



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Submitted on:
(COB Stamp)

Department Name: Public Works
Department No.: 054
Agenda Date: April 7, 2026
Placement: Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director(s): Chris Sneddon, P.E., Public Works Director
Contact: Kevin Thompson, P.E., Engineering Manager
SUBJECT: County Service Area 12 (Mission Canyon Sewer District) Sewer Collection System Management Plan - First Supervisorial District

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence:

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors, acting as the governing authority of County Service Area 12:

- a. Approve the County Service Area 12 (Mission Canyon Sewer District) Sewer System Management Plan, dated 2026, and certify that the plan and program are in compliance with State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 2022-0103-DWQ Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems; and
- b. Determine that the above-recommended action is exempt from environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15301(b) Existing Facilities, finding that the action consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use; direct the Clerk of the Board to file the CEQA Notice of Exemption (NOE) for the action

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to approve the County Service Area 12 (Mission Canyon Sewer District) Sewer System Management Plan and certify that the plan and implementation program are in

compliance with State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 2022-0103-DWQ Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems. The Sewer System Management Plan is a requirement of the General Order and is intended to prevent sanitary sewer overflows and protect the environment. The County Service Area 12 sewer system provides wastewater collection for the Mission Canyon area and is comprised of approximately 13 miles of sewer lines for which the SSMP establishes measures to properly operate, maintain, repair and replace in order to keep the system in good working order.

The project is exempt from CEQA under Section 15301(b), Existing Facilities because its sole purpose is a required update to the Sewer System Management Plan in order to be in compliance with State guidelines and it involves negligible or no expansion of use to County Service Area 12.

Discussion:

The County Service Area 12 is proposing to approve and certify a Sewer System Management Plan. The plan is in compliance with the State Water Resources Control Board and is intended to prevent sanitary sewer overflows.

Background:

County Service Area 12 (Mission Canyon Sewer District) was created in 1984 to construct, operate and maintain a sewer system to convey wastewater from failing septic systems in the Mission Canyon area to the City of Santa Barbara collection system and wastewater treatment plant.

The State Water Resources Control Board adopted Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems (Order 2022-0103DWQ) on December 6, 2022 to address sewer system overflows statewide. This Order replaces the original Order (Order 2006-0003) adopted May 2, 2006. Enrollment in the new Order is required by anyone operating a sewer system greater than one mile in length. It also requires that an enrollee's governing board adopt a system specific Sewer System Management Plan that addresses operational and maintenance activities to prevent overflows. The new Order has updated requirements for a Sewer System Management Plan, and therefore, the proposed plan for this Board action replaces the County Service Area 12 existing plan. The specific content of the plan addresses goals; agency organization; legal authority; a system specific operation and management program; design and performance provisions; a spill emergency response plan; a sewer pipe blockage control program; a system evaluation and capacity assurance and capital improvements plan; monitoring, measurement, and program specifications; internal audits; and communication. The General Order also requires that the plan be evaluated and recertified when there are major changes or approximately every 6 years by the agency's governing body. This action complies with the State Water Resources Control Board requirements and is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA guidelines Section 15301(b).

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

There are no fiscal impacts associated with this action.

Special Instructions:

It is requested that the Clerk of the Board:

- A. Post a copy of the attached CEQA Notice of Exemption (Attachment B) and email a minute order approving these actions along with a copy of the stamped Notice of Exemption to Public Works, Kevin Thompson, kethomp@countyofsb.org.

Attachments:

Attachment A – County Service Area 12 Sewer System Management Plan

Attachment B – CEQA Notice of Exemption

Contact Information:

Kevin Thompson
Engineering Manager
kethomp@countyofsb.org