

FINANCIAL STRATEGY

ES.6 Financial Strategy states:

*Estimated costs for compliance with the 2012 MS4 Permit through the implementation of the Marina del Rey Watershed EWMP are approximated at **\$392 million** (Table ES-4), including costs associated with Subwatershed 2 (a non-TMDL area). If costs associated with Subwatershed 2 are not included in the calculation, the total costs for BMP implementation based on the RAA are estimated at \$363 million. **All costs are presented in 2015 dollars using the net present worth analysis and an average inflation rate of 3 percent.** The costs associated with compliance may be much different than those projected in the table below and could be significantly lower based on the results of ongoing and future studies that will be incorporated into the adaptive management process.*

The EWMP Agencies will follow a multi-pronged financial strategy to maximize potential funding opportunities in support of EWMP implementation. This approach includes, but is not limited to the pursuit of grants (including Prop 1 funding), the investigation of potential fees and other charges, as well as legislative strategies

COMMENTS

There is no Financial Strategy yet there is a concern with inflation.

As a sample, the City of Los Angeles CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT (FY June 30, 2015) requires disclosure under NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)

*The USEPA and the LARWQCB are required to develop TMDLs for impaired water bodies. Various watersheds in the Los Angeles area have water body segments that are listed as impaired due to a variety of pollutants. Although some TMDLs have already been released, additional TMDLs will be under development and compliance with both existing and new TMDLs will continue into the next decade. At this time, it is difficult to predict the full impact of TMDLs on the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) effluent limits at the City's four water reclamation and wastewater treatment plants. **In addition, the proposed Greater Los Angeles County Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer Systems (MS4) permit, adopted by the LARWQCB in November 2012, contains provisions that require compliance with all the adopted TMDLs. It***

is expected that significant capital improvements funded by Sewer may be required to comply with the TMDLs and their resulting impact on the City's NPDES permits.

This statement discloses Sewer funds as the source for “significant capital improvements.” This permit goes beyond the sewer system into streets and land and the taxpayer has not been notified of the tremendous expected costs.

ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

ES.7 Adaptive Management

*Adaptive management is the process by which data are continually assessed in the context of improving and adapting programs to ensure the most effective strategies are implemented. In accordance with the MS4 Permit, every two years as data become available through Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program (CIMP) monitoring, BMP effectiveness studies, special studies such as the Toxics TMDL required Stressor ID Study, Oxford Basin monitoring, and other scientific studies, it will be integrated and assessed to determine if programs in the EWMP should be altered to enable compliance in the most efficient manner. **Additionally, public participation and LARWQCB recommendations will also be included in the adaptive management process.** The adaptive management framework will allow the EWMP Agencies to develop an overall program consisting of efficient solutions based on evolving watershed priorities.*

COMMENTS

We do not understand how this process coordinates with monitoring and pollutant reduction load identification other than outfall monitoring. Proposition O projects from the City of Los Angeles have no data that can verify load reductions. This is an NPDES permit based on Source Point discharges. Scientific studies should be applied now and a clearinghouse established.

So far, the public has been omitted for most processes of this permit other than writing comments and a few workshops or meetings. Most public do not identify a permit with Green Streets. This is confusing.

SELECTION CRITERIA

5.2.1 Regional BMPs Selection Criteria

7. Health and Safety—Stormwater quality facilities must be designed and maintained in a manner that does not pose health or safety hazards to the public. The potential for nuisances, odors, and prolonged soggy conditions should be evaluated for BMPs, especially in areas with high pedestrian traffic or visibility. Urban areas are heavily populated, which adds to safety concerns when

considering potential BMPs such as ponds, wetlands, and surface sand filters. Open surface systems may require additional measures such as fencing to ensure public safety and reduce vandalism. Often the only feasible location for BMPs in developed areas is underground, which presents more complex maintenance issues that trigger worker safety requirements. The installation of subsurface BMPs may require maintenance activities to be performed in confined spaces. Confined spaces have specific entry requirements to ensure safety that would need to be followed each time BMPs are inspected or maintained.

COMMENTS

We do not believe Public Health and Safety has been embraced. Public Health Departments, not part of the permitting process, need to take a role. Vector Control issues need to be addressed. Liability issues have not been reviewed.

Joyce Dillard
P.O. Box 31377
Los Angeles, CA 90031