



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Department of Public Works



DATE: May 20, 2010
BOARD MEETING DATE: June 8, 2010
SPECIAL NOTICE/HEARING: None
VOTE REQUIRED: Majority

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors
FROM: James C. Porter, Director of Public Works
SUBJECT: Integrated Pest Management Policy

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution adopting a County Integrated Pest Management Policy, which shall serve as a policy document relative to pesticide management on land either owned or managed by the County of San Mateo.

BACKGROUND:

On October 14, 2009, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board adopted a Municipal Regional Permit (MRP), which established updated permit conditions affecting municipalities in the San Francisco Bay Area. Among the permitting mandates is the adoption of an Integrated Pest Management Policy (IPM) policy by each of the permitted municipalities no later than July 1, 2010.

DISCUSSION:

The County's Public Works Department, Parks and Recreation Department, Environmental Health Division of the Health System, and Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures are routinely involved with either the application of pesticides, reporting, or regulatory oversight of pesticide use.

These Departments have met and discussed the development of an IPM policy document which meets the goal of protecting health and safety of County employees and the general public, the environment and water quality, as well as providing sustainable solutions for pest control, through the reduced use of pesticides on property owned or managed by the County to the maximum extent practicable.

Each of these Departments currently operates within the framework of this policy.

Adoption of the policy by your Board will satisfy County reporting mandates, will comply with the requirements of the MRP, and will memorialize the framework which will guide each of these Departments in future management efforts.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the resolution as to form.

Adoption of this resolution contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of an Environmentally Conscious Community by establishing pesticide use guidelines that reflect efforts to control pests through techniques that minimize environmental impacts.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The costs associated with the adoption of an IPM policy are considered to be negligible. However, costs associated with implementation of the IPM policy and tracking and reporting on its compliance, as mandated by the new MRP, are estimated to range between \$54,000 and \$74,000 annually.

The requirement affects several departments within the County. It is not yet clear whether the costs could be absorbed by the San Mateo Countywide Water Pollution Prevention Program, which is fee based, or whether individual departments would need to absorb the costs based on their required level of participation in the overall permitting process, including compliance and reporting.

There is no anticipated impact to the General Fund, either as a result of the adoption of a County IPM policy or as a result of associated reporting requirements.

JCP:JAL:cv

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cc: Deborah Penny Bennett, Chief Deputy County Counsel
David Holland, Director, Parks and Recreation
Dean Peterson, Director, Environmental Health Services
Fred Crowder, Director, Agricultural Services

bcc: Joseph A. Lo Coco, Deputy Director, Road Services
Mark Chow, Principal Civil Engineer, Utilities-Flood Control-Watershed Protection
Services