



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** July 16, 2013

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Creeks Division, Parks and Recreation Department

**SUBJECT:** Introduction Of Storm Water Management Ordinance And Adoption Of Storm Water Guidance Manual

**RECOMMENDATION:** That Council:

- A. Introduce and subsequently adopt, by reading of title only, An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Adding Chapter 22.87 to Title 22 of the Santa Barbara Municipal Code Relating to Storm Water Management for Development and Redevelopment Projects; and
- B. Adopt, by reading of title only, A Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Adopting the City of Santa Barbara Storm Water BMP Guidance Manual dated July 2013.

### **DISCUSSION:**

#### Background

The Federal Clean Water Act's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) regulations govern storm water discharges from municipalities that operate storm drain systems. The State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) and its regional agencies are responsible for implementation of NPDES regulations. In response to these requirements, the City of Santa Barbara prepared a Storm Water Management Program (SWMP). The SWMP defines guidelines and requirements for the protection of surface water quality and the reduction of pollutant discharges.

In January 2009, the Water Board approved the City's SWMP. SWMP implementation and compliance has been a city-wide requirement. The Creeks Division provides overall coordination and administration of the City's SWMP.

#### Storm Water BMP Guidance Manual

As called for in the SWMP and in compliance with the NPDES regulations, the City Council authorized City staff to produce a Storm Water BMP Guidance Manual (Manual) in 2007, to provide assistance in meeting development and redevelopment storm water

management requirements. Production of the Manual involved extensive public outreach and numerous training workshops for community members and City staff.

#### Central Coast Regional Water Board Regulation

The Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) has required that the City adopt a storm water ordinance through their "Hydromodification Control and Low Impact Development" regulations. The intent of the Regional Board's regulations is to protect watershed processes (surface runoff, groundwater recharge, sediment transport, etc.), that are potentially impacted by storm water runoff from development and redevelopment projects. One of the Regional Board's regulatory requirements is that all permittees adopt a Storm Water Management Ordinance.

#### Storm Water Management Ordinance

The City has been implementing development and redevelopment storm water requirements since the City Council approved the SWMP in 2006. Therefore, in order to comply with the Regional Board's regulatory requirement to adopt a Storm Water Management Ordinance, City staff is proposing to codify the existing SWMP requirements into the Municipal Code. The proposed ordinance will provide clear authority to require compliance with the regulations. This will ensure consistency and fairness in the application of the requirements, and lead to improved water quality.

#### Environmental Review

The Environmental Analyst has reviewed the draft Storm Water Management Ordinance and found that it is exempt from environmental review pursuant to CEQA Guideline Section 15308 as an action of a regulatory agency for the protection of the environment.

#### Creeks Advisory Committee

The Creeks Restoration/Water Quality Improvement Citizens Advisory Committee (Committee) met on May 15, 2013, to review and discuss this proposed Storm Water Ordinance. The Committee unanimously recommended that Council approve the Storm Water Ordinance consistent with the existing SWMP and in compliance with the new statewide General Permit.

#### Ordinance Committee

The Ordinance Committee met on June 25, 2013, to review and discuss the proposed Storm Water Management Ordinance. The Ordinance Committee unanimously recommended that Council introduce and subsequently adopt the Storm Water Management Ordinance and the BMP Guidance Manual.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:**

The adoption of the Storm Water Management Ordinance and the BMP Guidance Manual will improve the scope and consistency of enforcement of existing City programs. The Ordinance is a formalization of the City's existing Storm Water Management for Development and Redevelopment Projects. The Ordinance is a required action item under the City's adopted SWMP and under the Regional Board's regulations, and will serve to protect and improve surface water quality within the City's watersheds.

**PREPARED BY:** Cameron Benson, Creeks Restoration/Water Quality Manager

**SUBMITTED BY:** Nancy L. Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office