February 25, 2019

Electronic Submission: losangeles@waterboards.ca.gov

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Los Angeles Region
ATTN: Man Voong
320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Subject: Comment Letter – Off-cycle Revisions to the Los Angeles Region 303(d) list

Dear Man Voong:

The City of Port Hueneme (City) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed off-cycle revisions to the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list of impaired waterbodies in the Los Angeles Region [hereinafter referred to as 303(d) list]. The City appreciates the time and effort the staff of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board – Los Angeles Region (Regional Board) has taken to re-evaluate the 303(d) indicator bacteria listings for Ventura County Beaches as part of the Regional Board’s “Vision” prioritization plan. The development and implementation of Total Maximum Daily Loads is a significant investment of resources and it is critical the 303(d) list be based on sound science and methodologies.

The City fully supports the Regional Board staff’s analysis to accurately characterize beach conditions by evaluating recent water quality data in addition to the underlying data used in the original 303(d) listings. The inclusion of weekly bacteria data collected by the Ventura County Environmental Health Division (VCEHD) provides a more complete, up-to-date representation of indicator bacteria conditions at Ventura County Beaches.

Based on the results of the Regional Board staff’s data assessment, the City supports the Regional Board staff’s recommendations to remove the indicator bacteria impairments from the 303(d) list for the following beaches in Ventura County: Ormond Beach, Peninsula Beach, Point Mugu Beach, Port Hueneme Beach Park, Rincon Parkway Beach, San Buenaventura Beach, and Surfer’s Point at Seaside. The City additionally supports the Regional Board staff’s recommendation to not place Promenade Park Beach on the 303(d) list for indicator bacteria.
As evidenced by the data assessment by the Regional Board staff, the previously mentioned Ventura County Beaches do not have indicator bacteria impairments and the City is committed to continuing to support programs that offer protection of the recreational beneficial uses at Ventura County Beaches. We anticipate high water quality at Port Hueneme Beach Park will continue well into the future. Weekly bacteria monitoring will continue to be performed by VCEHD for compliance with AB411 regulations and provide opportunities for early identification of any potential future concerns with water quality.

The City appreciates the opportunity to comment on the off-cycle revisions to the 303(d) list. Thank you for your time and consideration of these comments. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Fred Camarillo, Deputy Public Works Director, at (805) 986-6556 or fcamarillo@cityofporthueneme.org.

Sincerely,

Don Villafana, PE
Public Works Director
City of Port Hueneme

CC: Fred Camarillo, Deputy Public Works Director
Charles Cable, Principal Engineer