies through the *Central Coast Partners for Water Quality* (Partners). Due to Covid as well as staffing levels, the District's participation over the last couple of years has been minimum. The Community wide Garage Sale, a Templeton only event, was held in spring 2022. The District provided information and mobilized volunteers, collecting trash and promoting reusing and recycling at this event. In lieu of the annual Creek to Coast Clean Up, hosted by ECOSLO, Templeton also held its own Community Clean-Up in the Fall 2021, successfully mobilizing clean-up teams throughout the community.

The District continues to comply with the required Trash Implementation Plan. The objective of the Plan is for the District to demonstrate the ability to achieve Full Capture System Equivalency within 10 years of the Phase II MS4 permit reissuance through biannual On-Land Visual Trash Assessment Protocol C – Area based surveys and following the Trash Assessment Minimum Level of Effort (TAMLE) recommended by the State Water Resources Control Board. Essentially this requires photographing specific District facilities year after year and measuring the amount of trash found there. Baseline trash generation levels were low to begin with and progress surveys conducted annually have shown very minimal to zero trash in survey areas.

As with many areas of local and State government, the most challenging issue with respect to implementation of the SWMP will continue to be the budget, with its related issue regarding staffing, inventory, and available resources. State and County mandated COVID-19 restrictions create additional challenges especially in regards to essential work, reduced staffing, public events, and outreach. In the 2021-2022 reporting year, the District will continue to provide the most cost effective public education and outreach programs. Ongoing efforts include the posting of articles originally prepared for Templeton Magazine, which has been discontinued, on the website and in the District office lobby.

The Stormwater Management Plan 2021-2022 Annual Report may be found on the District's website at: <https://www.templetoncsd.org/DocumentCenter/View/1420/Draft-2021-22-Stormwater-Annual-Report?bidId=> .