



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: PW/Water Agency
Department No.: 054
For Agenda Of: August 20, 2024
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Directors, Santa Barbara County Water Agency
FROM: Department Chris Sneddon, Public Works Director, (805) 568-3010
Director(s)
Contact Info: Walter Rubalcava, Deputy Director-Water Resources,
(805) 568-3436
SUBJECT: Cost Sharing Agreement among the Santa Barbara County Water Agency, the Summerland Sanitary District, the Montecito Sanitary District, and the Montecito Water District for a Wastewater Flow Equalization Reuse Feasibility Study – First Supervisorial District

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Directors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to Execute the Cost Sharing Agreement with the Summerland Sanitary District, Montecito Sanitary District, and Montecito Water District for the “Summerland Sanitary District and Montecito Sanitary District Collection Systems and Flow Equalization Analysis for Montecito Water District Reuse” Feasibility Study; and
- b) Find that the proposed action does not constitute a “Project” within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act, pursuant to 14 CCR §15378 (b)(5), in that it is a government administrative activity that will not result in direct or indirect changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to approve and authorize the Chair to execute the Cost Sharing Agreement (Agreement) among the Santa Barbara County Water Agency (Water Agency), the Summerland Sanitary District (SSD), the Montecito Sanitary District (MSD), and the Montecito Water District (MWD). The Agreement outlines the cost breakdown for each participating agency to complete a feasibility study to evaluate various options related the SSD and the MSD Collection System and Flow

Equalization Analysis for MWD Reuse. A purchasing contract for the professional services between Carollo Engineers, Inc. and the Water Agency has been approved. This Study is being completed to further build upon the results of a County-wide analysis of wastewater reuse prepared by Carollo Engineers, Inc. and presented to the Board on February 6, 2024 to receive and file. The studies are entitled *Countywide Potable Reuse Evaluation* dated October 2023, and *Groundwater Recharge Evaluation* dated August 2023.

The goal of the current Study is water conservation, reuse, and establishing an alternate supply not currently available.

The total cost of this Study is estimated to be \$131,875.00. Participating agencies have agreed to share the cost as follows:

- The Water Agency will pay a total of \$41,875 (31.75%).
- The SSD will pay a total of \$30,000 (22.75%).
- The MSD will pay a total of \$30,000 (22.75%).
- The MWD will pay a total of \$30,000 (22.75%).

In the event costs for this Study are greater than \$131,875, the Water Agency will cover all additional expenses.

Background:

On September 13, 2022, the Water Agency Board of Directors directed staff to evaluate opportunities for potable reuse of wastewater in Santa Barbara County. The Water Agency subsequently contracted with Carollo Engineers to produce the *Countywide Potable Reuse Evaluation*, a high-level study that documents and summarizes what each of the wastewater treatment utilities in the County are doing regarding treatment (wastewater and advanced processes) and the end use of that water (water reuse, effluent disposal, including both location and volume). In addition, four potential potable reuse projects were evaluated at a higher level of detail, considering both indirect potable reuse (IPR) and direct potable reuse (DPR). These four projects included individual projects at the City of Buellton and City of Solvang, a combined project for the two cities, and a project for the Summerland Community Services District (CSD). In response to additional questions raised in the Summerland portion of the study, additional research will be conducted in collaboration with SSD, MWD, and MSD. This Agreement is directly related to this portion of the analysis. The information in the *Potable Reuse Evaluation*, and the continued analysis of the current Study, provides critical guidance to agencies throughout the County as they navigate challenges in both disposing of wastewater and developing local, drought-proof water supply portfolios.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
Water Agency			\$41,875
Summerland SD			\$30,000
Montecito SD			\$30,000
Montecito WD			\$30,000
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 131,875.00

Narrative:

The costs associated with the study are included in the FY 2024-25 adopted budget under Water Resources of the Public Works Department as shown on page D-334 of the budget book. The Water Agency will contribute \$41,875, and the remaining \$90,000 will be split equally by the SSD, MSD, and the MWD, for a total of \$131,875.00.

This Feasibility Study is budgeted in Dept: 054, Fund: 3050, Program: 3007, and Account: 7650.

Special Instructions:

Direct the Clerk of the Board to email a copy of the signature page of the Cooperative Agreement and minute order of these actions to Christina Lopez at clopez@countyofsb.org

Attachments:

Attachment A: Cost Sharing Agreement includes Scope of Work

Authored by:

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