



## STAFF REPORT

9/10/2025

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

**FROM:** Cástulo R. Estrada, Utilities Director

**SUBJECT:** Adopt Resolution No. SD – 2025 – 05 of the Coachella Sanitary District Adopting The Updated Sanitary Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) in Compliance with State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 2022-0103-DWQ.

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### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt Resolution No. SD – 2025 – 05 of the Coachella Sanitary District Adopting the Updated Sanitary Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) in Compliance with State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 2022-0103-DWQ.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The City of Coachella sewer system also known as the Coachella Sanitary District consists of sewers that collect local flows generated from the City's residential, commercial, and industrial areas and other areas outside the city limits and discharge to the City's wastewater treatment plant on Avenue 54 with a capacity of 4.5 million gallons per day.

The Coachella Sanitary District's collection system includes about 107 miles of sanitary sewers ranging in size from 4 inches to 54 inches in diameter. The system has over 8,200 connections with 1,900 manholes and two main pump stations.

On May 2, 2006, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) adopted Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ, which established Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems.

On December 6, 2022, the reissued State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) adopted Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems, Water Quality Order No. 2022-0103 DWQ, which became effective on June 5, 2023. This updated several requirements of the WDR and SSMP.

The requirements state that all federal and state agencies, municipalities, counties, districts, and other public entities that own or operate sanitary sewer systems greater than one mile in length that collect and/or convey untreated or partially treated wastewater to a publicly owned treatment facility in the State of California are required to meet these standards:

- Take all reasonable steps to eliminate sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs), and in the event that an SSO does occur, take all possible steps to contain and mitigate the impacts and report the SSO to the statewide reporting system;
- Properly, manage, operate, and maintain all parts of the sanitary sewer system and ensure that the system operators are adequately trained and possess adequate knowledge, skills, and abilities;
- Provide capacity to convey base flows and peak flows, including flows related to wet weather events; and
- Develop and implement a written Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP), approved by the governing board at a public meeting.

### **DISSUSSION/ANALYSIS:**

On May 28, 2025, the City's Council approved to proceed with an on-call agreement with Dudek to provide services related to the updating of the Coachella Sanitary District Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP). During the process, Utilities Staff met with Dudek staff to discuss the current processes and to comply with the statewide general waste discharge requirements.

The Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) is a written document that details how the sewer system is managed, operated, and maintained. This will help reduce and prevent sewer spills, as well as mitigate any SSOs that do occur. The SSMP must include 11 specific elements. Those elements are Goals, Organization, Legal Authority, Operations/Maintenance, Design/Performance, Spill Emergency Response, Sewer Pipe Blockage Control, System Evaluation/Capital Improvements, Monitoring, Internal Audits and Communication Plan.

The SSMP must be updated every six (6) years, and must include any significant program changes, and re-certification. The Board of Directors/City Council is required to approve the SSMP in a public meeting. The adoption of the attached resolution satisfies this requirement.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

No Fiscal Impact.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Resolution No. SD-2025-05  
Coachella SD SSMP Update 2025\_FINAL