

Agenda Report

December 16, 2013

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

THROUGH: Municipal Services Committee (December 10, 2013)

FROM: Department of Public Works

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN CITY OF PASADENA AND 16 PUBLIC AGENCIES REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF ENHANCED WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAM AND COORDINATED INTEGRATED MONITORING PROGRAM FOR UPPER LOS ANGELES RIVER WATERSHED

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) proposed herein to be exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with Title 14 Chapter 3, Class 8, Section 15308, actions taken by regulatory agencies to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of the environment; and
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding between City of Pasadena and 16 public agencies regarding the development of the Enhanced Watershed Management Program (EWMP) and Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program (CIMP) for Upper Los Angeles River.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On December 10, 2013, the Municipal Services Committee recommended that the City Council enter into subject MOU for development of EWMP and CIMP.

BACKGROUND:

On December 28, 2012, the new Waste Discharge Requirements for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Discharges within the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles County (MS4 Permit) became effective, which is part of the overall National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. The City of Pasadena is included as a co-

permittee in the new MS4 Permit, along with the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, the County of Los Angeles, and 84 other incorporated cities. The subject permit regulates municipal discharges of storm water and non-storm water from the City's storm drain system.

As provided under the new MS4 Permit, the City of Pasadena has joined 16 co-permittees as members of the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed EWMP group. The other agencies include the Cities of Los Angeles, Alhambra, Burbank, Calabasas, Glendale, Hidden Hills, La Canada Flintridge, Monterey Park, Rosemead, San Gabriel, San Marino, South Pasadena, the County of Los Angeles, and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District. The City of Los Angeles is the lead agency for the group.

The Upper Los Angeles River Watershed EWMP group will be working together in the administration and development of the EWMP and CIMP plans to meet the new MS4 Permit requirements in a cost-effective manner. The CIMP and EWMP work plans will be submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board in June 2014. The EWMP approach will allow the group to develop customized strategies, water control measures, and Best Management Practices to infiltrate or capture/reuse runoff to address the unique water quality challenges of the watershed. The CIMP will allow the group to address the monitoring and reporting requirements of the new MS4 Permit with a comprehensive approach for the watershed, instead of on a separate basis for each pollutant type.

All co-permittees participating in EWMP were required under the new MS4 Permit to notify the Regional Water Quality Control Board by June 28, 2013. A Notice of Intent was prepared and submitted on behalf of the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed EWMP group, which included letters of intent from Pasadena and the other agencies and a draft Memorandum of Understanding.

The new MS4 permit also requires that the EWMP group submit a final MOU that is signed by all participating agencies by December 28, 2013. The subject Memorandum of Understanding has been reviewed by the Department of Public Works and the City Attorney's Office and is ready for City Council approval.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

The proposed action is consistent with General Plan Land Use policy to encourage and promote the stewardship of Pasadena's natural environment, including water conservation and the protection of water quality and natural open space.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The proposed action to approve the Memorandum of Understanding regarding the development of the EWMP and CIMP for Upper Los Angeles River has been determined to be exempt from CEQA per Section 15308, actions taken by regulatory agencies to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of the environment.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The City's share of the EWMP and CIMP cost per the Memorandum of Understanding is \$75,634, which includes the ten percent contingency. The total cost of this action is \$86,979. The total cost for all agencies of the MOU including contingency is \$1.7 million, and the City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County will be paying approximately 75 percent of this cost (see Attachment A). Funding for this action will be addressed by the utilization of existing budgeted Sewer Maintenance and Construction funds in the NPDES – Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program (Budget Account No. 76290).

The following table represents a contract summary.

Base MOU	\$68,758
Contingency	\$6,876
Administration	\$11,345
Total Fiscal Impact	\$86,979

Respectfully submitted,



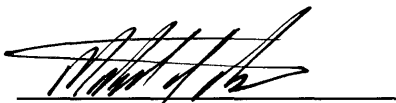
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