

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - LAND USE
WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 2024**

MINUTE ORDER NO. 5

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO PROCURE SPECIFICALLY-NAMED PROPRIETARY MOSQUITO LARVICIDE PRODUCTS THROUGH SINGLE SOURCE EXCEPTION UNDER BOARD POLICY A-87 AND RELATED CEQA EXEMPTION (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

The Department of Environmental Health and Quality (DEHQ) Vector Control Program (VCP) is responsible for mosquito control throughout the San Diego region to protect public health from mosquito-borne diseases such as West Nile virus (WNV), Zika virus, and dengue. WNV is the leading cause of mosquito-borne disease in the continental United States. WNV is transmitted to people through mosquito bites and has been detected at concerning rates in the San Diego region since 2003. Mosquito control measures are key to minimizing the impacts of WNV on San Diego County residents and visitors. Specifically, application of larvicides to bodies of water where mosquitoes breed significantly reduces both mosquito populations and the transmission of WNV. The larvicides used primarily consist of organic-registered, naturally occurring bacteria that targets mosquito larvae and prevents them from developing into biting adults and do not harm people, pets, plants, or wildlife when used per label instructions by trained staff within the program.

On July 24, 2019 (8), the Board of Supervisors (Board) authorized single source procurement of mosquito larvicides to conduct aerial and ground-based mosquito control applications. As a result of this Board action, the Department of Purchasing and Contracting (DPC) awarded two single source contracts for five years through June 30, 2024, with the option to extend for six additional months to December 31, 2024. The products that were approved through this Board action and are currently being used by DEHQ to control mosquitos are trademarked VectoMax and VectoBac larvicides, manufactured by Valent BioSciences, and the trademarked Natular larvicides, manufactured by Clarke Mosquito Control. Since the contracts for these products will expire by December 31, 2024, new contracts are required to procure larvicides in order to support existing levels of service to control mosquito breeding and reduce the risk to public health from mosquito-borne diseases. If approved, the single source authorization to purchase specifically-named products would ensure continuity of effective mosquito control in the region. The products that DPC will name in the procurement(s) are larvicides that VCP currently uses as previously approved by the Board.

Today's action requests that the Board authorize DPC to specify three specifically-named larvicide products for procurement under Board Policy A-87, *Competitive Procurement*, section 1.D (including examples one, five, and six) due to there being a single manufacturer or distributor who can provide the required goods, as well as section 3 due to the procurements being in the County's best interest. The larvicides included in this request are used by other vector agencies throughout the country and have been successfully used for mosquito control purposes in the San Diego region for over a decade. Since these products are currently used for DEHQ's large-scale mosquito control, these larvicides would support continuity of DEHQ's regionwide mosquito abatement efforts. The use of alternative products

that do not use these proprietary formulations that have been found to be effective in the local environment could result in increased mosquito activity and public health impacts from mosquito-borne disease transmission.

DEHQ anticipates that the contracts will be in the amount of \$2,000,000 per year for a one-year initial term, plus four one-year options and an additional six months, for a total not to exceed \$11,000,000. DPC's procurement of these specified larvicides will ensure that the County is receiving a fair and reasonable price for the preferred product. The funding source is the Vector Control Benefit Assessment, paid annually by property owners throughout the region.

If the recommended actions are not approved, then VCP would not be able to procure these larvicides that support existing levels of service to control mosquito breeding and reduce the risk to public health from mosquito-borne diseases. This would result in a significant increase of mosquito activity, including at the largest mosquito breeding sites in the County, and could result in a higher abundance of mosquitoes capable of transmitting mosquito-borne diseases in the San Diego region.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Find, in accordance with Section 15061(b)(3) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, that it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment and is, therefore, not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act.
2. In accordance with Board Policy A-87, *Competitive Procurement*, find that VectoMax and VectoBac larvicide products (manufactured by Valent BioSciences) and Natular larvicide products (manufactured by Clarke Mosquito Control) are single source products for the purposes of mosquito abatement in the region and authorize the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting, upon successful negotiations and determination of fair and reasonable price, to award contract(s) for a one-year initial term, plus four one-year options and an additional six months, from January 1, 2025 through June 30, 2030, and to amend any contract(s) to reflect changes in services and funding.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The Department of Environmental Health and Quality (DEHQ) anticipates this action will result in continued protection of public health from the risks of vector-borne diseases throughout the San Diego region. These products will be used for the continued implementation of an integrated vector management approach, which incorporates the most effective strategies to reduce mosquitoes and protect public health with the least negative impact to the environment. This approach also empowers the public to take preventive measures to protect themselves, their family, and their community through educational community engagement and outreach, which includes multi-lingual media campaigns with a focus on underserved communities.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed actions contribute to the County of San Diego's (County) Sustainability Goals: protect health and wellbeing; protect ecosystems habitats, and biodiversity; and provide just and equitable access to County services. The proposed actions contribute to the County Sustainability Goal No. 4 the health and wellbeing of the residents and visitors of the entire region, including underserved

communities, and benefits individuals as well as the community at large. Implementation of an integrated vector management approach to mosquito and vector control services contributes to the County Sustainability Goal No. 6 by protecting public health from diseases transmitted by vectors and protects the ecosystems, habitat, and biodiversity of the region. The proposed actions also contribute to the County Sustainability Goal No. 2 of providing just and equitable access to County services by involving stakeholders in a community needs assessment to expand the reach of services and utilizing available resources to improve access to services and positive outcomes.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for these recommendations are included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 Operational Plan for the Department of Environmental Health and Quality. If approved, this request is anticipated to result in costs and revenue of an estimated amount of \$2,000,000 per year from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2029, for a total not to exceed \$10,000,000 and an additional six months if needed for \$1,000,000 following the final option year from January 1, 2030 through June 30, 2030, for a total not to exceed of \$11,000,000. The funding source is the Vector Control Benefit Assessment, paid annually by property owners throughout the region. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years. Funding for the subsequent years' costs will be included in future years' Operational Plans based on revenue from the Vector Control Benefit Assessment.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Supervisor Desmond, seconded by Supervisor Anderson, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

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

ABSENT: Vargas

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 Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



Signed
by Andrew Potter

