

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS JANICE HAHN AND
KATHRYN BARGER

January 11, 2022

Assessing the Los Angeles County Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District

The Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District of Los Angeles County (District) is administered by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (DPW). The District maintains 4,600 miles of mainline sewer within the unincorporated areas and 37 cities serving greater than one-half of a million parcels and a population of over 2 million. The mainlines are generally 8-inches in diameter and generally flow downstream to larger diameter sewers that are maintained by the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts with exception of those cities in the Malibu/Las Virgenes area, which have trunk lines maintained by the Las Virgenes Metropolitan Water District.

On December 30, 2021 a major sewage spill occurred in the City of Carson resulting in about eight and a half million gallons of untreated sewage spilling into the County’s storm drain and the Dominguez Channel which quickly reached our local beaches. In addition, the City of Glendale also experienced a sewer spill which originated from a private sewer line, resulting in more than eight thousand gallons of sewage being

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released into storm drains that lead to the Verdugo River Wash and the Los Angeles River. Although the overflow is ongoing, the City is currently working on site and has been able to reduce the flow rate down to thirty gallons per minute.

While these incidents occurred under the jurisdiction of the Los Angeles County Sanitation District and the City of Glendale, it reminds us of the importance of assessing our own infrastructure to ensure that incidents such as the one in Carson do not reoccur. As the Board overseeing the Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District, it is our responsibility to ensure that we have adequate infrastructure and maintenance protocols to keep our communities safe.

WE THEREFORE MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Director of the Department of Public Works (DPW) to report back in 30 days on the following:

1. An update on the conditions assessment of the Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District (CSWD) and a progress report on the County's Sewer System Management Plan;
2. A current list of planned and scheduled infrastructure repair projects for critical CSMD infrastructure, such as sewer main lines, scheduled to begin construction within two-years, along with project timelines for completion;
3. An assessment of funding needs for long-term resilience of CSMD infrastructure; and
4. A plan and recommendation to obtain Federal infrastructure funding or other funding to address aging infrastructure within the unincorporated areas and cities served by the District.

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WE FURTHER MOVE that the Board direct the Director of the Department of

Public Works to:

1. Conduct monthly inspections of the critical infrastructure slated to be repaired or replaced in the previous directive, to insure against the potential failure of these systems;
2. Provide updated schedules and completion timelines for the projects identified in the previous directive; and
3. Report back every 60 days.

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JH:dg

