



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO



Natural Resources and Culture Committee

# Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP)

## Amendment to Joint Powers Authority Agreement

Steve Meyer, Deputy Public Utilities Director

Dr. Stephen Weisberg, SCCWRP Executive Director

February 27, 2013



# Requested Action

Authorize the Mayor to execute the Eight Amended Joint Powers Agreement.

Authorize the expenditure of \$1.6 million to fund this agreement.

# Background on SCCWRP

- ✓ SCCWRP is a national leader in coastal water quality research focused on developing the scientific foundation for water quality management in southern California.
- ✓ SCCWRP is a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) formed in 1969.
- ✓ SCCWRP has 14 member agencies, including: the four largest wastewater treatment plant operators in southern California, four countywide storm water programs, the three southern California Regional Water and Quality Control Boards, and the Environmental Protection Agency (Region Nine).

# SCCWRP Member Organizations

1. City of Los Angeles
2. Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
3. Orange County Sanitation District
4. City of San Diego
5. Ventura County Watershed Protection Division
6. Los Angeles County Dept of Public Works
7. Orange County Department of Public Works
8. San Diego County Dept of Public Works
9. San Diego Regional Water Quality Board
10. Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Board
11. Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Board
12. State Water Resources Control Board
13. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
14. California Ocean Protection Council

# Purpose

- ✓ Contribute to the scientific understanding of linkages among human activities, natural events, and the health of the Southern California coastal environment;
- ✓ Communicate this understanding to decision makers and other stakeholders;
- ✓ Help develop strategies for protecting the coastal environment for this and future generations.

# SCCWRP Commission

Unique interface between science and management as well as regulators and dischargers.

Governing Board includes one representative from each member agency and meets quarterly.

Coordinates partnerships.

Sponsors research studies and training events.

Provides regional data-sharing center.

# Benefits of Membership

- ✓ SCCWRP helps the City address its regulatory permit monitoring requirements.
- ✓ SCCWRP develops scientifically rigorous assessment approaches and measurement tools.
- ✓ Addressing emerging issues the City lacks in-house expertise to investigate.
- ✓ Provides a forum for cooperation with regulatory community.
- ✓ SCCWRP meets many of City's staff training needs.
- ✓ ***SCCWRP is a cost-effective investment.***

# Background on SCCWRP Agreement

- ✓ As a member agency, City has helped fund SCCWRP since its inception on 1969.
- ✓ The amended agreement will provide \$400,000 each year for FY2014 through FY2017 (same level as in past years).
- ✓ No increase in Public Utilities Department operating budget is needed for this agreement.
- ✓ Recommended for approval by San Diego Metro Joint Powers Authority and Independent Rates Oversight Committee in April 2012.





# *Questions?*