



# City of Santa Barbara

Parks and Recreation Department

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May 29, 2008

Mr. Dominic Roques  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Central Coast Region  
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

**SUBJECT: NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PHASE II MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM PERMIT; CITY OF SANTA BARBARA STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

Dear Mr. Roques:

This letter and attached table comprise the City of Santa Barbara's (City) response to the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) notification letter dated February 15, 2008, regarding the process for enrolling small MS4s under the State's General NPDES Permit for Storm Water Discharges. In response to the Water Board's letter, the City revised its March 2007 Storm Water Management Program (SWMP), appendices, and outreach materials, which are included on the enclosed CD.

The City has been implementing its SWMP since July 2007, per approval and direction from the City Council in 2006. One of the key tasks identified for year one of the SWMP is to produce a Technical Guidance Manual (Manual) with updated post-construction design standards and best management practice (BMP) design guidelines, (see Table 4.5, BMPs # 5.4, 5.5). The City began production of the Manual in 2007. The purpose of the Manual is to provide assistance in meeting the post-construction storm water management requirements contained in the City's SWMP. Specifically, the Manual will assist project applicants including developers, engineers, planners, landscape architects, and property owners in the selection, integration, design, and implementation of a variety of storm water BMP options for a project site. The Manual will identify and describe a range of BMPs including rain barrels, bioswales, and infiltration basins, which are designed to capture and treat storm water runoff from development and redevelopment projects.

The Manual also responds to requests from City land development review staff and project applicants for guidance in attaining the City's storm water treatment, peak flow rate, and volumetric standards. It is important to emphasize that the Manual is an administrative document intended to provide guidance so that appropriate BMPs can be selected on a site specific basis. The Manual will help ensure a focused and comprehensive approach to storm water pollution reduction, and will also serve as the implementation mechanism for the City's storm water ordinance once it is adopted as outlined in the SWMP (see Table 4.5, BMP # 5.4).

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City of Santa Barbara SWMP  
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Production of the City's Manual has included extensive outreach efforts that have resulted in dozens of meetings with public stakeholders and City staff, as well as public workshops and multiple hearings before the Creeks Advisory Committee, Architectural Board of Review, and Historic Landmarks Commission. On May 5, 2008, the consultant delivered the Draft Manual for review. Since then, Creeks Division staff has reviewed the document with City staff, and additional public opportunities to review and comment on the Draft Manual are scheduled throughout May, June, and July 2008.

The City believes that the SWMP and Technical Guidance Manual achieve and even exceed the storm water runoff and water quality requirements defined in the General Permit, as well as the goals outlined in the Water Board's February 15<sup>th</sup> letter. Please contact me at (805) 897-2508 or Autumn Malanca at (805) 897-1910 with any questions regarding the City's SWMP.

Sincerely,



Cameron Benson  
Creeks Restoration/Clean Water Manager

cc: James Armstrong, City Administrator  
Joan Kent, Assistant City Administrator  
John Bridley, Waterfront Director  
Paul Casey, Acting Public Works Director  
David Gustafson, Acting Community Development Director  
Karen Ramsdell, Airport Director  
Nancy Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director  
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Autumn Malanca, Water Resources Specialist