

SANTA MARGARITA ATTACHMENT

BACKGROUND

Due to severe storm events during the past fiscal year, many of the Transportation Department's staff, along with many maintenance staff, was involved in handling emergency responses. The storm events caused severe flooding, debris flows, and mudslides that negatively affected roads, facilities, and safety within the County of Riverside. Road damage included severe debris removal from under bridges, roads, and washed out roads and shoulders. Preliminary assessments indicate that \$15,000,000 of damage has resulted in the FY 04/05 storm events. This was an unusual occurrence and although the Transportation Department was able to successfully address these problems, it required a large amount of staff time dedicated to ensuring that roads were safe for travel by the public before, during, and after storm events.

These storm events also increased the number of complaint calls received from the general public to address several issues within our jurisdiction. For FY 04/05, the Transportation Department received 2,030 complaint calls countywide to address the following issues:

- Flooding-road shoulder, ditch damage
- Ditches gutter, culvert drains, cleaned out
- Mud gravel, dirt, rock, snow, swept/cleared
- Trash, debris, object removed or cleared
- Trees, palm fronds and branches
- Weeds, grass, brushes and tumbleweeds
- Potholes or large holes
- Improvements, grading paving & resurfacing
- Road sidewalk, curb gutter damage & repair

This is also the first year we were able to obtain data in this format. It is anticipated that the amount of complaint calls received for FY 05/06 will significantly decrease in the following years due to less intense storm events anticipated.

The Transportation Department began a pilot program in FY 02/03 to pick up road side litter in certain portions of each Supervisorial District. This program has proven successful and funding for it has continued. The Litter Clean Up Program has a crew of 6 employees who provide road side clean up efforts. There are five (5) supervisorial districts within the County, and 10 linear miles are cleaned on a rotating basis, allowing for problems areas to be re-addressed every 10 weeks. Cumulatively, this program cleans approximately 60 linear miles quarterly. This effort has proven successful in reducing the amount of debris and anthropogenic litter entering the catch basins, approximately 100.78 tons of anthropogenic litter for FY 04/05, nearby streams and waterbodies within the different watersheds.

The County Transportation Department also maintains the roadway storm drain system within the unincorporated areas of the County, and each District Road Maintenance Supervisor and Assistant Supervisor visually inspects the pipes, storm drains, and channels on a regular basis as part of their daily routine. Close attention is paid to the drainage facilities located within traditional or known problem areas. A private contractor cleans out storm drains on an as-needed basis. Within the County maintained road system, there are approximately 6,300 linear feet of pipe, 53,000 linear feet of channel, and 2 detention basins.

Furthermore, new development projects within the County (with curb and gutter) are required to annex into County Service Area (CSA) 152, in order to provide street sweeping services. These services are contracted out and roadways are swept at least once a month and in some cases more frequently. During FY 04/05, on average 846 curb miles were swept monthly for a total of 10,155 curb miles cumulatively. In comparison to the year before, this is a 7.7% increase.

FISCAL EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR FY 04/05

Activity	Source	FY 04/05 Expenditures
Sedimentation & Erosion Control/SWPPP's for Maintenance and Pavement Repair for maintenance	Gas Tax, Local & Federal STP funds, Measure A,	7,191,927.35
Litter Clean Up Program	Developer Agreement Funds	785,903.50
Street Sweeping CSA 152	County Assessment Area 152	347,696.38
	TOTAL	8,325,527.23

TRAINING

Training has been offered through Flood Control. Several staff attended training during FY 04/5. Additionally, staff is being registered for additional NPDES training starting in this fall.

ILLICIT CONNECTION/ILLEGAL DISCHARGE(IC/ID)

The Riverside County Transportation Department as part of its normal duties is actively involved with review of its channel and storm drains. The Highway Operations Division provides the County with coverage concerning illegal connections or illegal discharges within the storm drain system and/or channels, which ultimately make their way to facilities owned by the Riverside County Flood Control District. The Transportation Department District Road Maintenance Supervisors and Assistant Supervisors visually inspect the pipes, storm drains, and channels on a regular basis as part of their daily routine. They pay close attention to facilities located within areas of concern, or areas with historical issues. This could involve areas where illegal dumping occurs or other maintenance issues need to be addressed, which would require additional follow-up. These issues could necessitate additional assistance from the County illegal dumping cleanup programs and/or Code Enforcement investigation.

The Transportation Department Permit Engineer also sends a letter to property owners who encroach upon County right-of-way with illegal connections or other obstructions. The Permit Engineer is responsible for reviewing applications dealing with encroachments along County right-of-way. If the illegal connection is not remedied in a timely manner, it is removed by the County and billed to the owner of the property. Permits are filed on encroachments that are approved by the Department.