



City Council Agenda Item

City Council Meeting Date: January 21, 2020

TO: Jim Throop, City Manager

FROM: Kristin Worthley, Administrative Analyst
k_worthley@ci.lompoc.ca.us

SUBJECT: Approval of Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement for the Implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the City Council approve Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement for the Implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Agreement) (attached), and direct the City Manager to execute it.

Background/Discussion:

In 2014 the State of California enacted the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), including but not limited to Water Code Section 10720 et seq. SGMA characterized the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin) as a medium-priority basin that is not in critical overdraft. SGMA provides for medium-priority basins to: establish a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) and adopt a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

There are three GSAs associated with the Basin:

1. The Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (WMA GSA) formed by the City of Lompoc, Vandenberg Village Community Services District, the Mission Hills Community Services District, the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, and the Santa Barbara County Water Agency.
2. The Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CMA GSA) formed by the City of Buellton, the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, and the Santa Barbara County Water Agency.
3. The Eastern Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (EMA GSA) formed by the City of Solvang, The Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District-

-Improvement District No. 1, the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, and the Santa Barbara County Water Agency.

The purpose of the Agreement is for the three GSAs to work together to explore, study, evaluate, develop and carry out mutually beneficial approaches and strategies for implementing the SGMA throughout the Basin in an effective, efficient, fair, and cost-effective manner.

Fiscal Impact:

Cost incurred for services or activities will be equally apportioned among and paid by the three GSAs (one third each). Cost sharing within the WMA GSA will be administered in accordance with the terms of the WMA Memorandum of Understanding dated January 2017.

Conclusion:

The Agreement commits the eight agencies to cooperate and meet the requirements and elements set forth in Section 357.4 of Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations to ensure that GSPs are developed and implemented utilizing the same data and methodologies, and that elements of the GSPs necessary to achieve the sustainability goal for the Basin are based upon consistent interpretations of the basin setting.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Worthley, Administrative Analyst

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY MANAGER:

George Morrow, Utility Director

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY COUNCIL:

Jim Throop, City Manager

Attachment: Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement for Implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act in the Santa Ynez River Valley Ground Water Basin