

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
SANITATION DISTRICT
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2025**

MINUTE ORDER NO. 1

SUBJECT: ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING UPDATES TO THE SEWER SYSTEM MANAGEMENT PLAN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS (DISTRICTS: 1, 2 & 4)

OVERVIEW

On May 2, 2006, the California State Water Resources Control Board published the statewide waste discharge requirements (WDR) order, which issued updated regulations for sanitary sewer systems. The WDRs are regulations that govern proper collection and the discharge of wastewater. They protect surface water by either prohibiting discharge of pollutants or assigning requirements for discharge. The WDR mandated local public sewer collection system agencies, such as the San Diego County Sanitation District (District), to develop and implement a system-specific Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP). The SSMP describes County's actions to comply with regulations imposed by the WDRs and other governing agencies. Additionally, the SSMP provides a description of the activities and procedures that District staff follow to efficiently manage, operate, and maintain the sanitary sewer system and to minimize the risk of sanitary sewer overflows. Sewer overflows can potentially reach streets, waterways and homes, and averting sewer spills prevents contamination of rivers, drinking water sources such as Sweetwater Reservoir, prevents public health issues by avoiding exposure to toxins, viruses and bacteria that pose serious health risks and avoids damage to environment. If the District does not update the SSMP as required by the WDR, the California State Resources Control Board will issue a notice of violation to the District and take any legal action for the District's compliance with updating SSMP.

The District provides sewer service to a population of approximately 156,000 customers in the unincorporated areas of San Diego County. Wastewater from the communities of Alpine, East Otay Mesa, Lakeside, Spring Valley, and Winter Gardens is conveyed through a network of sewer pipes and pump stations to the City of San Diego's Point Loma Treatment Plant for treatment and disposal. Wastewater from the communities of Julian, Pine Valley, and Campo is conveyed to nearby District-operated wastewater treatment facilities located in each of these communities for treatment and disposal. The County of San Diego (County) Board of Supervisors (Board) serves as the District's Board of Directors (Directors).

On December 6, 2022, the California State Water Resources Control Board issued a WDR to regulate and decrease the number of sanitary sewer overflows that occur throughout the state. This action stipulated the next update to the SSMP from the District to be submitted by May 2, 2025, for the collection systems serving populations greater than 100,000. There is no operational change to the District's work by approving this plan. The updates to the 2025 SSMP, include organizational changes, clarifying language, technological improvements (SmartCovers, new Asset Management system, etc.) and updating the new criteria to match existing work.

Today's proposed action for the Directors is to adopt a resolution approving the District's updated SSMP (Attachment B).

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Find, pursuant to Section 15060 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines that the requested action is administrative in nature, and not subject to CEQA as it is not a project as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15378.
2. Adopt a resolution entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT RELATING TO APPROVING UPDATES TO THE SEWER SYSTEM MANAGEMENT PLAN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER WQ 2022 -0103-DWQ.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The San Diego County Sanitation District (District) strives to preserve environmental resources and enhance quality of life for all regional residents and businesses by providing essential sanitation services and implementing programs and projects. These efforts improve regional community health and environmental quality, while simultaneously complying with mandatory federal, state, and local regulations. The District's services benefit unincorporated communities by reducing the risk of sewage spills and adverse impacts on water quality.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Today's action supports the San Diego County Sanitation District's (County Sanitation District) focus on the safe collection, treatment, and disposal of wastewater and contributes to environmental, social, and health and well-being sustainability benefits provided through County services. By staying in compliance with the State Water Resource Control Board's regulation the District is able to maintain a well-kept sewer system that protects the health and well-being of the communities it serves and helps protect water quality, both of which are key sustainability goals for the County.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact to today's request to approve the updated Sewer System Management Plan. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Director Desmond, seconded by Director Montgomery Steppe, the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Sanitation District took action as recommended, on Consent, and adopted Resolution No. 25-023 entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT RELATING TO APPROVING UPDATES TO THE SEWER SYSTEM MANAGEMENT PLAN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER WQ 2022-0103-DWQ.

AYES: Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

ABSENT: (District 1 Seat Vacant)

State of California)
County of San Diego)

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Sanitation District.

ANDREW POTTER
Clerk of the Board of Directors



Signed
by Andrew Potter

