



# CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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August 1, 2006

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
City of Long Beach  
California

## RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager to execute all documents with the State of California Department of Health Services to provide recreational water testing services at City beaches for a period of one year. (Citywide)

## DISCUSSION

Since 1999, the State of California Department of Health Services (State) has awarded the City of Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) \$42,000 per year to offset the costs of testing recreational waters in the City for microbiological contaminants. The State recently awarded the City \$126,000 for the term of July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2009 to continue these services.

Testing will be conducted on no less than a weekly basis from April 1 through October 31. During all other periods, testing is conducted at least on a monthly basis. Additionally, the DHHS will test waters adjacent to a public beach in the event of a known untreated sewage spill. If this spill is known to have reached recreational waters, the City Health Officer will immediately close those waters to recreational use until it has been determined by the DHHS that the waters are in compliance with established public health standards.

Whenever any recreational water fails to meet established public health standards, the DHHS shall, at a minimum, post the beach with conspicuous warning signs to inform the public of the nature of the problem and the possibility of risk to the public health. Upon closure, the City Health Officer shall inform the agency responsible for the operation and maintenance of the public beach within 24 hours of the posting, closure, or restriction.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Donna Gwin on June 19, 2006 and Budget Management Officer, David Wodynski on June 21, 2006.

## TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

Timing is not critical in this case.

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FISCAL IMPACT

The City will receive revenues of \$126,000 for the period July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2009 to offset expenditures of the same amount. Sufficient funds are currently appropriated in the Health Fund (SR 130) and in the Department of Health and Human Services (HE).

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



RONALD R. ARIAS, DIRECTOR  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

APPROVED:



GERALD R. MILLER  
CITY MANAGER