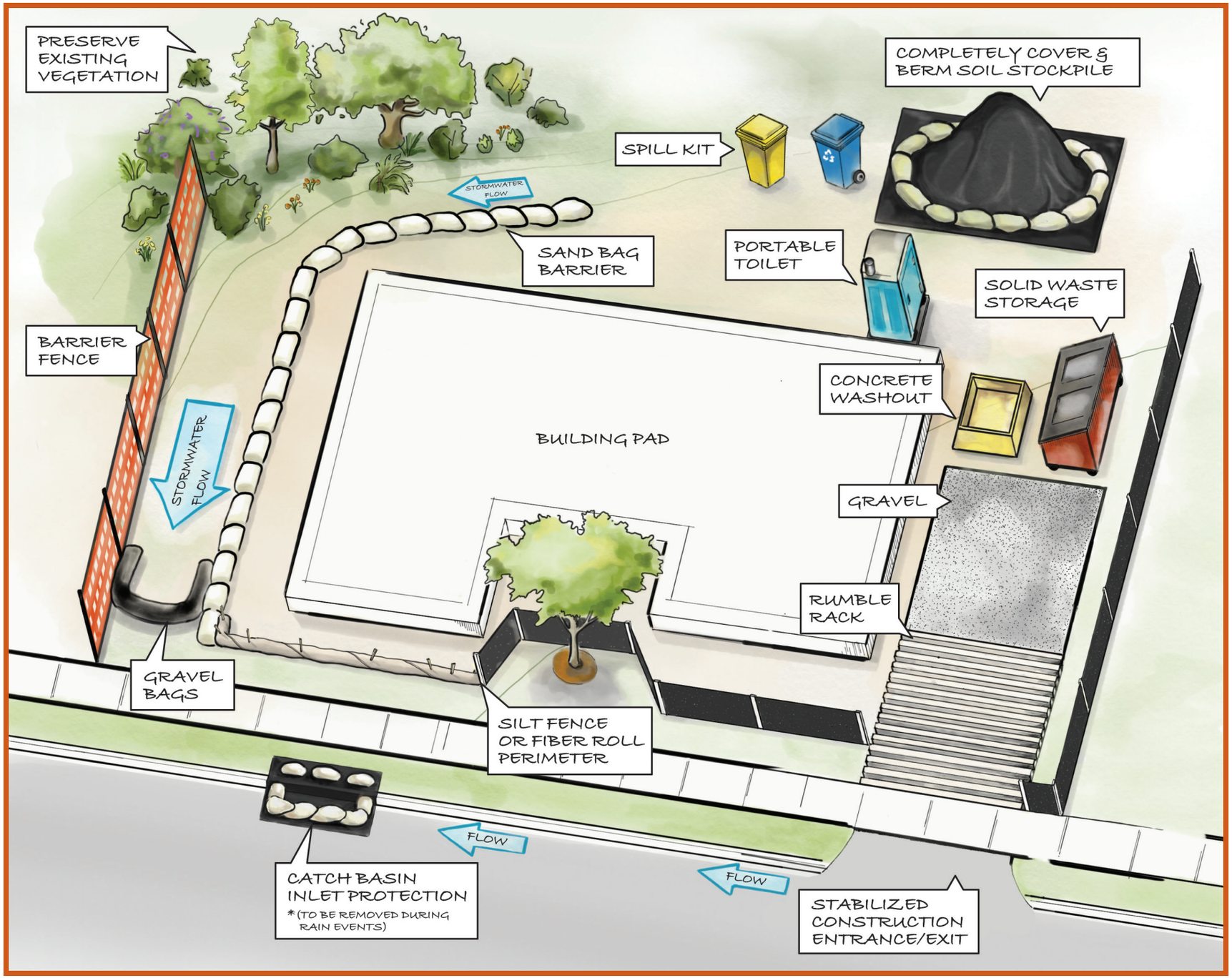

CITY OF TORRANCE

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KEEP IT ONSITE!

Best Management Practices

for Construction Sites

Our beaches, coastal streams and wetlands are precious to our coastal communities, but human activity such as construction work can pollute these natural treasures unless contractors use effective best management practices (BMPs).

This brochure outlines the minimum required BMPs for construction projects of any size.*

* Construction projects that disturb one acre or more of soil must also comply with the Statewide Construction General Permit: waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/construction.html

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BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR CONSTRUCTION SITES

An effective combination of the following 14 minimum BMPs must be implemented and maintained on all construction sites to comply with the Clean Water Act. Local agencies may have additional requirements.

EROSION CONTROLS

Schedule construction to minimize the area and duration of soil disturbance/exposure, especially during the rainy season.

- Deploy all construction BMPs before beginning construction and maintain frequently.
- Monitor weather forecasts and check BMPs before and after rain and wind events.
- Schedule grading for non-rainy season whenever possible (May – September).
- Stabilize inactive areas of exposed soil.
- At the end of the job, stabilize all exposed soil with sod, seed, vegetation or mulch.

Preserve and Protect Existing Trees and Vegetation for shade, habitat and natural erosion control.

- Flag or fence trees and vegetation to be protected prior to construction.
- Place temporary fencing at the edge of the tree canopy/dripline to protect roots from compaction.
- Keep trenching outside of tree canopy and cover any exposed roots with soil.
- Consult an arborist for advice on protecting valuable trees.
- Do not cut trees or brush along banks of a natural drainage course without permit(s).

Wind Erosion Controls deployed when wind advisory is forecast.

- Cover erodible stockpiles.
- Limit vehicle speeds onsite.
- Implement dust suppression without causing site runoff.

SEDIMENT CONTROLS

Perimeter Controls, e.g., silt fence, sandbag or fiber roll barriers to keep sediment on site.

- Silt fence trenched and keyed in to filter sediment-laden sheet flow.
- Sandbag or fiber roll barriers placed on a level contour to intercept sheet flow and settle out sediment.
- Gravel bag barriers may be used for flow-through sediment filtration.

Stabilized Construction Entrance/Exit (required if vehicles will enter the site) to prevent tracking of dirt and mud onto street and must include:

- Crushed aggregate at least 3 inches in diameter placed at least 12 inches deep over filter fabric.
- Rumble racks (manufactured steel plates with ribs).
- Site control to limit vehicle access only to stabilized entrance/exit.

WATER USE AND MANAGEMENT

Water Conservation Practices to prevent illegal construction discharges include:

- Dry sweeping and/or vacuuming paved areas.
- Use of quick-release nozzles on hoses.
- Prompt repair of leaks from water trucks, irrigation, hydrant connections, etc.
- Reuse of water generated onsite for dust control.

Dewatering Operations If dewatering of groundwater during construction and/or from a permanent sump pump will be discharged to the storm drain or street:

- 45 days prior to discharge, a separate permit must be obtained under Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board Order No. R4-2023-0429, waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/board_decisions/adopted_orders/general_orders/R4-2023-0429.pdf.
- Implement and maintain treatment as specified by approved permit.
- Keep the flow path of the discharge to the storm drain clean, i.e., sweep up dirt, debris, leaves, and trash.
- Dewatering discharges must not cause soil erosion.

MATERIAL AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

Material Delivery and Storage Management

- Limit the number of different types of solvents and materials to reduce waste.
- Select less toxic or hazardous products when feasible.
- Store liquids or toxic materials in double-walled tanks or watertight containers under covered areas away from drainage-ways.
- Locate material storage away from vehicle traffic and drainage pathways.
- Keep Safety Data Sheets onsite and train workers to review before using hazardous materials.

Stockpile Management and Protection

- Cover erodible stockpiles during non-active periods to protect from wind-blown dispersion.
- Locate stockpiles away from street or onsite drainage pathways.
- Provide perimeter sediment barrier.
- Place asphalt-based cold-mix stockpiles on plastic and cover prior to rain.

Spill Prevention and Control Measures

- Keep spill absorbent and clean-up supplies readily at hand.
- Utilize spill prevention/containment measures such as drip pans.
- If equipment fueling or maintenance must be performed onsite, designate a specific area on level ground away from drainage-way or street.
- Stop, safely contain and clean up spills promptly.
- Properly dispose of spill cleanup materials.
- Keep emergency response contact numbers readily available onsite.

Solid Waste Management

- Follow local demolition/debris management, recycling and disposal requirements.
- Maintain an organized/segregated waste storage area.
- Dispose of hazardous waste in a lawful manner.
- Control litter such as empty food and beverage containers and cigarette butts.

Do not:

- Bury or dispose of waste materials onsite.
- Dispose of liquids in dumpster.

Concrete Waste, including concrete washout, tile, stucco and any cementitious waste:

- Provide designated containment area lined or designed to prevent the release of liquids onto or into the ground.
- Properly dispose of waste.

Do not:

- Rinse concrete vehicles or equipment into the street or catch basin.

Sanitary/Septic Waste Management

- Follow local requirements for placement and service of portable toilets.
- Locate away from catch basins and vehicular traffic.
- Anchor in areas subject to vandalism or when strong winds are forecast.
- Require spill prevention measures during service.

SITE MANAGEMENT

Housekeeping practices must be implemented throughout construction.

- Inspect and maintain BMPs regularly.
- Keep site neat and organized.
- Train all site workers on BMP maintenance.
- Keep documentation onsite at all times, e.g., SWPPP, Safety Data Sheets.
- Schedule material deliveries to minimize storage space and weathering.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS AND ADDITIONAL PERMITS

Asbestos: work with or removal of asbestos-related materials requires special handling and containment practices under Title 8 of California Code of Regulations.

Lead-Based Paint Renovation, Removal and Painting Program Rule: Rule requires that contractors that work on pre-1978 dwellings and child-occupied facilities be trained and certified to use lead-safe work practices.

Lake and Streambed Work: Additional permits may be required if construction work will be conducted along a lake, stream, wetland or ocean. These include:

- Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement from CA Depart. of Fish & Wildlife wildlife.ca.gov/conservation/environmental-Review/LSA
- US Army Corps of Engineers usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Regulatory-Program-and-Permits/Obtain-a-Permit/
- Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board 401 Water Quality Certification permit waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/401_water_quality_certification/CleanWaterApp.html
- California Wetland Riparian Area Protection Policy, including Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters of the State waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/wrapp.html

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