

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-58

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COACHELLA, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING ITS SUPPORT FOR THE SALTON SEA MANAGEMENT PROGRAM TO REVIEW AND CONSIDER THE IMPACTS OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS DURING THE COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF WATER IMPORT ALTERNATIVES AS PART OF THE LONG-TERM SOLUTION FOR THE SALTON SEA

WHEREAS, the Salton Sea Restoration Act (known as the California Fish and Game Code 2931) in part provides that:

1. The State of California undertake the restoration of the Salton Sea ecosystem and the permanent protection of the wide variety of flora and fauna dependent upon the ecosystem.
2. Restoration shall be based upon an approved preferred alternative utilizing the Salton Sea Restoration Fund and other funds made available by the California Legislature and the federal government.
3. Air quality impacts to the surrounding region, both existing and foreseeable, shall be mitigated.
4. Complete engineering studies regarding water replenishment alternatives shall be incorporated into the restoration plan of the Salton Sea.
5. Cooperation with local governments, nonprofit organizations, private businesses and the public shall be included as a basis for moving forward.

WHEREAS, the State of California has developed the Salton Sea Management Program through departments within the California Natural Resources Agency and Environmental Protection Agency, and is obligated to pay for certain costs related to habitat, air and water quality issues at the Salton Sea; and

WHEREAS, the California State Water Resources Control Board has an oversight role in monitoring and ensuring progress towards the goals of the Salton Sea Management Program, and has set a deadline of December 31, 2022, for the completion of a long-term plan regarding the Salton Sea; and

WHEREAS, on December 12, 2018, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2018-80 in support of the memorandum of understanding between the County of Imperial and the County of Riverside concerning unified support for the Salton Sea; and

WHEREAS, on January 22, 2020, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2020-05, in support of a Comprehensive Analysis of Ocean Water Import for the Restoration of the Salton Sea; and

WHEREAS, on August 7, 2020, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2020-48 in support of the addition of a Valley-Wide Representative to the Salton Sea Management Program ("SSMP") Engagement Committee, and Supporting the Immediate Comparative Engineering Review of the Ocean Water Import Proposals Accepted by the State of California in 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Salton Sea Management Program has established an Independent Review Panel to review the concepts for water importation to the Slaton Sea for its long-term restoration.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Coachella, California, as follows:

1. The City Council reiterates their support of the Salton Sea Management Program conducting a comparative review of the water import proposals accepted by the State of California in 2018 through the Independent Review Panel.
2. The City Council requests that the Independent Review Panel for Salton Sea water importation established by the Salton Sea Management Program consider the impacts of greenhouse gas emissions during the comprehensive analysis of water import alternatives as part of the long-term solution for the Salton Sea.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 8th day of June 2022.

Steven A. Hernandez
Mayor

ATTEST:

Angela M. Zepeda
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Carlos Campos
City Attorney

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE) ss.
CITY OF COACHELLA)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution No. 2022-58 was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Coachella at a regular meeting thereof, held on the 8th day of June 2022, by the following vote of Council:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Andrea J. Carranza, MMC
Deputy City Clerk