



Staff Report

TO: City Council

FROM: Thaxton Van Belle, Director of Water Reclamation
Sunshine Sanchez, Management Analyst

DATE: November 4, 2025

SUBJECT: Follow-Up Report No. 14 – Local State of Emergency - Sewer Mainline Failure and Emergency Repairs in Fairway Canyon

Description: City is retroactively pursuing environmental permits due to local emergency caused by the sewer mainline failure in Fairway Canyon. A resolution to re-ratify the declared state of local emergency is needed.

Background and Analysis:

On March 3, 2025, City staff were notified of a major sewer mainline failure in the Fairway Canyon community caused by slope erosion behind Hogan Drive homes. The incident led to a manhole collapse and subsequent 15-inch sewer mainline failure, resulting in a raw sewage spill and the need for emergency response measures.

On March 4, 2025, City Council adopted a Resolution titled, “A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Beaumont Declaring A Local Emergency And Authorizing The City Manager To Take Necessary Action”, which authorized emergency expenditures in an amount not to exceed \$500,000, directed staff to provide ongoing reports at each subsequent City Council meeting under California Public Contract Code Section 22050, and authorized the City Manager to take all necessary actions to mitigate further damage and ensure public health and safety.

On March 18, 2025, staff brought a follow-up status report regarding the emergency repairs in Fairway Canyon. No action was taken, but updated pictures were provided, along with an estimated amount of \$21,000 that has been expended.

On April 1, 2025, staff brought a follow-up status report regarding the emergency repairs in Fairway Canyon. The full financial impact to date was \$432,101, including requisitions added and costs on bypass pumping, equipment, and fuel. Staff were approved for an additional \$500,000 to increase the total allocation to \$1,000,000 to cover the costs for repairs.

On April 15, 2025, staff provided a follow-up regarding the emergency repairs in Fairway Canyon, which included construction progress updates with pictures and expenditures paid to date.

On May 6, 2025, staff provided an update on construction activity with pictures of completed items.

On June 3, 2025, the City Council re-ratified the Local Emergency Declaration through a second resolution.

On June 17, 2025, staff provided an update to the City Council that, on the recommendation of legal counsel, the emergency status remains open while the City pursues environmental permits retroactively.

On July 15, 2025, the City Council re-ratified the Local Emergency Declaration through a third resolution.

On August 19, 2025, the City Council re-ratified the Local Emergency Declaration through a fourth resolution.

On September 2, 2025, staff provided the City Council with an update on pursuing environmental permits retroactively.

On September 16, 2025, the City Council re-ratified the Local Emergency Declaration through a fifth resolution.

On October 7, 2025, staff provided the City Council with an update on pursuing environmental permits retroactively.

On October 21, 2025, the City Council re-ratified the Local Emergency Declaration through a sixth resolution.

Staff are currently coordinating with applicable agencies for permitting. Varco & Rosenbaum are included in the resolution as part of the City's continued efforts to secure the necessary environmental permits and comply with regulatory requirements.

The costs are displayed in the table below:

Expenditures as of October 30, 2025	Total Budget	Amount Spent	Remaining Budget
Fuel for bypass pumps		\$2,972.00	
Miscellaneous equipment		\$1,168.00	
Electrical		\$8,627.00	

Charles King (Bypass pumps)		\$23,552.00	
Weaver Grading		\$354,500.00	
Legal Services*		\$34,570.00	
State Water Resources Control Board		\$4,212.00	
Environmental Law Group -Varco & Rosenbaum**		\$149,944.00	
Total	\$1,000,000.00	\$579,545.00	\$420,455.00

*Legal Services refer to those provided by the city attorney's office (SBEMP).

**Varco & Rosenbaum provide specialty environmental law services and include charges from Rincon and Walker prior to the City's direct engagement with Rincon and Walker.

Fiscal Impact:

All emergency-related costs are paid from the Wastewater contingency account 700-4051-7900-0000, with reserve funds available, if necessary. The legal and consulting services provided by Varco & Rosenbaum, totaling \$149,944 to date, have been coded to account 100-1300-7068-000S.

The current total expenses are within the council's approved budget.

The estimated cost to prepare this staff report is \$150.

Recommended Action:

Receive and file.