



# City of Carson Report to Mayor and City Council

August 6, 2013  
New Business Consent

**SUBJECT: CONSIDER A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH TECS ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE SERVICES TO DEVELOP AN INDIVIDUAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAM AND A COORDINATED INTEGRATED MONITORING PROGRAM**

*Farrokh Abolfathi*

Submitted by Farrokh Abolfathi  
Director of Public Works

*Jacquelyn Acosta*

Approved by Jacquelyn Acosta  
Acting City Manager

## **I. SUMMARY**

On June 4, 2013, City Council authorized staff to solicit proposals for the preparation of an Individual Watershed Management Program (I-WMP) and Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program (CIMP) as required under the California Regional Water Quality Control Board Los Angeles Region Order No. R4-2012-0175. A copy of the staff report is attached as Exhibit No. 1. The two proposals received are also attached (Exhibits No.s 2 and 3). Staff recommends contracting with TECS Environmental Compliance Services to develop the I-WMP and CIMP.

## **II. RECOMMENDATION**

APPROVE a Professional Services Agreement in the amount of \$166,750.00 with TECS Environmental Compliance Services to develop an Individual Watershed Management Program and a Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program in accordance with the requirements of California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, Order No. R4-2012-0175.

## **III. ALTERNATIVES**

1. DO NOT approve a Professional Services Agreement with TECS Environmental Compliance Services.
2. APPROVE a Professional Services Agreement with another consultant.
3. TAKE another action the City Council deems appropriate.

## **IV. BACKGROUND**

In accordance with City Council's authorization, staff solicited proposals from six consultants for preparation of the City of Carson I-WMP and CIMP as follows:

1. Charles Abbott & Associates
2. CWE
3. Enfact

4. John Hunter and Associates
5. Geosyntec
6. TECS Environmental Compliance Services

These consultants were selected because of their familiarity with the City of Carson's requirements under Order No. R4-2012-0175 and staff's knowledge of each consultant's abilities and experience. Two out of the six consultants submitted a proposal as follows:

- |   |              |
|---|--------------|
| 1. TECS Environmental Compliance Services | \$145,000.00 |
| 2. CWE                                    | \$300,000.00 |

In the Request for Proposal, staff indicated that a 15% contingency would be added to the proposal amount to provide sufficient funds for any changes or revisions requested by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board Los Angeles Region. Therefore, staff recommends a contract amount of \$166,750.00.

**V. FISCAL IMPACT**

Sufficient funds are allocated in the proposed Fiscal Year 2013/14 Budget for the consulting services.

**VI. EXHIBITS**

1. June 4, 2013 staff report with correction noted on page 2. (pgs. 3-6)
2. CWE's proposal. (pg. 7)
3. TECS Environmental Compliance Services' proposal. (pg. 8)

Prepared by: Patricia Elkins, Storm Water Quality Programs Manager  
 TO: Rev06-19-2013

Reviewed by:

City Clerk	City Treasurer
Administrative Services	Public Works
Community Development	Community Services

**Action taken by City Council**

Date\_\_\_\_\_ Action\_\_\_\_\_



# City of Carson Report to Mayor and City Council

June 4, 2013  
New Business Consent

**SUBJECT: CONSIDER INDIVIDUALLY OR COLLABORATIVELY DEVELOPING THE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAM PLANS AND THE MONITORING PLANS TO COMPLY WITH THE CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD LOS ANGELES REGION ORDER NO. R4-2012-0175, NPDES PERMIT NO. CAS004001**

*Farrokh Abolfathi*

Submitted by Farrokh Abolfathi  
Acting Director of Public Works

*David C. Biggs*

Approved by David C. Biggs  
City Manager

## I. SUMMARY

Order No. R4-2012-0175 (Order), issued by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, (Regional Board), became effective on December 28, 2012. This Order requires all Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) Dischargers (or Permittees) to determine:

- (1) whether the Permittee intends to develop an *individualized* Watershed Management Program (WMP),
- (2) whether the Permittee intends to participate in a *collective* Enhanced Watershed Management Program (EWMP) with other Permittees,
- (3) whether the Permittee intends to prepare an Integrated Monitoring Program (IMP) and/or
- (4) whether the Permittee intends to participate in a Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program (CIMP) with other Permittees.

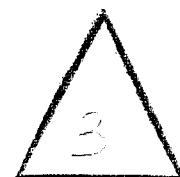
Permittees must submit their Notice of Intent (NOI) signed by the City Manager, ***no later than June 28, 2013***. City Council is requested to consider the options and associated costs presented in this report and take the following recommended actions, or alternate actions as the Council deems appropriate.

## II. RECOMMENDATION

TAKE following actions:

1. AUTHORIZE staff to solicit proposals for the preparation of a City of Carson Watershed Management Program and Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program to fulfill the requirements of California Regional Water Quality Control Board Los Angeles Region Order No. R4-2012-0175.
2. AUTHORIZE the City Manager to sign and submit the Notice of Intent to the California Regional Water Quality Control Board Los Angeles Region on or before June 28, 2013.

EXHIBIT NO. 01



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**III. ALTERNATIVES**

1. DIRECT staff to participate with the multiple agency City of Los Angeles lead cities for the Dominguez Channel Watershed and with the Los Angeles River "Reach 1" agencies for the Los Angeles River Watershed to prepare their collective Enhanced Watershed Management Program and Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program.
2. AUTHORIZE the City Manager to sign and submit the Notice of Intent to the California Regional Water Quality Control Board Los Angeles Region on or before June 28, 2013.
3. Take any action the City Council deems appropriate that is consistent with the requirements of law.

**IV. BACKGROUND**

The Los Angeles County Flood Control District, the County of Los Angeles, and 84 incorporated cities within the Los Angeles County Flood Control District are subject to this Order.

Numerous receiving waters within Los Angeles County do not meet water quality standards or fully support beneficial uses and therefore have been classified as impaired on the State's 303(d) List. The Regional Board and the United States Environmental Protection Agency have each established Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) to address some of these water quality impairments.

Waste Load Allocations (WLAs) in these TMDLs are expressed in several ways depending on the nature of the pollutant. This Order allows a Permittee to clarify and distinguish their individual contributions and demonstrate that its MS4 discharges do not cause or contribute to exceedances of receiving water limitations or effluent limitations. The Regional Board has provided methods for Permittees to work cooperatively.

The Order provides several options for cities to comply. Each option has benefits but also has additional cost associated with it. For example, if the City of Carson does not have a draft Low Impact Development Ordinance and a draft Green Streets Policy by June 28, 2013, it must submit a 12-Month WMP by December 28, 2014; otherwise, an additional 6 months is provided to prepare an 18-Month WMP.

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Similarly, if the City of Carson wishes to participate in a EWMP, it must secure funding for construction of multi-benefit regional projects (not necessarily within the City of Carson.)

<u>Type of NOI</u>	<u>LID/Green Streets Policy</u>	<u>Multi-Benefit Regional Projects</u>
12-Month WMP	No	No
18-Month WMP	Yes	No
30-Month EWMP	Yes	Yes

The EWMP option was added to the Order at the last minute and was the subject of the City of Carson's Petition for Review filed on December 10, 2012 with the California State Water Resources Control Board requesting review of the adoption of the Order. "In short, after issuing a Tentative Order and the close of a 45-day comment period, and two days of public hearings, the Regional Board issued a Revised Tentative Order, and, thereafter, a Second Revised Tentative Order. Each revision of the Tentative Order contained substantial changes and required a new 45-day review and comment period in order to meet the minimum due process and public interest requirements and avoid insulating the Regional Board's adopted order 'from any meaningful challenge'."

There is no financial benefit to the City of Carson if it participates with other cities in a EWMP. Preliminary cost estimates show that it would not be in the best interest of the City of Carson to participate in the City of Los Angeles lead EWMP for Dominguez Channel or Reach 1 of the Los Angeles River. Rather, it would be much more cost effective for the City of Carson to prepare an individual WMP and work with one or two cities on a CIMP (like those cities that drain into Carson such as Compton).

**V. FISCAL IMPACT**

The fiscal impact associated with staff's recommendation is the most cost efficient method of compliance.

**VI. EXHIBITS**

None.

Prepared by: Patricia Elkins, Storm Water Quality Programs Manager and William W. Wynder, City Attorney

Reviewed by:

City Clerk	City Treasurer
Administrative Services	Public Works
Community Development	Community Services

**Action taken by City Council**

Date 6-4-13 Action Approved staff rec. no. 1 & 2.  
MG/ES S/O  
me





**CWE**  
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FULLERTON, CA 92831-5202  
(714) 526-7500 PHONE  
(714) 526-7004 FAX  
www.cwecorp.com

June 24, 2013

Ms. Patricia Elkins  
Storm Water Quality Programs Manager  
701 E. Carson Street  
Carson, California 90745

**Watershed Management Program (WMP) and Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program (CIMP) Development Proposal**

Dear Ms. Elkins,

CWE is pleased to submit this cost proposal in response to the City of Carson's (City) request to provide WMP and CIMP development services to ensure compliance with the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permit (MS4 Permit) Order No. R4-2012-0175. The City should select CWE to prepare its WMP and CIMP for the following reasons:

- Our knowledge of the City of Carson, its water quality challenges, and drainage conveyance system;
- Our knowledge of the new 2012 MS4 Permit and experience from implementing past MS4 Permits;
- Experience with Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), Receiving Water Limitations (RWLs), Water Quality Based Effluent Limitations (WQBELs), Clean Water Act (CWA) 303(d) list, the Los Angeles Basin Plan and its Beneficial Uses;
- Experience in the implementation of a full range of non-structural and programmatic Best Management Practices (BMPs);
- Design experience with structural BMPs, including Low Impact Development (LID), at both the parcel and regional scales;
- Familiarity with the Dominguez Channel Watershed Permittees and water quality challenges;
- Ability to work with the City of Carson to implement the MS4 Permit based on the City's objectives;
- Experience in negotiation and innovation with Regulators, other Permittees and Stakeholders;
- CWE has previously prepared two TMDL Monitoring Plans for the City of Carson; and
- Experience in assisting the City of Carson to obtain grant support for implementing BMP projects.

CWE estimates a level of effort that will result in an engineering fee upwards of \$300,000. Major deliverables would include the WMP and CIMP Plans by June 28, 2014. We would be glad to discuss specific project details and scope of work at your convenience and look forward to working with you. If you have questions or require additional information, please contact me at (714) 526-7500 Ext. 211.

Respectfully submitted,

**CWE**

Jason Pereira, PE, CPSWQ, QSD/B, CGP-ToR  
Principal

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"Engineering Solutions to Improve the Quality of Life."

EXHIBIT NO. 02





June 24, 2013

Ms. Patricia Elkins  
Storm Water Quality Programs Manager  
City of Carson  
701 E. Carson Street  
Carson, CA 90745

Subject: Proposal to Prepare I-WMP and CIMP

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Dear Ms. Elkins:

**TECS Environmental** is pleased propose its service to prepare an Individual Watershed Management Plan (I-WMP) and a Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Plan (CIMP) for the City of Carson (City) for a flat amount of \$145,000. The plans will be tailored to include pollution issues for Reach 1 of the Los Angeles River and Compton Creek (bacteria, metals, and trash); Machado Lake (nutrients, toxics, and trash); and Dominguez Channel (toxics). Deliverables include the I-WMP, CIMP that shall be completed by May 28, 2014 and a LID ordinance and Green Street Policy that shall be completed by September 1, 2013.

**TECS** should be selected to prepare the I-WMP and CIMP and perform other associated tasks because of the following: (1) it has been the City's consultant for almost ten (10) years; (2) it is familiar with the City's pollution issues associated with each of the watersheds/sub-watersheds in which the City is located based on total maximum daily load (TMDL) requirements; (3) its proven dedication to protecting the City against unreasonable interpretations of municipal NPDES and TMDL compliance requirements; (4) its thorough understanding of municipal NPDES permit and TMDL regulatory requirements; and (5) its qualified and experienced staff in the areas of civil engineering, environmental engineering, and water chemistry.

**TECS** approach to meeting I-WMP requirements is simple. First, through monitoring determine to what extent the City and participating parties are causing or contributing to exceedances of TMDLs and other water quality standards in each of sub-watershed. Second, based on monitoring results, water quality issues shall be prioritized on an individual and group basis (with Compton, Gardena, Lawndale, and Lomita). Third, monitoring results shall determine to what extent pollution issues are city-specific or are shared by the participating cities. And, fourth, based on these results, an implementation plan consisting of cost-effective best management practices (BMPs) and other control measures to achieve outfall-based water quality based effluent limitations (WQBELs) and, if feasible, receiving water limitations established for the water bodies into which the City and its partners discharge. **TECS** intends to propose a monitoring plan that will focus on outfall discharges from the City. While monitoring is conducted, the City shall continue to implement its stormwater quality management plan (SQMP) and new LID BMPs. At the end of the fifth year of the permit, the City shall recommend a suite of BMPs and other control measures (including regional multi-benefit projects if necessary) that shall be implemented in the next MS4 permit. In-stream monitoring costs shall be shared among the partnering cities. And, where possible, in-stream monitoring data generated from other agencies shall be used to reduce monitoring costs.

Sincerely,

Ray Tahir  
Principal

EXHIBIT NO. 03

