

Agenda Item



DATE: March 16, 2026

TO: UPUD Board of Directors

FROM: Jessica Self, General Manager

SUBJECT: Adopt Resolution No 2026-005 Approving the MOU for the Implementation of the Highway 4 Corridor Regional Water Supply Long-Term Water Needs Study

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Motion: _____ / _____ approving Resolution 2026 -005 Approving the MOU for the Implementation of the Highway 4 Corridor Regional Water Supply Long-Term Water Needs Study

SUMMARY:

The Highway 4 Regional Water Supply partnership is composed of the Union Public Utility District (UPUD), City of Angels Camp (COA), Calaveras County Water District (CCWD), and Utica Water and Power Authority (UWPA). Together, we strive to collaborate on prioritizing long-term planning and solutions for the Highway 4 community water supply. Specifically, we aim to enhance backup water supplies, evaluate potential impacts to water supply reliability, explore potential water sources for each service area, and find methods to provide water service more efficiently.

A resolution was adopted on April 24, 2024 which UPUD Board's commitment to the partnership and their support for conducting a Regional Water Supply Study. Since then, the partnering agencies have worked together to draft a scope of work and a request for proposals for a consultant to conduct a regional water supply, long-term water needs study focused on the Highway 4 corridor. Prior to advertising an RFP for this study, staff from the agencies have developed a Memorandum of Understanding for each governing body to adopt. Specifically, the MOU covers:

- The participating agencies (CCWD, COA, UPUD, and UWPA) agree to collaborate on a regional study to evaluate long-term water needs along the Highway 4 corridor from Copperopolis to Camp Connell.
- The study will assess future demand, improve water supply reliability, explore backup and alternative sources, and identify opportunities for operational efficiencies and emergency preparedness (Draft RFP is attached).
- The agencies will jointly develop the scope of work, select a consultant through a transparent, collaborative process, and collectively direct the consultant.

Attachments: *MOU Draft for the Highway 4 Corridor Regional Water Supply Long-Term Water Needs Study*
Resolution 2026-005 Approving the MOU for the Implementation of the Highway 4 Corridor Regional Water Supply Long-Term Water Needs Study

- UWPA, the Joint Powers Authority for COA and UPUD, will serve as the contracting and invoicing party; consultant costs will be split 50% by CCWD and 50% by the other agencies (UPUD and COA each covering 25%).

Once each Agency adopts the MOU in March, staff will release the RFP. The goal is to execute a consultant contract before finalizing the Fiscal Year budget so that each participating agency can include its designated cost share in its budget.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

If adopted, Union Public Utility District will be responsible for bearing 25% of the consultant costs for this study in Fiscal Year 2027.