



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

Department Name: Public Works
Department No.: 054
For Agenda Of: 7/3/2018
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Directors, Laguna County Sanitation District

FROM: Department Scott D. McGolpin, P.E. Director, 568-3010
Director(s)

Contact Info: Mark A. Schleich, P.E. Deputy Director, 882-3605

SUBJECT: Laguna County Sanitation District Wastewater Reclamation Plant Facilities
Master Plan, Third and Fourth Supervisorial Districts

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Directors:

- a) Make the required California Environmental Quality Act findings for the Laguna County Sanitation District Wastewater Reclamation Plant Facilities Master Plan specified in the board letter.
- b) Approve the project and adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND #17NGD-00000-00015) and adopt the mitigation measures along with their corresponding monitoring requirements.
- c) Authorize the Public Works Director to advertise the project for construction bids.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda in order to consider approval of the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) related to projects defined in the master plan presented to the Board October 11, 2011. A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared pursuant to state and county guidelines for the implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). These actions approve the project, complete environmental review, complete the acquisition of permits and authorize advertising for construction bids.

Background:

The Laguna County Sanitation District provides wastewater services to the Orcutt and southern Santa Maria area. Most of the reclamation plant and associated pipeline infrastructure was constructed in 1959 with upgrades in 1974, 1986, and 2001. Because capital assets are managed based on function, useful life and planned replacement over time due to age, wear, changes in regulatory standards, and compatibility with future needs, the District commissioned a master plan study and presented it to the Board October 11, 2011. The master plan recommended improvements, upgrades, and replacement of facilities to meet the objective of planning for current and future service needs. Costs associated with the recommended improvements were also evaluated.

Specific tasks of the master plan included an evaluation of the condition of existing facilities; present and future capacity needs; influent loads and effluent standards; a projection of future flow rates; methods of discharge; the usefulness of existing facilities for future needs; replacement of equipment and processes; and the addition of new equipment and processes. The result of the master plan was a recommendation to implement a Phase 1 upgrade, equal the existing plant treatment capacity of 3.7 million gallon per day (MGD), comprised of a main upgrade and several related projects, and to plan for a future capacity expansion (Phase 2) of up to 5.0 MGD to accommodate planned growth. In addition, the plan addressed other projects related to recycled water pipeline extensions and reuse, soil stockpile removal and expansion of storage reservoir facilities, miscellaneous pipeline improvements and trunk sewer replacement. A MND was prepared for the Phase 1 upgrade and the additional projects. However, because the scope and timing of the Phase 2 expansion project is beyond that of the currently proposed work, its environmental impacts were considered speculative and therefore not reviewed in detail. Engineering on the Phase 1 and related work began in 2015. This effort provided a detailed project development report that defined the scope of the Phase 1 plant upgrade as well as several design memorandums along with substantial plans and specifications. The plans and specifications are to be finalized for bidding purposes upon completion of environmental review and permitting.

Much of the work identified in the master plan, and the additional projects listed, and other District projects are within designated critical habitat areas known to contain breeding, dispersal and upland habitat of the federally endangered/state threatened California tiger salamander and the federally threatened California red-legged frog. For this reason a low effect habitat conservation plan (HCP) was developed in support of the issuance of a federal incidental take permit (ITP) under Section 10(a) (1) (B) of the federal Endangered Species Act as well as a consistency determination (currently in review) under the California Endangered Species Act pursuant to Section 2081(b) of the California Fish and Game Code. The HCP was included in the CEQA analysis and a separate categorical exclusion was prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). In addition to impact avoidance and minimization measures included in the HCP, an existing 133.7 acre District-owned parcel used for spray irrigation of recycled water and grazing will be additionally included in a conservation easement/deed restriction and permanently protected from further development. The parcel contains California tiger salamander breeding and upland habitat and a management plan has been prepared and approved that will allow for continued spray irrigation of recycled water and livestock grazing as well as habitat protection. Execution and recordation of the conservation easement is required prior to construction activities to effectuate the HCP and ITP and will be the subject of a separate Board action. Upon completion of this step, staff will pursue financing and construction bidding. The project is included in the County CIP.

Performance Measure:

Construction of the Phase 1 plant upgrade and relating improvements will replace outmoded, functionally obsolete and worn equipment with new and modern facilities in order to better serve existing and future customers.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

This project is included in the Public Works Department section of the current Five-Year CIP. Costs to complete environmental studies are included in Laguna County Sanitation District capital replacement reserves.

Special Instructions:

Direct the Clerk of the Board to forward one (1) copy of the certified minute order to:

1. Martin Wilder -PW- Laguna County Sanitation District, 620 West Foster Road, Santa Maria, and
2. Sheila de la Guerra and Joddi Leipner -PW- Resource Recovery and Waste Management, Santa Barbara

Attachments:

Attachment A: CEQA Findings

Attachment B: Final Mitigated Negative Declaration for the *Wastewater Reclamation Plant Facilities Master Plan*

Authored by:

Martin Wilder, P.E., Utilities Manager, 739-8750

Copy:

Julie Hagen, PW Deputy Director of Finance and Administration