

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT NO. 2  
HELD AT THE OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT;  
AND THE KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
VIA TELECONFERENCE

February 14, 2024  
1:30 o'clock, P.M.

The Board of Directors of County Sanitation District No. 2 of Los Angeles County met in regular session both in person and via teleconference.

There were present: Ali Saleh, Alternate Director from Bell  
Marco Barcena, Alternate Director from Bell Gardens  
Dan Koops, Director from Bellflower  
Bruce Barrows, Director from Cerritos  
Hugo Argumedo, Director from Commerce  
Emma Sharif, Director from Compton  
Mario Trujillo, Director from Downey  
Suely Saro, Alternate Director from Long Beach  
Scarlet Peralta, Director from Montebello  
Rick Ramirez, Alternate Director from Norwalk  
Isabel Aguayo, Director from Paramount  
Andrew Lara, Director from Pico Rivera  
Tony Ding, Alternate Director from San Gabriel  
Maria Davila, Alternate Director from South Gate  
Crystal Larios, Director from Vernon  
Cathy Warner, Chairperson, Alternate Director from Whittier

Absent: Ross Maza, Director from Alhambra  
Monica Manalo, Director from Artesia  
Paul Krekorian, Director from Los Angeles City  
Jose Sanchez, Director from Monterey Park  
Lindsey Horvath, Director from Los Angeles County

Also present: Kimberly S. Christensen, Secretary to the Board  
Jessica Lienau, District Counsel

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Upon motion of Director Argumedo, duly seconded and carried by a roll-call vote with Director Lara being absent for the vote, the Consent Agenda was approved as follows:

RE: PUBLIC COMMENT The Chairperson announced this was the time for any questions or comments by members of the public.

The Secretary advised that there was one member of the public wishing to address the Board. The following individual addressed the Board.

Mr. John Steel, a resident of the City of Cerritos, addressed the Directors regarding the Shoemaker Pumping Plant Station. He stated that there has been an ongoing problem since 1999. The backup generator at the station emits gas and the smell enters his home. He described various issues he allegedly experienced recently regarding gas fumes and loud mechanical sounds that lasts several hours. He claimed that the equipment is not running to order.

RE: ALTERNATE DIRECTOR FROM CITY OF NORWALK A copy of an action taken by the City Council of the City of Norwalk at a meeting held January 16, 2024, was presented to the Secretary stating that Mr. Tony Ayala, a member of the City Council of the City of Norwalk, was appointed to serve as alternate Director from the city, was accepted and ordered filed.

RE: MINUTES  
abstaining.

The minutes of the regular meeting held January 24, 2024, were approved with Directors Barrows and Ramirez

RE: DISTRICT EXPENSES

The following expenses for the month of November 2023 were presented and approved:

	District No. 2	Joint Administration	Technical Support	Joint Outfall System	Solid Waste System	Stormwater
Operations & Maintenance	\$ 30,384	\$6,590,246	\$5,347,504	\$24,201,835	\$11,282,281	<u>\$24,114</u>
Capital Allocated Expenses:		<u>210,732</u>	<u>15,942</u>	27,870,559	2,472,964	
Joint Administration				4,161,560	1,595,835	
Joint Outfall	<u>25,132,562</u>					
Technical Support				<u>4,447,588</u>	<u>258,093</u>	
Total Expenses:	<u>\$25,162,946</u>	<u>\$6,800,978</u>	<u>\$5,363,446</u>	<u>\$60,681,542</u>	<u>\$15,609,173</u>	<u>\$24,114</u>

RE: WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT  
JOINT OUTFALL H UNIT 2B TRUNK  
SEWER REHABILITATION - INSITUFORM  
TECHNOLOGIES, LLC - CONTRACT  
NO. 5519 - ACCEPTANCE OF THE WORK

Insituform Technologies, LLC, has completed the work in connection with Contract No. 5519 for construction of the *Joint Outfall H Unit 2B Trunk Sewer Rehabilitation* (Project) within the time allowed by the contract, and in accordance with its terms. This Project consisted of the rehabilitation of approximately 2,026 feet of existing

39-inch and 42-inch-diameter corroded concrete pipe and appurtenant structures. The work was located within the City of Bell Gardens. There were no change orders for this Project. A recommendation was made to accept this work.

The work in connection with Contract No. 5519, entered into by Insituform Technologies, LLC, on March 30, 2023, for construction of the *Joint Outfall H Unit 2B Trunk Sewer Rehabilitation*, was approved and accepted by this Board of Directors; the Chief Engineer and General Manager was directed to execute and record a Notice of Completion with respect to this work of improvement; and final payment of \$1,658,090.21 was authorized in accordance with the terms of the contract.

RE: WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT  
JOINT OUTFALL D UNIT 5 TRUNK  
SEWER REHABILITATION  
SAK CONSTRUCTION, LLC  
CONTRACT NO. 5538  
ACCEPTANCE OF THE WORK

SAK Construction, LLC, has completed the work in connection with Contract No. 5538 for construction of the *Joint Outfall D Unit 5 Trunk Sewer Rehabilitation* (Project) within the time allowed by the contract, and in accordance with its terms. This Project consisted of the rehabilitation of approximately 2,018 feet of existing 36-inch and 42-inch-diameter corroded concrete pipe

and appurtenant structures. The work was located within the City of Torrance and unincorporated Los Angeles County. There were no change orders for this Project. A recommendation was made to accept this work.

The work in connection with Contract No. 5538, entered into by SAK Construction, LLC, on June 27, 2023, for construction of the *Joint Outfall D Unit 5 Trunk Sewer Rehabilitation*, was approved and accepted by this Board of Directors; the Chief Engineer and General Manager was directed to execute and record a Notice of Completion with respect to this work of improvement; and final payment of \$1,949,797.74 was authorized in accordance with the terms of the contract.

RE: FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT  
CHIQUITA CANYON LANDFILL  
CLAIM FOR DAMAGES – REJECT  
AND AUTHORIZE CHIEF ENGINEER  
AND GENERAL MANAGER TO  
EXECUTE

The 116 claims were received from Downtown LA Law Group. Each of the claims are substantially identical and allege damages in the amount of \$100,000,000 each for exposure to noxious and/or toxic gases and fumes. Chiquita Canyon Landfill is privately owned, and the Districts does not own, operate, manage, or regulate Chiquita Canyon Landfill; therefore, it is impossible that

the damage alleged was caused by the Districts. Districts Counsel has reviewed the claims and recommends that the claims be rejected on their merits and that the Chief Engineer and General Manager be authorized to reject future similar claims related to Chiquita Canyon Landfill.

The 116 claims filed by Downtown LA Law Group were rejected. Furthermore, the Chief Engineer and General Manager, or his Designee, on behalf of the District, was authorized to reject future similar claims related to the Chiquita Canyon Landfill.

## REGULAR AGENDA

RE: FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT  
MISCELLANEOUS MATERIALS AND  
SUPPLIES FOR ROUTINE MAINTENANCE  
AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE OF PURCHASE  
ORDERS TO GRAINGER, HOME DEPOT,  
AND MCMASTER-CARR SUPPLY

Grainger, Home Depot, and McMaster-Carr Supply are large supply houses that carry a wide variety of repair parts, building materials, and other consumable supplies used to perform a variety of repair and maintenance tasks throughout the Districts. Typically, these are very low dollar items that do not lend themselves to a competitive bid process nor are they used frequently enough to be

maintained in inventory. Home Depot has local stores which makes their use convenient for staff, and Grainger participates in cooperative purchasing programs which offer price discounts on items purchased. The limit per order is \$500 for all suppliers. Issuing multi-year purchase orders is an effective and efficient method. This item is consistent with the Districts' Guiding Principle of commitment to fiscal responsibility and prudent financial stewardship. A recommendation was made to authorize the Chief Engineer and General Manager, in his capacity as Purchasing Agent, to issue purchase orders to Grainger in the amount of approximately \$375,000, Home Depot in the amount of approximately \$750,000, and McMaster-Carr Supply in the amount of approximately \$825,000 for miscellaneous materials and supplies for routine maintenance, each for a three-year period.

Upon motion of Director Argumedo, duly seconded and carried by a roll call vote with Director Lara being absent for the vote, the Purchasing Agent was authorized to issue purchase orders to Grainger in the amount of approximately \$375,000, Home Depot in the amount of approximately \$750,000, and McMaster-Carr Supply in the amount of approximately \$825,000 for miscellaneous materials and supplies for routine maintenance, each for a three-year period.

RE: WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT  
ON-CALL SURVEYING SERVICES  
AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE OF PURCHASE  
ORDERS TO COAST SURVEYING, INC.,  
GUIDA SURVEYING, INC., MTH2  
ENGINEERING, INC., AND STANTEC  
CONSULTING SERVICES, INC.

Surveying services are required for the design of ongoing and upcoming sewer projects. It is more cost and time effective to use an on-call consultant to perform these services rather than to issue separate requests for proposals for each project. Due to the number and variety of ongoing and upcoming projects, having multiple on-call consultants would ensure that there would be a consultant with the necessary expertise and avail-

ability. Proposals were solicited and received from seven consulting firms. Coast Surveying, Inc., (Coast), Guida Surveying, Inc., (Guida), MTH2 Engineering, Inc., (MTH2), and Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., (Stantec) were ranked as the most qualified to provide the required services and proposed competitive rates. Services will be used on an as-needed basis for potentially all Districts. In accordance with the Purchasing Policy, District No. 2 will issue and administer the proposed purchase orders and expenditures will be allocated according to actual costs attributable to each District. This item is consistent with the Districts' Guiding Principle of commitment to fiscal responsibility and prudent financial stewardship. A recommendation was made to authorize the Chief Engineer and General Manager, in his capacity as Purchasing Agent, to issue purchase orders to Coast in the amount of approximately \$500,000, Guida in the amount of approximately \$500,000, MTH2 in the amount of approximately \$500,000, and Stantec in the amount of approximately \$500,000 for on-call surveying services, each for a three-year period.

Upon motion of Director Argumedo, duly seconded and carried by a roll call vote with Director Lara being absent for the vote, the Purchasing Agent was authorized to issue purchase orders to Coast Surveying, Inc., Guida Surveying, Inc., MTH2 Engineering, Inc., and Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., for on-call surveying services, at a cost of approximately \$500,000 each for a three-year period.

RE: FACILITIES PLANNING - RENEWAL OF  
DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM  
SOFTWARE LICENSING, MAINTENANCE  
AND SUPPORT SERVICES - AUTHORIZE  
EXTENSION OF PURCHASE ORDER TO  
OPENTEXT CORPORATION

The Board previously approved a purchase order to OpenText Corporation (OpenText) to provide access and support services for the Document Management System (DMS) software, which is used Districts-wide to archive and manage all electronic documents. OpenText is the sole licensor of the DMS system and has offered to continue to provide licensing, maintenance, and support

services for a three-year period at an increase of approximately 7.5 percent per year. This item is consistent with the Districts' Guiding Principles to provide reliable and responsible services with safety first; and commitment to fiscal responsibility and prudent financial stewardship. A recommendation was made to authorize the Chief

Engineer and General Manager, in his capacity as Purchasing Agent, to issue a three-year extension of a purchase order with OpenText in the amount of approximately \$533,000 for the renewal of DMS software licensing, maintenance and support services.

Upon motion of Director Argumedo, duly seconded and carried by a roll call vote with Director Lara being absent for the vote, the Purchasing Agent was authorized to extend the purchase order, for a three-year period, with OpenText Corporation for the renewal of DMS software licensing, maintenance and support services, at a cost of approximately \$533,000.

RE: WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT  
SCHOLL CANYON LANDFILL FLARE  
STATION IMPROVEMENTS  
AUTHORIZE SUPPLEMENTAL  
PURCHASE ORDER TO JOHN ZINK LLC

The *Scholl Canyon Landfill Flare Station Improvements* (Project) includes the installation of new flare equipment to meet the more stringent emission standards imposed by Southern California Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule 1118.1. In November 2021, the Board approved issuance of a purchase order for approximately

\$3,275,000 to John Zink LLC (Zink) for two ultra-low emission flares which would be the basis for the design of the Project. After design of the Project was complete, the Districts directed Zink to hold production of the flare equipment in order to provide the City of Glendale enough time to determine whether the proposed flare equipment would also meet the needs of their proposed power plant which will also be located at the landfill. The six-month delay in production resulted in the escalation of costs for all materials associated with the fabrication of the flare equipment. Zink provided documentation, which was verified by Districts' staff, to substantiate the increased cost of the flare equipment. This item is consistent with the Districts' Guiding Principle of commitment to operational excellence (protection of public health and the environment, regulatory compliance, and cost effectiveness). A recommendation was made to authorize the Chief Engineer and General Manager, in his capacity as Purchasing Agent, to issue a supplemental purchase order to Zink in the amount of approximately \$715,000 to provide for equipment material escalation costs for the Project.

Upon motion of Director Argumedo, duly seconded and carried by a roll call vote with Director Lara being absent for the vote, the Chief Engineer and General Manager, in his capacity as Purchasing Agent, was authorized to issue a supplement purchase order to John Zink LLC for equipment material escalation costs for the *Scholl Canyon Landfill Flare Station Improvements*, at a cost of approximately \$715,000.

RE: WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT  
CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION CAMERA  
REPAIRS AND UPGRADES FOR  
A.K. WARREN RESOURCE FACILITY  
CONFIRM PURCHASE ORDER TO  
CERTIFIED PHONE SOLUTIONS

A review and assessment of the A.K. Warren Resource Facility (Warren Facility) camera video surveillance system revealed several cameras that were offline, failed to communicate with the network, and/or were non-functional. Certified Phone Solutions (CPS) provided the lowest cost proposal and was awarded a purchase order to provide and install eight additional cameras at

critical storage warehouse locations. Due to CPS' immediate availability and given the increasing frequency of theft and vandalism at the Warren Facility, their scope of work was subsequently expanded to also make numerous repairs to the existing system. Ultimately, 13 cameras were installed and several repairs to the existing camera system were completed in various areas of the 220-acre facility, totaling approximately \$156,000. The activities described herein do not constitute a "Project" under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to California Public Resources Code Section 21065 and Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations ("CEQA Guidelines") Section 15378. This item is consistent with the Districts' Guiding Principle to provide reliable and responsible services with safety first. A recommendation was made for the Board to confirm the issuance of a purchase order to CPS in the amount of \$156,000 for closed circuit television camera repairs and upgrades for the Warren Facility.

Upon motion of Director Argumedo, duly seconded and carried by a roll call vote with Director Lara being absent for the vote, the Board confirmed the issuance of a purchase order to Certified Phone Solutions, in the amount of \$156,000 for closed circuit television camera repairs and upgrades for the A.K. Warren Resource Facility.

RE: WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT  
JOINT OUTFALL B UNIT 1A TRUNK SEWER  
REHABILITATION PHASE 2 - SPINIELLO  
INFRASTRUCTURE WEST, INC.  
CONTRACT NO. 5483 - APPROVE CHANGE  
ORDERS NOS. 5 AND 6 - EXTRA WORK

As part of the *Joint Outfall B Unit 1A Trunk Sewer Rehabilitation Phase 2* (Project), the contractor was required to rehabilitate approximately 6,500 linear feet of existing 144-inch-diameter sewer using the slip-lining process. During construction, the Districts received numerous odor complaints from residents that lived near an open insertion pit which was required for the pipe installation. The Districts directed the contractor to expedite the work in that area and provide additional odor

control measures, including during non-working hours, until all the work at this location was completed. Separately, during routine maintenance activities, the Districts discovered a severely corroded manhole that was located in close proximity to the Project. Due to the severity of the damage, the Districts directed the contractor to rehabilitate the manhole structure with a protective coating system and to install flow control devices to facilitate sewer cleaning operations in the future. This item is consistent with the Districts' Guiding Principles to protect financial and facility assets through prudent investment and maintenance programs; and commitment to operational excellence (protection of public health and the environment, regulatory compliance, and cost effectiveness). The claims have been reviewed and the work determined to be beyond the scope of the plans and specifications. A recommendation was made to approve Change Orders Nos. 5 and 6 to Contract No. 5483 with Spiniello Infrastructure West, Inc., for the construction of the Project; resulting in total payment of \$309,041.11 for extra work.

Upon motion of Director Argumedo, duly seconded and carried by a roll call vote with Director Lara being absent for the vote, Change Orders Nos. 5 and 6 to Contract No. 5483 with Spiniello Infrastructure West, Inc., for the construction of *Joint Outfall B Unit 1A Trunk Sewer Rehabilitation Phase 2*, resulting in a payment of \$309,041.11, was approved.

RE: WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT  
ARTESIA EXTENSION TRUNK SEWER  
REHABILITATION PHASE 2 - SANCON  
TECHNOLOGIES, INC. - CONTRACT  
NO. 5516 - APPROVE CHANGE ORDER  
NO. 2 - EXTRA WORK

As part of the *Artesia Extension Trunk Sewer Rehabilitation Phase 2* (Project), the contractor was required to rehabilitate approximately 78 feet of 39-inch-diameter corroded concrete sewer pipe with a cured-in-place pipe liner system. During construction and prior to rehabilitating this particular section of corroded sewer pipe, a large hole with a void was discovered following

inspection after rainstorms that occurred between January and March 2023. The contractor was therefore directed to reprioritize their work and immediately repair this section of pipe on an emergency basis. Due to the significant amount of debris that had entered the sewer as a result of the damage, the contractor was also required to modify and extend the flow bypass system in order to accommodate the work. This item is consistent with the Districts' Guiding Principles to protect financial and facility assets through prudent investment and maintenance programs; and commitment to operational excellence (protection of public health and the environment, regulatory compliance, and cost effectiveness). The claim has been reviewed and the work determined to be beyond the scope of the plans and specifications. A recommendation was made to approve Change Order No. 2 to Contract No. 5516 with Sancon Technologies, Inc., for the construction of the Project; resulting in payment of \$436,451.26 for extra work.

Upon motion of Director Argumedo, duly seconded and carried by a roll call vote with Director Lara being absent for the vote, Change Order No. 2 to Contract No. 5516 with Sancon Technologies, Inc., for the construction of *Artesia Extension Trunk Sewer Rehabilitation Phase 2*, resulting in a payment of \$436,451.26, was approved.

RE: LITIGATION AGAINST MICHAEL L.  
CULKIN AND M.L. CULKIN CONSTRUCTION  
COMPANY, INC., REGARDING  
UNAUTHORIZED SOIL STOCKPILE PLACED  
OVER DISTRICTS' SEWERS IN CITY OF PICO  
RIVERA - UPDATE

In 2022, the Board authorized issuance of an \$811,000 purchase order to a contractor to remove and dispose of a soil stockpile that Culkin placed over three Districts' sewers in private properties without the property owners' or Districts' authorization. The Districts took this action after Culkin failed to respond to multiple requests to remove the soil, which prevented inspection

of the sewers and threatened their structural integrity. The Board authorized Districts Counsel to initiate litigation against Culkin to recover damages sustained by the Districts. In 2023, Districts Counsel filed a lawsuit against Culkin seeking damages and, in January 2024, the Court ordered a default judgement be entered against Culkin in the amount of \$989,566.66 due to his failure to respond to the lawsuit. Based on an investigation by Districts Counsel, Culkin does not have any assets and the likelihood of recovering any damages is minimal. Therefore, the Districts will record the judgement and not take any further actions at this time. This item is consistent with the Districts' Guiding Principles of commitment to fiscal responsibility and prudent financial stewardship; and the commitment to operational excellence (protection of public health and the environment, regulatory compliance, and cost effectiveness).

RE: DISTRICTS' OPERATIONS DURING  
RECENT STORMS - DISCUSS

The Chief Engineer and General Manager stated that he is providing a detailed report on the February storms discussed in a recent email that included details of

various Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs) and a press release regarding the cause of the SSOs.

He gave some background on the Districts' sewer system. The Districts operates and owns treatment plants and a large, interconnected sewer system, also known as the Joint Outfall System (JOS). All local sewer lines (city and county) connect to the JOS, as was shown on a map. There were unprecedented storms that occurred in early February 2024. The Districts can tie into Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Rain Gauge Data. The cumulative rainfall from February 1-8, 2024, was shown on a map of the JOS. The foothills in the San Gabriel Valley saw rainfall of over 11 inches.

During two storms that occurred on February 1 and 4-6, staff saw significant increases in flow to treatment plants. The Districts' treatment plants remained online 100 percent, handled record flows, and experienced only minor issues. The treatment plants took all incoming flow from the cities and the County of Los Angeles. All pumping plants were online 100 percent with no pumping limitations. There were no blockages or structural failures, as had occurred with the spill in Carson in 2021, that caused issues. He stated that the Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs) were caused by stormwater entering the sewer system, not equipment or structural failure.

SSOs occurred in nine locations, as was shown on a map. Most of the overflows were relatively small at 20-60,000 gallons. One SSO located in Rancho Dominguez spilled a total of 8 million gallons, and wastewater ran into the Dominguez Channel, Los Angeles River, and the harbor and ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles.

The storms caused region-wide street flooding, as was shown in photos. There were advisories to the public against driving during street flooding. When street flooding occurs, staff sees a direct impact to sewer flows. He showed a photo of a service worker from the City of Los Angeles relieving a flooded street during this last storm by opening the manhole cover to allow water to drain into the sanitary sewer. While it may have relieved the problem of flooded streets, it only pushes the problem further downstream, and can lead to SSOs. The stormwater inflow impacts on the Rancho Dominguez Sewer, shown on a line graph, revealed a pattern of increased rain levels and concurrent significant increases in sewer flow on February 1 and 4-6. On February 4, the intense rain caused the sewer level to "skyrocket," which caused pressure to build in the sewer that pushed out water from the manhole and junction structure covers and damaged the surrounding asphalt, as was shown in a photo.

He showed a photo of a typical manhole cover. A manhole cover is designed to provide access to a sewer and can withstand roadway traffic. A manhole has a metal rim and holes to allow for a crowbar to lift the cover. Manholes are not watertight. Ideally, the stormwater and sanitary sewer systems stay separated, as was shown in a photo. Storm drains are located at the edge of the roadway. Some cities install screens to storm drains to filter debris. Sewer manholes are located at the crown or center of the roads. The two systems are completely separate, although there is always incidental water that enters the sewer system. The heavy rainfall and street flooding causes the manholes in many locations to be completely submerged in water, allowing the rainwater to enter the sewer system from the lip or holes of the manhole.

He discussed a bar graph showing the stormwater impacts to peak and average daily flows to JOS treatment plants. In the days preceding the storms of February 1 and February 4-6, the typical peak and average flows were 500 and 380 million gallons per day. However, during the storms, peak and average daily flows to the JOS significantly increased and doubled during the second storm that hit Los Angeles County from February 4-6. When the rainfall subsided then the flows returned to normal.

He showed more photos of street flooding and advised of the importance of preventing flooding, by allowing catch basins to flow unimpeded. He further advised of the importance of the corking and sealing manholes to prevent stormwater inflow. It's a practice that Districts implement in the JOS, and the Districts would offer supplies to the cities and county free of charge for their sanitary sewer systems. He then advised of two different commonly used methods to identifying sources of stormwater inflow to sanitary sewer systems, which included smoke testing and/or dye testing. Smoke testing involves introducing smoke into the sewer system to see where it may daylight out of the system through connections, while dye testing involves the release of an inert/non-reactive dye to the drain to trace whether it is connected to the sewer system. Districts' staff would be available to support cities and the county in identifying areas of high stormwater inflow for further study. Lastly, he advised that the Districts has sent a letter to City Managers and Public Works Directors regarding action requested to prevent sewer overflows during storms. Hardcopies of the letter were also attached to Directors agendas. He summarized the specific actions as follows:

- Prevent - Keep stormwater catch basins cleared to minimize street flooding.
- Train - Train staff (e.g., Public Works, Police, Fire Department) not to remove a sanitary sewer manhole cover to drain a flooded street.

- Prepare - Seal manhole covers that may become submerged. The Districts will provide caulk or silicone and corks free of charge upon request for sealing manhole covers.
- Tell Us - If you are aware of any areas that are subject to flooding during rain events, provide the Districts with the location and approximate boundaries so that staff can determine if there is potential for inflow of storm flows.

He reiterated that staff can provide support to cities and the county for inflow and infiltration studies that involve smoke or dye tests to show illegal connections. These actions are requested to prepare for this wet season and beyond. This letter to the cities and the county is an important resource for management issues. The Districts can assist cities and the county to identify problem areas.

The Chief Engineer and General Manager reminded the Directors that as a result of a third-party audit (following the 2021 Carson spill), the Districts initiated the development of a sewer flow model and monitoring system. He showed a map of the flow meters recently authorized by the Board for a portion of the JOS. While the monitoring system is necessary for the ongoing development of the sewer flow model, it has already paid dividends by identifying stormwater inflow issues in real-time. The Districts will add more meters in the north portion of the system next year to support the expansion of sewer model. In its entirety, the sewer model and monitoring system will allow the Districts to better manage the sewer system during rainy seasons, and it will be a great tool for staff to identify stormwater inflow hotspots and/or provide cities with information on where to focus their efforts to control inflow. He plans to discuss the matter with the Personnel Committee to determine the best way to assist cities and the county to get ahead of this problem.

He introduced Mr. Andre Schmidt, Wastewater Collections System Manager, who manages 120 staff that provide sewer system response and are available to work with city and county staff on this matter. He stated that Mr. Schmidt's crew provides 24-hour response for SSOs. The crew typically sets up equipment in the middle of the street to work to contain SSOs when they occur. On February 4-5, Mr. Schmidt's office received an alert regarding a potential spill in the City of La Mirada. Mr. Cedric Jefferson, a Supervising Engineering Technician from the Compton Field Office, traveled to La Mirada to investigate. Initially, Mr. Jefferson did not see any active spill, but went above and beyond in his efforts to investigate the spill. Through his additional investigations he discovered elevated sewer levels after opening a manhole cover as well as evidence of an earlier spill found in the street. Mr. Jefferson then called the Assistant Superintendent, and they were able to track that a Fire Department employee had reported the spill earlier that day, which matched the time frame and evidence that Mr. Jefferson had uncovered in his investigations. From a photo taken by the Fire Department, staff was able to estimate an approximate spill rate. The Chief Engineer and General Manager shared that integrity is a core value of the Districts and highlighted Mr. Jefferson's efforts in making sure that this spill was reported accurately.

Upon motion of Director Saleh, duly seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned.

CATHY WARNER  
Chairperson

ATTEST:

KIMBERLY S. CHRISTENSEN  
Secretary

/ee