



WEST BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
17140 S. Avalon Blvd., Suite 210
Carson, CA 90746

AGENDA NO. 24

August 6, 2008 – Communications
Kwan (Chair), Gray
August 25, 2008 – Board Meeting
Prepared by: Gus Meza
Submitted by: Ron Wildermuth
Approved by: Rich Nagel

INFORMATION CALENDAR

OCEAN FRIENDLY GARDEN PROGRAM – PROCUREMENT OF SERVICES

SUMMARY:

In 2006, West Basin partnered with the Surfrider Foundation and HydroEarth Inc. to design the Large Landscape Conservation / Runoff Reduction Management and Education Program (also known as the Ocean Friendly Garden Program). HydroEarth Inc. designed the large landscape centralized irrigation controller and runoff monitoring component of the program, and under a Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) with the Surfrider Foundation, they developed the “Ocean Friendly Garden” name and the CPR (Conservation, Percolation and Retention) landscape elements that will be utilized in the Program. West Basin was successful in its application to the Department of Water Resources and in March 2008 was awarded \$1.2 million for the program.

West Basin’s Conservation Department, Public Affairs Department and the Water Resources & Planning Department are coordinating efforts to implement this new multi-faceted program.

This item is to inform the Board that staff is currently working on procuring two vendors and providing HydroEarth Inc. and Surfrider Foundation with agreements. In all, three vendors and the Surfrider Foundation will be required to assist West Basin in implementing this Program.

The Program is multi-faceted and will provide information, devices and incentives to help conserve water, reduce runoff and teach the public how to develop their own Ocean Friendly Garden.

Procurement of a Landscape Architect

West Basin has issued a “Request for Proposals” (RFP) to landscape architects to design and install the Ocean-Friendly Demonstration Gardens. The contract will be for a term of 4 years, throughout the duration of the project.

Procurement of a Curriculum Developer / Class Instructor

West Basin has also issued an RFP to hire a qualified vendor to develop the Ocean Friendly Garden class curriculum and to teach the classes. The contract will also be for a term of 4 years.

Surfrider Foundation Agreement

West Basin will provide Surfrider Foundation with an Agreement that will detail their tasks and responsibilities. Surfrider will be responsible for working with the Landscape Architect in designing and implementing the Ocean Friendly Demonstration Gardens. Surfrider will also provide a representative at each of the 40 Ocean Friendly Garden Classes to teach the CPR concepts.

HydroEarth Inc. Agreement

West Basin will provide HydroEarth Inc. with an Agreement to install 1,117 weather-based and centralized irrigation controllers for large landscapes, and to install and monitor two water runoff devices for the program. One device will be installed in an area within the City of Malibu that has been classified as an "Area of Special Biological Significance" (ASBS), and the other device will be installed within the South Bay – site to be determined.

Selection Panel

The selection panel for both RFPs will include staff and representatives from Surfrider Foundation and Metropolitan Water District because of their partnerships in the Ocean Friendly Program.

Staff will bring a recommendation for the Curriculum Developer/Trainer and the Landscape Architect to the Board for consideration in October. Staff will also seek approval to provide a sole source agreement to its two program partners: the Surfrider Foundation and HydroEarth, Inc.

STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN IMPLEMENTATION:

Goal 1, Reliability – Maintain a level of local water reliability that supports the regional economy, our community and customer agency needs.

COMMITMENT STATEMENT:

Water Reliability - West Basin is committed to innovative planning and investments to provide water supply reliability and drought protection.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

Funding for this program has been budgeted in FY 2008-09, and has been allocated for the remaining three years.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

Not applicable.

COMMITTEE STATUS:

This item was reviewed at the Communications Committee meeting on August 6, 2008 and agendaized to August 25, 2008 Board meeting as information for discussion.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

This item is for information only.

LIST OF EXHIBITS:

None.

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