



MEMORANDUM

November 4, 2022

TO: MEMBERS, PORT COMMISSION
Hon. Willie Adams, President
Hon. Kimberly Brandon, Vice President
Hon. John Burton
Hon. Gail Gilman
Hon. Steven Lee

FROM: Elaine Forbes
Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Request approval of the Port Sanitary Sewer Management Plan

DIRECTOR'S RECOMMENDATION: Approve the Attached Resolution No. 22-59

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Port staff manages a wastewater collection system that is subject to a state permit. This permit requires the Port to prepare a sanitary sewer management plan (SSMP) that must be updated and approved by the Port Commission every five years. The Port Commission last certified the SSMP in 2017. The 2022 version of the SSMP is nearly identical to the 2017 version and there are no substantive program revisions.

PORT'S STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE

The Port's management of the wastewater collection system, the SSMP, and compliance with the state permit implement the following goals of the Port's Strategic Plan:

Sustainability: *Limit climate change and employ strong environmental stewardship principles through implementation of Port-wide practices that protect the environment and promote ecological balance.*

Resiliency: *Lead the City's efforts to address infrastructure and sea wall resiliency to earthquake, sea level rise and natural hazards.*

BACKGROUND

On May 2, 2006, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems, Water Quality Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ (Order). The Order requires public agencies that own or operate sanitary sewer systems to develop and implement sewer system management plans and report all sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) to the State Water Board's online SSO database.

On February 20, 2008, the State Water Board Executive Officer issued an Executive Order (WQ 2008-002-EXEC) that revised the requirements of the Monitoring and Reporting Program component of the original Order to improve notification of sewer spills to first responders. On August 6, 2013, the State further amended the Order with the issuance of Executive Order WQ-2013-0058-EXEC to further clarify the objectives and requirements of the State's program to reduce sanitary sewer overflows.

On September 15, 2008, the Port Commission approved a plan and schedule for staff to develop a sanitary sewer management plan. In April 2010, a consultant completed the Port's SSMP and shortly thereafter staff uploaded the plan to the state website.

In 2010, the Port also initiated a program to improve the prevention of SSOs through an annual inspection program of the under-pier wastewater system. Under-pier wastewater infrastructure is subject to damage from floating debris and corrosion from bay waters. In 2012, staff developed written inspection protocols and training materials. The protocols were revised in 2015 and incorporated into the SSMP that was certified by the Port Commission in 2017.

DISCUSSION

The 2022 version of the SSMP is nearly identical to the 2017 version. Most updates reflect changes to Port staffing and there are no substantive program revisions. Port Maintenance staff continues to perform inspections and make repairs when there is a likelihood of failure before the next annual inspection. This inspection program has contributed to a reduction in the number of SSOs from a high of eighteen (18) in 2013 to a low of two (2) in 2020. Table 1 shows the spill pattern over the most recent five years.

Table 1

Year	Number of Spills	Discharge Volume (gal)
2017	5	968
2018*	5	13,050
2019	4	4,774
2020	2	60
2021	3	390

* Two of the five spills in 2018 were responsible for 95% of the discharge volume, most of which was recovered and returned to the sanitary sewer. These two spills occurred within days of each other and were related to a common blockage that was corrected.

The Port Commission last certified the the SSMP in 2017. In compliance with the Order, Port staff audited the SSMP in 2019 and 2021 to assess the program and to reflect staff changes over recent years. The SSMP was also updated in 2022 for the re-certification process. Port staff remains committed to compliance with the Order and protecting the water quality of the San Francisco Bay.

RECOMMENDATION

Port staff recommends that the Port Commission approve the Sanitary Sewer Management Plan that Port staff prepared.

Prepared by: Richard Berman
Planning and Environment

For: Rod Iwashita, Chief Harbor Engineer
Engineering

David Beaupre, Deputy Director
Planning and Environment

**PORT COMMISSION
CITY & COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO**

RESOLUTION NO. 22-59

- WHEREAS, Port manages a wastewater collection system; and
- WHEREAS, the Port's operation of this wastewater collection system is subject to State Water Resources Control Board Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ, WQ 2008-002-EXEC, and WQ-2013-0058-EXEC (Order); and
- WHEREAS, the Order requires Port to prepare a Sanitary Sewer Management Plan (SSMP) that meets the specifications of the Order; and
- WHEREAS, the Order requires Port to present the SSMP for approval to the Port Commission at a public meeting; and
- WHEREAS, the requirements and intent of the Order are consistent with the Port's strategic goals of sustainability and resiliency, therefore be it
- RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Port Commission hereby approves the Sanitary Sewer Management Plan, in substantially the form on file with the Secretary of the Port Commission, as required by the Order.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the San Francisco Port Commission at its November 8, 2022 meeting.

Secretary