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# CITY OF SACRAMENTO

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Melvin H. Johnson  
Director  
Leslie M. Frink  
Deputy Director  
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Deputy Director

October 7, 1986

Budget and Finance Committee  
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: REORGANIZATION OF THE WATER AND SEWER DIVISION

### SUMMARY

This report proposes that the Water and Sewer Division be reorganized into two divisions; a Water Division and a Flood Control and Sewer Division. It is staff's position that this change will result in more efficient and effective management of the important water, flood control and sewer functions as they continue to expand. The reorganization will result in the addition of one position, a Water Division Manager; however, no budget augmentation will be required. It is recommended that the proposed reorganization be approved.

### BACKGROUND

The Water and Sewer Division is larger than most City departments with an operating budget of over \$24 million and 275 personnel. It is responsible for potable water production, distribution, and storage. It is also responsible for stormwater collection, pumping, and disposal as well as sewage collection and pumping. Each of these activities has a major maintenance function associated with it.

The water activity of this division includes operation of two major water treatment plants, the operation of elevated and underground storage reservoirs, and a distribution system ranging in size from 6" to 60". The distribution system is expanding at a rapid rate as development continues and surface water is delivered to the north area of the City. Current plans call for the addition of at least one storage reservoir. A smaller water treatment plant, the Riverside Plant on the Sacramento River, was put back into service this year after many years of non-use. A study nearing completion will recommend the expansion of the existing water treatment plants and/or the addition of a new plant. The Council's conceptual approval of a Metropolitan Water Plan in which the City will be the provider of surface water to a large area will heighten this activity.

The increasing complexity of water rights and water quality matters only multiplies the significant issues with which the Water and Sewer Division Manager must deal.

As with water, the stormwater and sewer activity expands as the City grows. In addition, staff is currently negotiating with the American River Flood Control District for the takeover of their stormwater pumping stations. Also, Council has directed staff to investigate the possibility of expanding the City's flood control responsibilities, including providing for funding sources. A Drainage Fee rate increase was approved which will generate funding for a multi-million dollar capital improvement program to provide much needed drainage improvements. A study to determine the feasibility and cost of separating the City's combined sewer system will be undertaken shortly. A financing plan must also be developed to provide funds for the replacement of the deteriorating brick sewers in the Central City. Pending Federal legislation on stormwater discharges could have a major impact on the City. Here again, these matters are very complex and make it difficult for the Water and Sewer Division Manager to deal comprehensively with all of the associated issues.

Consequently, it is staff's position that the Water and Sewer Division should be reorganized into two divisions; a Water Division and a Flood Control and Sewer Division. It is proposed that the existing division manager position be redesignated as the Flood Control and Sewer Division Manager and that a new position of Water Division Manager be created. Budget units have been arranged over the past two years so that they can be segregated into the proper divisions without budget amendments.

The reorganization of the division will result in more efficient and effective management of water, flood control and sewer functions and assure that the City's interests are protected and enhanced in these important areas.


#### FINANCIAL

The addition of the Water Division Manager position will not require budget augmentation this fiscal year due to anticipated salary savings.


RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the reorganization of the Water and Sewer Division into a Water Division and a Flood Control and Sewer Division be approved and that staff be directed to forward the attached resolution to Council for adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Melvin H. Johnson  
Director of Public Works

RECOMMENDATION APPROVED:

  
Solon Wisham, Jr.  
Assistant City Manager

October 7, 1986  
All Districts

**RESOLUTION No.**

**Adopted by The Sacramento City Council on date of**

**RESOLUTION ADDING THE POSITION OF WATER DIVISION MANAGER**

NOW. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO THAT:

The one FTE position of Water Division Manager be authorized for the Water Division. effective October 18. 1986.