March 3, 2015

Board of Supervisors
County of Marin
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, California 94903

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT THE INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PROGRAM'S 2014 ANNUAL REPORT, AND TO APPROVE LIST OF RECOMMENDED PESTICIDES FOR 2015

Dear Board Members:

RECOMMENDATION:
2. Approve the Recommended Pesticide Use List for 2015.

SUMMARY:
Marin County's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Ordinance and Policy require that an annual report be presented to your board each year. The attached annual report meets all requirements of the IPM Ordinance and Policy and includes a review of pesticide use records and a proposed list of "Allowed Pesticide Products". There is very detailed information in this report on the IPM Program and the full list of recommended products being considered is included.

2014 was a year of transition for the county's IPM program. Former Parks Superintendent Ed Hulme, who also served as the county's IPM coordinator and was a key player in the establishment of the county's award winning IPM program, retired and subsequently passed away. Former Chief of Landscape Services Dave Hattem, a pivotal player in the technical aspects of the IPM program, also retired. New staff has been brought on board and has rapidly come up to speed to continue the great work performed by these two individuals, in conjunction with a dedicated and talented IPM Commission.

The County IPM program currently applies to 147 sites including parks, landscaped median strips, multi-use pathways, public buildings, boat ramps, remote radio antenna sites, pump-stations, and detention facilities. Key components of the
program include training; pest monitoring, use of alternative pest control activities focusing on mechanical, biological, and cultural practices; a robust volunteer program; and the use of chemical control measures. Each site is evaluated on a regular basis. If there is a problem, the choice of treatment is determined based on severity, timing and available resources. Prior to the adoption of the updated IPM Ordinance and Policy in 2009, only 34 of these sites were subject to the IPM Ordinance and Policy. It is important to note that in 2014, 115 sites were maintained as pesticide free. While that goal cannot always be achieved due to the changing nature of pest problems and weather conditions, it is a notable achievement.

The results achieved in 2014 would not have been possible without the support and funding from your board, the involvement of the public, and the high level of staff commitment. Staff from Marin County Parks and the Marin County Department of Public Works has contributed a great deal of time and energy to make IPM a high priority this past year. Ongoing funding and staff resources will be necessary to sustain progress and to continue adherence to the ordinance and policy. In the coming year, IPM staff will be working hard to continue to advance the IPM program by adding additional volunteers, researching new alternative products, staying current with best practices, and keeping up with emerging science.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Your board previously allocated $100,000 in annual funding for the IPM program. For fiscal year 2014-2015 these funds will be used for continuing work including purchase of IPM materials and supplies, website updates, preparing site and pest specific plans, record keeping, reporting, and general IPM program support.

REVIEWED BY:

[X] County Counsel
[X] N/A

[X] Human Resources
[X] N/A

[X] Dept. of Finance
[X] N/A

IPM Program Coordinator Chris Chamberlain is the principal author of this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Miska
Assistant Director

RM/CC/kbl