

**REPORT TO THE
CITY COUNCIL**
City of Salinas, California

Agenda Item Number

DATE: August 16, 2011

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Department Director Approval

Finance Director Review

City Attorney Review

City Manager Approval

SUBJECT: AMENDMENT OF CITY OF SALINAS STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN-ELEMENT 4 REQUIRED FOR INCLUSION IN CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD (CCRWQCB) JOINT EFFORT PROGRAM

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt a Resolution amending the City's Stormwater Management Plan-Element 4 as required by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (CCRWQCB).

DISCUSSION:

The City of Salinas, by way of letter dated December 9, 2009, requested partial participation in the CCRWQCB's Joint Effort for Developing Hydromodification Control Criteria. The Joint Effort is a program by which the NPDES Phase II Storm Water Permit agencies combine resources under direction of the CCRWQCB to develop their Storm Water Permit requirements for Hydromodification Control Criteria. The City currently has hydromodification control criteria in place which were approved by the CCRWQCB in 2008 and which are applicable to all new development and significant redevelopment projects within the City; however, through this joint effort those criteria would be potentially be modified. This has the potential to benefit new development and significant redevelopment projects to the extent that through this effort more practical and less onerous hydromodification control criteria may be developed.

One of the requirements of to participate in this joint effort is that the City amend Element 4 of its Storm Water Management Plan (pertaining to Development Standards) to include Best Management Practices (BMPs) related to this effort. The Stormwater Management Plan is a requirement of the City's NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) Permit and describes the City's approach to improving water quality and to controlling the discharge of pollutants from the municipal storm drain system. The Stormwater Management Plan essentially operates as a work plan for the City that will be implemented over the five-year term of the City's NPDES Permit. Staff must note that the City's NPDES Permit expired in February 2010, yet that Permit remains in effect until the CCRWQCB prepares a new Permit for the City's consideration. Through our discussions with CCRWQCB staff,

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City staff expects to receive a new Permit in the early fall of this year and anticipate presenting a new Permit to the Council for consideration by the end of this year. As requested by them, staff will include the local business and development community in this process.

The Stormwater Management Plan contains ten (10) “elements,” or chapters, which set forth the Best Management Practices (BMPs) that the City will implement in an effort to meet federal and state water quality requirements and to meet the requirements imposed upon the City in its NPDES Permit. The BMPs which are proposed to be added to Element 4 in order to meet the requirements to participate in this joint regional effort are shown in green on the attachment. The BMPs which will be added require the City to review the current codes, standards, regulations and/or specifications for effective implementation of the City’s Storm Water Development Standards; review City specific hydromodification control criteria; review Applicability Thresholds for applying Hydromodification Control to new and redevelopment projects; and review strategies for implementing Low Impact Development (LID) control for new and redevelopment projects.

ISSUE:

Shall the City Council adopt a resolution approving revisions to Element 4-Best Management Practices of the City’s Storm Water Management Plan, to be in conformance with joint effort requirements?

FISCAL IMPACT:

Cost of Staff time to implement the proposed additional BMPs is estimated at \$20,000 which will be paid for from the City’s General Fund. Adequate funds are available in the NPDES account (C.I.P. No. 9436) to fund this effort.

TIME CONSIDERATIONS:

Staff will complete BMP activities in accordance with the schedule included on the attachment.

ALTERNATIVES/IMPLICATIONS:

The Council may choose to not approve the proposed resolution amending the City’s Stormwater Management Plan and direct staff how to proceed. Not approving such amendments now, however, would only delay the process as the City would be required to include the BMPs at a later date and at an accelerated schedule as part of the proposed future CCRWQCB required Salinas Storm Water Permit revisions.

CITY COUNCIL GOALS:

The proposed revisions to the City’s Stormwater Management Plan do not specifically address the City Council goals, but do address the public health, safety and welfare of the City’s residents. The action also promotes environmental sustainability.

CONCLUSIONS:

Adoption of the proposed resolution to amend the City’s Stormwater Management Plan will keep the City in compliance with state and federal clean water laws. This action will also position the City to

participate in a regional effort related to the development of hydromodification control criteria which will be applicable to all new development and redevelopment projects.

Distribution:
City Council
City Manager
City Attorney
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Back Up Pages:
Amended SWMP Element 4-Table 4.3 "Summary of Best Management Practices *Development Standards Element*" pages 4-40 to 4-47