



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

AGENDA NO. 16

NOVEMBER 15, 2010 – Communications

Gray (Chair), Kwan

NOVEMBER 22, 2010 – Board Meeting

Prepared by: Darryl Ramos-Young

Submitted by: Ron Wildermuth

Approved by: Rich Nagel

ACTION CALENDAR

INTEGRATING THE NEW WATER EDUCATION CENTER INTO SEA LAB'S SCHOOL TOUR PROGRAM

SUMMARY:

SEA Lab currently conducts school tour programs of their facility during the weekdays from 9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. serving approximately 6,000 children each year. West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) proposes to create a new ocean protection lesson and capitalize on SEA Lab's education program by integrating a visit to the water education center as part of the SEA Lab's already existing school tour program.

Every Tuesday through Friday, SEA Lab conducts its own 3-hour long school program for K-5th grade students on site. Students rotate through three events: 1) A beach investigation; 2) A touch tank exploration; and 3) A classroom lesson. Working closely with West Basin staff, SEA Lab tour guides would be trained to conduct an educational ocean protection lesson that incorporates an ocean-water desalination activity and visit to the Water Education Center that would replace SEA Lab's current classroom lesson for only the 3rd-5th grade programs. For this first year of operation, West Basin proposes a pilot program targeting approximately 3,000 3-5th grade students (approximately 50 tours), with future expansion to younger grade levels upon evaluation of the pilot test.

This ocean protection lesson would cost \$122 per tour for a total amount not-to-exceed \$6,500 for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2010-11 school year. A cost breakdown is provided in Exhibit "A".

STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN IMPLEMENTATION:

Goal 3: Customer Service – West Basin is committed to providing value by understanding and meeting the needs of our customers and the communities we serve.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

Funding for Water Education Center school tours is included in the FY 2010-11 Public Information & Conservation Budget.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

Not applicable.

COMMITTEE STATUS:

This item was reviewed by the Communications Committee on November 15, 2010 and recommended for approval at the November 22, 2010 Board meeting

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

That the Board authorizes the General Manager to award a contract to SEA Lab in the amount of \$6,500 to conduct school tours of the Water Education Center.

LIST OF EXHIBITS:

Exhibit "A" – Water Education Center School Tour Budget Proposal

w:\westbasinboard\wbmwd\nov2010\10nov002