



CC Regular Meeting AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Meeting:	July 15, 2025
Title:	Certification of 2025 Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) for the City of Covina's Sanitary Sewer System
Presented by:	Rafael M. Fajardo, Director of Public Works/City Engineer
Recommendation:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Adopt Resolution CC 2025-90 Certifying and Approving the Sewer System Management Plan.2. Accept and certify the 2025 Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) for the City of Covina's Sanitary Sewer System and direct City staff to upload and certify the SSMP within the California Integrated Water Quality System Portal.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/BACKGROUND:

On May 2, 2006, the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) adopted Water Quality Order 2006-0003, requiring all public agencies that own sanitary sewer collection systems greater than one mile in length to comply with the Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for Sanitary Sewer Systems. The WDRs are the regulatory standards for agencies that own or operate sanitary sewer collection systems that collect and/or convey untreated or partially treated wastewater to a publicly-owned treatment facility. The ultimate goal of the WDRs is to reduce the frequency and volume of sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) by requiring cities to properly operate, maintain, and manage their wastewater collection system.

The three major components to the WDRs, namely that agencies affected by the regulations must abide by are:

- Prohibit and Report SSOs to the SWRCB;
- Develop and implement a system-specific SSMP; and
- Monitor and update the SSMP no less frequently than every five years.

The City's last Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) recertification was approved and adopted by the City Council on December 16, 2014, and later updated again in December 2019 to reflect infrastructure improvements during that time and to provide staffing updates within the Department of Public Works. The City is required to update the SSMP in order to be compliant with the current mandate from Water Quality Order 2006-0003 and update the SSMP every 5 years.

On December 6, 2022, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted a new Order 2022-0103-DWQ outlining updated requirements for public agencies, which went into effect beginning June 4, 2023. The new order requires each agency upload and certify its SSMP Update or current SSMP to their online CIWQS Sanitary Sewer System Database to continue regulatory coverage from the previous Order. Under the new Order, the City is required to submit an updated SSMP by August 2, 2025.

DISCUSSION:

On December 17, 2024, the City Council authorized a Professional Services Agreement with Willdan Engineering to assist the City in updating its Sewer System Management Plan Audit & Update and to comply with Statewide General Waste Discharge for Sanitary Sewer Systems Pursuant to State Water Board Order 2006.

The SSMP is a written document that conveys the manner in which an entity's sewer system is operated, maintained, repaired, and funded. The SSMP sets forth goals and actions to be followed, and guidelines for various activities involved in managing, operating, maintaining, and expanding the sewer system. Moreover, it outlines how to minimize the occurrence of SSOs and how to properly respond to SSOs whenever they occur, including SWRCB reporting requirements that must be adhered to each time. Lastly, the SSMP must be updated periodically for effectiveness no less than every five years with the expectation that each wastewater collection system agency develops and implements a suitable SSMP that is updated as needed.

The 2025 SSMP is being presented to the City Council for certification. All SSMPs within the State must address the following 12 elements:

1. Goals
2. Organizational Structure
3. Legal Authority
4. Operations and Maintenance Program
5. Design and Performance Provisions
6. Spill Emergency Response Plan
7. Sewer Pipe Blockage Control
8. System Evaluation, Capacity Assurance, and Capital Improvements
9. Monitoring, Measurements, and Program Modifications
10. SSMP Internal Audits
11. Communication Program
12. Final Certification

The City's 2025 SSMP attached hereto as Attachment A fully addresses the aforementioned elements required by the General Order. Upon acceptance and certification by the City Council, the SSMP will be uploaded to the CIWQS portal before the August 2, 2025, deadline.

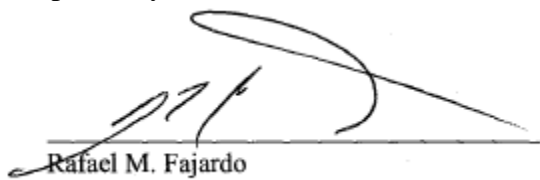
FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with City staff's recommendation. The adoption of the SSMP drives many of the required sewer system maintenance activities conducted by the Department of Public Works – Sewer Division; nonetheless, the 2025 Plan does not increase the volume of maintenance activities already incorporated into the FY 2025-2026 Adopted Budget.

CEQA (CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT):

Not applicable.

Respectfully submitted,



Rafael M. Fajardo
Director of Public Works/City Engineer