

Lompoc City Council Agenda Item

CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE: November 18, 2008

TO: Gary P. Keefe, City Administrator

FROM: Stacy L. Lawson, Senior Environmental
Coordinator, e-mail: s_lawson@ci.lompoc.ca.us



SUBJECT: LOMPOC'S NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELMINATION SYSTEM PHASE II MUNICIPAL STORM WATER PERMIT

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the City Council review the information provided in anticipation of upcoming activities necessary to carry out the provisions of the City's newly approved Municipal Storm Water Program.

BACKGROUND:

In order to meet the requirements of Phase II of the Clean Water Act, the City of Lompoc submitted its Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) to the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) on March 7, 2003, three days prior to the deadline for submittal. The State of California later adopted a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Storm Water General Permit for Small Municipalities on April 30, 2003, with which the City's SWMP must comply.

Since its initial SWMP submittal, the City has revised its Storm Water Management Program six times, as the requirements imposed by the RWQCB continued to change. On October 17, 2008, the RWQCB took public testimony and acted to approve the City's SWMP, conditioned on a number of items listed in a Table of Required Changes.

DISCUSSION:

In October, 2008, the City kicked-off its first permit year under the new Storm Water Management Program with storm water education for over 850 children at the City's Environment Fair. Many of the required storm water program elements are already being implemented by City staff. Initially, emphasis will be put on documenting the activities the City is already engaging in, and in highlighting the need for storm water pollution prevention. One of the first technical steps will be the preparation of a draft storm water ordinance for public review and the revision of the City's SWMP for re-submittal to the RWQCB, due at the end of February 2009. City staff will keep the Council apprised quarterly of efforts to comply with and implement the provisions of the City's SWMP.

It is anticipated that some of permit conditions imposed by the RWQCB will be difficult and costly to comply with, especially for those involved in development and

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redevelopment projects in Lompoc. The RWQCB has unexpectedly imposed additional requirements on new development and redevelopment within its region (Region 3) that exceed the statewide requirements of the Phase II General Permit. These requirements will be extremely difficult to implement. In an effort to provide early notification of this unanticipated development to interested parties in the Lompoc community, the City sent out a letter detailing the RWQCB's requirements on March 19, 2008. Since learning of the additional requirements, City staff has cooperated with members of the development community and other Phase II Municipal permittees lobbying the Regional Water Quality Control Board to rescind or revise the requirements. Unfortunately, these efforts have been unsuccessful thus far. The City will continue to work with the storm water community to find appropriate answers to the challenge of maintaining storm water quality and to assist the public in complying with the new storm water requirements. The City's SWMP, Regional Water Quality Control Board Approval and related documentation is available for review on the City's website at www.cityoflompoc.com.

Stacy L. Lawson, Senior Environmental Coordinator

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR:

Arleen T. Pelster, AICP, Community Development Director

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY COUNCIL:

Gary P. Keefe, City Administrator