



November 28, 2018, 2018

TO: LOCSD Board of Directors

FROM: Rob Miller, PE
District Engineer

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item 12A – 12/6/2018 Board Meeting**
8th and El Moro Stormwater and Perched Water Recovery Project

President
Vicki L. Milledge

Vice President
Marshall E. Ochylski

Directors
Charles L. Cesena
Louis G. Tornatzky
Christine M. Womack

General Manager
Renee Osborne

District Accountant
Robert Stilts, CPA

Unit Chief
Scott M. Jalbert

Battalion Chief
Greg Alex

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 6064
Los Osos, CA 93412

Offices:
2122 9th Street, Suite 102
Los Osos, CA 93402

Phone: 805/528-9370
FAX: 805/528-9377

www.losososcsd.org

DESCRIPTION

In November 2017, the Basin Management Committee (BMC) received a report indicating that the volume of available recycled water generated by the Los Osos Wastewater Project is projected to be in the range of 500 to 550 AFY, which is 200 AFY less than the volume expected when the Basin Plan was published. At the same time, the District conveys approximately 40 acre feet per year of urban stormwater to the Morro Bay Estuary during storm events. The reuse of municipal stormwater is a statewide objective that has driven a number of grant funded projects in California. Given these factors, a project proposal that recycles urban stormwater, along with shallow perched water, is currently under consideration at the BMC.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board receive a presentation and provide feedback to staff and authorize the General Manager to assist in grant pursuit efforts.

DISCUSSION

The BMC is currently considering a number of recycled water use alternatives, including the augmentation of dry weather stream flow in Los Osos Creek, with the intent of recharging the lower aquifer of the Los Osos Groundwater Basin. However, given that the volume of recycled water being discharged from the Los Osos Wastewater Project is approximately 40% less than the planned volume, reuse alternatives are limited. The augmentation of recycled water with urban area stormwater and perched water may provide an opportunity to augment flows by as much as 80 acre feet per year. Staff will provide a presentation during the meeting. In summary, the project proposal includes the following basic elements:

- Urban stormwater that is historically discharged to the Los Osos Estuary at 8th Street and El Moro Street will be temporarily stored and then discharged at a controlled rate to the wastewater collection system for recycling at the Wastewater Reclamation Facility (WRF). The existing stormwater management basin at the Baywood Elementary School may be an option for temporary storage.
- Shallow perched water may be recycled during dry weather using a gravity flow system, similar to a French drain. This would provide augmented recycled water flow during the period of time when a discharge to the Los Osos Creek would be effective, and also when urban irrigation with recycled water would be occurring. Currently shallow perched water prevents the effective percolation and management of stormwater in much of the Baywood area.

These project elements are illustrated in the attached slides that will be discussed at the meeting. In addition, the County of San Luis Obispo is currently preparing a Stormwater Resource Plan. The draft plan can be obtained at the following link:

<https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Forms-Documents/Committees-Programs/Stormwater-Resource-Plan/Documents/2018-09-10-SWRP-Public-Draft.aspx>

The Stormwater Resource Plan includes the above project concept. The concept ranked near the top of the project list for the watersheds tributary to the Morro Bay Estuary. While the project is being pursued as a BMC effort, the efforts of the District General Manager to pursue grant funds for the project have also been helpful. Staff is requesting Board authorization to continue these efforts, and regular updates will be provided as the project progresses.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The proposed project is being pursued as a BMC effort, and a budget allocation of \$15,000 was suggested by BMC staff as a draft amount during the November BMC meeting. The District would be responsible for its pro rata share of this amount (38%) for the 2019 calendar year, resulting in a total expenditure of \$5,700 for initial project feasibility. The General Manager's efforts to pursue grant funds for the project would be in addition to this amount.

Attachment





