

City of Culver City, California
City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: 10/22/2007		Item Number: <u>PH-1</u>	
AGENDA ITEM: Conduct of a Public Hearing and Adoption of Resolution 2007-R_ Establishing a Schedule for Implementing a Sewer System Management Plan			
Contact Person/Dept.: Damian Skinner		Phone Number: (310) 253-6402	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☒	
Public Hearing: ☒		Action Item: ☐ Attachments: ☒	
Public Notification: Master Public Notification List (10/17/07), Advertised in Culver City News on 10/11/2007			
Department Approval: Charles D. Herbertson 10/11/07		City Attorney Approval: Carol A. Schwab (10/16/07)	
Fiscal Impact Review: Marlee Chang (by M. Noller) (10/16/07)		City Manager Approval: Jerry B. Fulwood (10/17/07)	

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Council adopt a resolution establishing a schedule for implementing a Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) pursuant to State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ.

BACKGROUND:

The General Waste Discharge Requirement (GWDR) adopted on May 2, 2006 by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), requires that all owners and operators of sanitary sewer collection systems over one mile in length develop and implement a Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) pursuant to State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ. As an owner and operator of a collection system, the City must put in place a comprehensive plan for inspection, condition assessment, cleaning, rehabilitation, capacity assessment, and capital upgrades to mitigate Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs). The completed SSMP must be approved by the City Council by August 2, 2009. The schedule for implementation of the SSMP and an organizational chart depicting responsible parties must be completed and approved no later than November 2, 2007.

DISCUSSION:

SSOs are overflows from sanitary sewer systems that may be of domestic, industrial and/or commercial wastewater. SSOs may contain high levels of suspended solids, toxic pollutants, pathogenic organisms, oils and grease and other pollutants. SSOs may also cause a public nuisance or health hazard, particularly when raw untreated wastewater is discharged to areas with high public

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exposure or into storm drain systems where they can find their way into recreational water bodies.

Throughout the State, agencies report sewer overflows that result in the discharge of untreated wastewater. The majority of these overflows are caused by several factors, including peak flows that exceed system capacity, blockages caused by excess grease, root blockage, vandalism, sewer system age, construction material failures and mechanical problems.

The City has approximately 86 miles of sewer pipe in its sewer system. The current program includes: visual inspection of sewer lines, video inspecting sewer lines, and mechanical and hydro sewer line cleaning. Repairs are performed on an as needed basis. The goal of implementing an SSMP is to put structured and auditable procedures in place that work towards preventing SSOs.

Under the new regulation, the State requires that the City adopt a schedule to complete the SSMP (including any necessary governing board approvals and registered professional certifications) and identify who is responsible for each portion of the plan by November 2, 2007.

The approval of the SSMP is exempt from environmental analysis pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act and a Notice of Exemption will be filed with the County.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

The City's annual budget for operating and maintaining the sewer system is currently \$5,533,618. In addition to this amount, the City pays the City of Los Angeles over \$3 million per year to convey and treat Culver City sewage at the Hyperion Sewage Treatment Plant. The adoption of the organizational structure and proposed schedule for completing the SSMP is a negligible expense; however, additional expenses may be realized as deficiencies in the sewer infrastructure are revealed. The SSMP itself will require significant staff time to produce (most likely hundreds of hours). Currently staff anticipates this effort will be accomplished by in-house personnel from the Environmental Programs and Operations Division.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1) Resolution R_ Adopting SSMP Development Schedule
- 2) Organizational Chart
- 3) Description of Responsibilities
- 4) SSMP Development Schedule

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MOTION:

That the City Council:

- 1) Adopt Resolution R establishing a schedule for implementing a Sewer System Management Plan pursuant to State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ.