

ATTACHMENT K

ASSESSMENT OF PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS

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Assessment of Program Effectiveness

1. Assessment of your agency's compliance with permit requirements, based on your responses to the questions in this form

The County believes it is in compliance with the requirements of Order 01-182 and Order R4-2012-0175.

2. Descriptions of any evaluation methods that your agency uses to determine the effectiveness of your storm water management program

The County participates in CASQA's Program Effectiveness Assessment Subcommittee which is scheduled to release an updated Program Effectiveness Assessment Manual in early 2015. The County will consider the feasibility of using practices from CASQA's new Program Effectiveness Assessment Manual to assess the effectiveness of the storm water management program.

In the meantime, the County has used the following evaluation methods to assess the effectiveness of the Public Information and Participation component and the Illicit Connection and Illicit Discharge Elimination component of its storm water management program.

Public Information and Participation

Effectiveness of the Public Information and Participation component of the County's storm water management program was evaluated using quantitative and qualitative methods such as tracking hotline call levels, hits on the www.888CleanLA.com website, collection levels of household hazardous waste and electronic waste, amount of used motor oil collected, trash measurement data, and anecdotal information gathered from program participants.

Illicit Connection and Illicit Discharge Elimination Program

Effectiveness of the Illicit Connection and Illicit Discharge Elimination component of the County's storm water management program was evaluated by comparing this reporting year's illicit connections and illicit discharges reported, investigated, and resolved (see Form U-4 Parts IV.F.10 and IV.F.13).

The County's MS4 consists of mostly its streets, curbs, and gutters, and very few storm drains. It is very rare for County staff to encounter an illicit connection. During this reporting year, no illicit connections were reported, similar to 6 out of the previous 12 reporting years.

An increase in reported illicit discharges can be a result of a robust reporting program or actual increase in the number of incidents. A decrease can be due to either an actual change in behavior or a less effective reporting program. With extensive outreach, advertising, and branding of the 888-CLEANLA hotline and website, the County believes any decrease in illicit discharges is more likely the result of change in behavior that may cause stormwater pollution through the efforts of management and staff in implementing the stormwater program (reporting, investigation, and resolution; public education and outreach; etc.), rather than a decrease in reporting.

3. Summary of the strengths and weaknesses of your agency's storm water management program

Meeting Permit requirements is the primary strength of the County's stormwater management program. A committed staff willing to learn and "do the right thing" is a key component to success. The County is actively engaged in developing WMP and EWMP programs under the 2012 MS4 Permit and is committed to continuing to work

collaboratively with the Regional Board and other permittees to meet the region's water quality goals.

4. A list of specific program highlights and accomplishments

Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement Project

Design plans have been completed for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement Project in the Marina del Rey watershed. The Project is designed to improve circulation within the basin, enhance flood protection, improve the quality of plant and wildlife habitat within the facility, and provide aesthetic and recreational enhancements. Project construction is expected to begin in December 2014.

Parking Lot 5 and 7 BMP Retrofit

The purpose of the Parking Lot 5 and 7 BMP Retrofit Project is to treat stormwater runoff from the County parking lots 5 and 7 using water quality enhancement BMPs such as bioswales and bioretention. This project was proposed in the Marina del Rey bacteria and multi-pollutant TMDL implementation plans. The construction started in May 2014 and was substantially completed by September 2014.

Avocado Heights Multiuse Trail Project

Construction for the project was completed on September 26, 2014. Multiuse trails were constructed to provide a safer route to equestrian, bicycle, and pedestrian users away from existing traffic hazards in the unincorporated area of Avocado Heights. The majority of the existing roadway width was reduced from 40 to 36 feet, thereby reducing the amount of impermeable surfaces as well as runoff. Approximately 2,300 feet of the multiuse trail was constructed with decomposed granite and an infiltration swale was constructed immediately adjacent to San Jose Creek. Combined together, up to 70 acre-feet of groundwater will be recharged annually. The water will be returned to the ground along with potential sources of bacteria due to horse manure runoff from the streets, thus improving the water quality of San Jose Creek. The project cost was approximately \$4 million. In accordance with the 2012 MS4 Permit, this project was selected by the Upper San Gabriel River Enhanced Watershed Management Program Group to demonstrate its responsibility to improving water quality in the watershed during its 30-month EWMP plan development.

Green Street and Brandon Street Road Improvement Project

This project will reconstruct approximately 0.55 miles of roadway on two streets in the Unincorporated area of East Pasadena. The design includes several green street elements including permeable pavers, bio-retention planters, sediment filtration catch basins, and an underground infiltration basin. Approximately 1,800 feet of bio-retention planter boxes (bioswales) will be constructed throughout the project limits. In addition, an underground infiltration basin system will be installed at the cul-de-sac of Green Street with 5,800 cubic feet of infiltration capacity. Trees and drought-tolerant plants will also be added throughout the project. Much of the runoff from the streets and private properties that had previously drained to Rio Hondo untreated will now infiltrate through the permeable sidewalks and gutters, bio-swales, and infiltration basin. This will help augment the groundwater and prevent pollutants from entering the Los Angeles River. The project began construction in April 2014 and is expected to be complete in early 2015. The project cost is approximately \$2.9 Million. In accordance with the 2012 MS4 Permit, this project was selected by the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Group to demonstrate its responsibility to improving water quality in the watershed during its 30-month EWMP plan development.

Other Green Streets

In addition to Green and Brandon, the County constructed three other green street projects during the reporting year.

5. Description of water quality improvements or degradation in your watershed over the past fiscal year

Refer to Attachment J - Summary of TMDL-related Activities.

6. Interagency coordination between cities to improve the storm water management program

During this reporting year, interagency coordination between the County, LACFCD, and the cities was facilitated through the EAC meetings and WMP and EWMP Meetings. This coordination has been effective in broadening communication between Permittees. Additionally, interagency coordination of the 1-888-CLEAN-LA environmental hotline afforded turnkey coordination of responses to illicit discharge complaints.

7. Future plans to improve your agency's storm water management program

Please see Attachment D.

8. Suggestions to improve the effectiveness of your program or the County model programs

A key to improve program effectiveness is good communication and working relationship with Regional Board staff. The County is committed to continuing to meet regularly with Regional Board staff to discuss opportunities and challenges in implementing the MS4 Permit.