

11.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION COMPONENT

This section will describe the mechanisms put in place to promote and allow for public participation in the development and implementation of the Authority's SWMP, as required by Section D.6 of the Municipal Permit.

11.1 INTRODUCTION

The goals of the SWMP Public Participation Component are to facilitate public participation in the implementation of the SWMP and to gain community participation in sustaining and improving the Authority's stormwater management efforts. An educated public generally makes for a more effective partner in preventing stormwater pollution. As such, there is some overlap between the Authority's public education efforts described previously and those described here. Public participation is garnered in two primary ways: participation in implementation of SWMP programs, and public feedback on SMWP programs. Feedback is used to improve the SWMP itself and to improve the implementation of the SWMP.

The Authority's public participation program is directed primarily at Authority staff and the airport tenants, but also addresses the general public to the maximum extent possible.

11.2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to daily interactions between the tenants, Authority staff, and the public, several mechanisms will be used to provide airport tenants, staff, and the public the opportunity to participate in the implementation and ongoing development of the Authority's SWMP. These mechanisms are described below in two categories, namely, those available to all and those additional mechanisms available to Authority staff and airport tenants. Public participation mechanisms available to all include: 1) regular meetings of the Authority Board and subcommittees; 2) regular meetings of the various Municipal Permit Copermittee committees and workgroups; 3) the Authority webpage, 4) the Copermittee Project Clean Water webpage; 5) the Copermittees' Public Hotlines; 6) outreach events; and 7) collaborative efforts with the community. Those additional public participation mechanisms available to Authority staff and airport tenants include: 1) the Authority's 24-hour telephone line/public hotline; 2) the Tenant Safety Committee; and 3) the Lindbergh Airline Managers Council.

11.2.1 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO ALL

San Diego Regional Airport Authority Board Meetings

The Authority Board is committed to ensuring that SAN operates in a manner that complies with all environmental laws. The tenants, Authority staff, and the public are encouraged to review and comment on the SAN SWMP and to thereby help to continually improve both the plan and its implementation. Tenants and staff are encouraged to speak directly to the Board during public meetings.

Municipal Permit Copermittee Meetings

The Municipal Permit Copermittees meet regularly to discuss various aspects of the stormwater management programs being implemented throughout the county. In addition to the regular meetings of the Copermittee Management Committee, the Copermittees have established a number of subcommittees and workgroups. All meetings of the Committee, the subcommittees, and workgroups are open to the general public. These meetings provide numerous opportunities for public participation in stormwater management activities both throughout the region and at SAN. Attendees include a wide variety of experts, including representatives of federal, state and local agencies, industry representatives, environmental groups, consulting firms, product vendors, and academic and research institutions, as well as the general public.

Authority Webpage

The Authority webpage features several sections regarding the environmental issues at SAN (www.san.org/environmental), including stormwater management. The webpage is accessible by Authority staff, tenants, and the general public and presents the SAN SWMP in its entirety. The webpage provides contact information for the Environmental Affairs Department, allowing Authority staff, tenants and the general public another opportunity to review and comment on the SWMP and the various components of the program described therein.

Project Clean Water Webpage

Partly in response to its duties as the Principal Copermittee to the Municipal Permit, the County of San Diego established the Project Clean Water webpage (www.projectcleanwater.org) that features both general and specific information on regional water issues and local stormwater management programs. The webpage features contact information and direct web-links to the Authority. The webpage is intended to represent a major portal for public participation in stormwater management regionally and at the individual jurisdictional level.

Copermittees' Public Hotlines

The Municipal Permit Copermittees have established two regional hotlines: the Regional Stormwater Hotline and the THINK BLUE Hotline. Both are toll-free 800-numbers that allow the general public to obtain contact information for any of the individual Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Programs, including the Authority's. The hotlines also provide another mechanism for the general public to report unauthorized non-stormwater discharges and/or other stormwater concerns, which are then referred to the appropriate jurisdiction. The hotlines provide services in English and Spanish and are available 24-hours a day.

The Regional Stormwater Hotline is: 888-846-0800.

The THINK BLUE Hotline is: 888-THINK-BLUE (or 888- 844-6525).

Outreach Events

Outreach events for the Authority staff, tenants, and the general public allow the Environmental Affairs Department the opportunity to exchange information, ideas, and opinions about stormwater management issues and those issues specific to the airport. Outreach events have both an education component and a public participation component. Such events promote public participation and further environmental stewardship by tenants, staff, and the general public. These events include meetings, employee open houses, cleanup events, participation in community events, and presentations to various groups, clubs, and organizations.

Collaboration with the Community

To date, the Authority has collaborated with local environmental NGOs that share concern for proper stormwater management at SAN and protection of San Diego Bay. The Authority has collaborated with NGOs on environmental campaigns aimed at local schoolchildren and on bilingual natural resource conservation campaigns aimed at the general public and schoolchildren. Several of these collaborative efforts have resulted in displays at the SAN Children's Art Wall in Terminal 2. The Authority has also collaborated with NGOs on efforts aimed at educating the public and children about litter, cigarette butts, plastics, and other stormwater pollutants. The Authority continues to seek and support such collaborations to promote environmental stewardship among the public and school children. These collaborative efforts provide another opportunity for the public to share their ideas and concerns regarding stormwater pollution prevention with the Authority.

11.2.2 ADDITIONAL PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO AUTHORITY STAFF AND AIRPORT TENANTS

Authority's 24-Hour Telephone Line/Public Hotline

Authority staff, tenants, and the general public can always address immediate stormwater concerns directly to the Authority using the Airside Operations Department 24-hour telephone line/public hotline. In addition to providing Authority staff, tenants, and the general public with another link to the Environmental Affairs Department, the telephone line enables them to report unauthorized non-stormwater discharges and other stormwater concerns. Tenants and staff can also direct questions via the Hotline to the Environmental Affairs Department regarding appropriate implementation of BMPs and the SWMP as a whole.

Tenant Safety Committee

The Tenant Safety Committee also encourages participation by tenants and Authority staff and to take ownership of the SWMP and help ensure effective implementation of the plan. During these monthly committee meetings stormwater management concerns are presented by the Environmental Affairs Department and discussed with tenants and staff. At the same time, tenants and staff are welcome to submit comments on the SWMP and its implementation during the meetings

Lindbergh Airline Managers Council

Tenants and Authority staff meet monthly to discuss and improve the operational aspects of SAN. During these meetings, tenants and staff are encouraged to become involved in the SWMP, take ownership of the SWMP, and help ensure SWMP implementation. The meetings allow for frank exchange of information and opinions regarding stormwater management concerns at SAN.

11.3 PUBIC PARTICIPATION COMPONENT EFFECTIVENESS ASSESSMENT

The Authority has developed internal and external effectiveness assessment programs to evaluate the effectiveness of the SWMP public participation component. The Authority's Effectiveness Assessment component is described in Section 13.0 of this document.

11.4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION COMPONENT PROGRAM REVIEW AND MODIFICATION

The Authority has reserved this section to identify and document future changes to the Public Participation Component of the SWMP. Section 14.0 of this SWMP details the program modifications made to the *SWMP January 2005-Revision* to bring this document into compliance with the renewed Municipal Permit.