

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: Parks and Recreation

BOARD AGENDA # 9:10 A.M.

Urgent

Routine

AGENDA DATE October 4, 2011

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES NO

4/5 Vote Required YES NO

(Information Attached)

SUBJECT:

Public Hearing to Consider and Adopt Sewer System Management Plans for Modesto Reservoir and Woodward Reservoir Regional Parks

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Conduct a public hearing to consider and adopt Sewer System Management Plans for Modesto Reservoir and Woodward Reservoir Regional Parks.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Department of Parks and Recreation contracted with Provost & Pritchard, an engineering firm, to assist with this project for a total of \$13,150. Provost & Pritchard conducted an evaluation of the waste water systems at Modesto Reservoir and Woodward Reservoir Regional Parks and drafted the Sewer System Management Plan documents. The Department will absorb this cost in the Fiscal Year 2011 - 2012 Adopted Proposed Budget. This project could lead to additional work or repairs. If necessary, the Department will develop funding strategies for additional expenses through existing or outside sources.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2011-606

On motion of Supervisor O'Brien, Seconded by Supervisor DeMartini

and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Chiesa, Withrow, DeMartini, and Chairman Monteith

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) Approved as recommended

2) Denied

3) Approved as amended

4) Other:

MOTION:



ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No.

Public Hearing to Consider and Adopt Sewer System Management Plans for Modesto Reservoir and Woodward Reservoir Regional Parks

DISCUSSION:

On May 2, 2006, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) adopted statewide general waste discharge requirements for sanitary sewer systems under Order No. 2006-0003 (Order). All Federal and State agencies, municipalities, counties, and districts that own or operate sanitary sewer systems greater than one mile in length that collect and/or convey untreated or partially treated wastewater to a publicly owned treatment facility are required to comply with the terms of the Order. Both Modesto Reservoir and Woodward Reservoir Regional Parks have sanitary sewer systems that make Sewer System Management Plans (SSMP) necessary to comply with the Order. The Department, therefore, contracted for the development of the SSMPs and requests the Board of Supervisors consider their adoption.

This Order was adopted to address concerns of sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) which contain high levels of suspended solids, pathogenic organisms, toxic pollutants, nutrients, oxygen-demanding organic compounds, oil and grease, and other pollutants that may cause a public nuisance and/or health hazard. This is of particular concern when raw untreated wastewater is discharged to areas with high public exposure such as surface waters used for drinking, fishing, or body contact recreation such as is available at Modesto Reservoir and Woodward Reservoir Regional Parks.

This Order requires that a SSMP be adopted and implemented to ensure that sanitary sewer systems are properly managed. The Department is required to develop and implement two SSMPs: one for Modesto Reservoir Regional Park and one for Woodward Reservoir Regional Park. Each SSMP must include provisions that demonstrate proper and efficient management, operation, and maintenance of sanitary sewer systems with consideration of risk management and cost benefit analyses. SSMPs must also contain a spill response provision that establishes standard procedures for immediate response to an SSO in a manner designed to minimize water quality impacts and potential nuisance conditions and/or health and safety impacts.

The Order requires 1,100 agencies to comply with these requirements. As of December 2009, only 50% of the mandated agencies had completed the SSMP Certification (Plan and Schedule). While Modesto Reservoir and Woodward Reservoir are out of compliance with this Order, the Department communicated with SWRCB staff and was assured that penalties would not be assessed provided the Department fully implements SSMPs by December 31st 2011. The Department recommends the Board adopt the SSMPs for Modesto Reservoir and Woodward Reservoir Regional Park as the next step in compliance with this Order. Once plans have been adopted, employee training will take place and monthly reporting procedures will begin. This will allow Stanislaus County to achieve full compliance with the SWRCB Order.

On the advice of County Counsel, drafts of the SSMPs were provided to the South San Joaquin Irrigation District and the Modesto Irrigation District for review and as of the writing of this report no comments have been received. Sewer System Management Plans are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act, pursuant to California Code Regulations, Title 14, Section 15301, because they apply to existing sanitary sewer collection systems.

Public Hearing to Consider and Adopt Sewer System Management Plans for Modesto Reservoir and Woodward Reservoir Regional Parks

POLICY ISSUES:

Adopting Sewer System Management Plans is consistent with the Board's priorities of A Safe Community, A Healthy Community, and A Well Planned Infrastructure System by ensuring that the County takes the necessary actions to bring Modesto Reservoir and Woodward Reservoir Regional Parks into compliance with the State of California's discharge requirements for sanitary sewer systems.

STAFFING IMPACTS:

There are no staffing impacts associated with this item.

CONTACT PERSON:

Sonya K. Harrigfeld, Director of Parks and Recreation

Telephone: 209-525-6770

ATTACHMENTS AVAILABLE
FROM YOUR CLERK

PowerPoint Presentation


Public Hearing October 4, 2011

Sewer System Management Plans
Modesto Reservoir and Woodward Reservoir
Regional Parks

State Water Resource Control Board

- ▶ State of California Five member board that
 - Develops statewide water protection plans
 - Establishes water quality standards
 - Guides the 9 Regional Water Quality Control Boards
 - Adopts statewide orders


The Need for Sewer System Management Plans

- ▶ As California's wastewater collection system infrastructure begins to age, the need to proactively manage this valuable asset becomes increasingly important.
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Headlines From the September 2011 Southern California Blackout

- ▶ **Sewage spills still haunt county coastline**
(San Diego Union-Tribune)
- ▶ **Power outage causes sewage spills; San Diego area beaches closed** *(Los Angeles Times)*
- ▶ **Beach and tap water restrictions still in effect after outage** *(San Diego Union-Tribune)*
- ▶ **Pump Station Failures During Blackout Raise Questions About Backup Power** *(KBPS News)*
- ▶ **San Diego boil advisory over, beaches still closed**
(San Francisco Examiner)

The Goal for Sewer System Management Plans

- ▶ To provide a plan and schedule to properly manage, operate, and maintain all parts of the sanitary sewer system.
 - ▶ Reduce and prevent sewer system overflow, as well as mitigate any that do occur.
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State Water Resource Control Board Order No. 2006-0003

- ▶ Adopted to address concerns related to sewer system overflows. These overflows could contain untreated waste such as:
 - Suspended Solids
 - Pathogenic Organisms
 - Toxic Pollutants
 - Nutrients
 - Oxygen Demanding Organic Compounds
 - Oil and Grease
 - Other Pollutants

Waste Discharge Requirements

- ▶ Order No. 2006-0003 applies to sewer systems operated by Federal, State, County municipalities and other Public entities that are longer than 1 mile.


Modesto Reservoir
Regional Park



Woodward Reservoir
Regional Park



Board of Supervisors Approved Implementation Timeline

- ▶ Plan Development & Goals – Dec. 2010
 - ▶ Maintenance & Response Plans – Feb. 2011
 - ▶ Governing Board's Final SSMP with Public Hearing – June, 2011
 - ▶ The Department of Parks and Recreation worked with the State Water Resources Control Board allowing for regional parks implementation in Fall 2011.
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Sewer System Management Plans Certification and Evaluation Process

- ▶ Certification of SSMPs by “technically qualified” persons is part of the SSMP process.
 - Department of Parks and Recreation contracted with the Engineering firm Provost & Pritchard to provide this evaluation and certification of Sewer System Management Plans for Modesto Reservoir and Woodward Reservoir Regional Parks.

Reporting Requirements

- ▶ A state wide electronic system for reporting Sewer System Overflows (SSOs) was developed for SSMP'S.
 - Each month the sewer system operator must access a state owned database and enter data that confirms that a SSOs has not occurred.
 - If a SSO were to occur reporting would happen immediately.

Next Steps

- ▶ If the Sewer System Management Plans are adopted by the Board the Department of Parks and Recreation will:
 - Will continue to proactively manage the systems it operates in a way to prevent Sewer System Overflows.
 - Fully comply with Order 2006–0003 and the monthly reporting requirements.
 - Follow revised maintenance schedules to care for Regional Parks sewer systems.
 - Complete periodic program audits.