

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-22

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF THE DIRECTORS OF MISSION SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT TO ADOPT THE 2022 MISSION CREEK SUBBASIN ALTERNATIVE PLAN UPDATE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

WHEREAS, the California Legislature enacted a statewide framework for sustainable groundwater management, known as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (California Water Code section 10720 et seq.), pursuant to Senate Bill 1168, Senate Bill 1319, and Assembly Bill 1739, which was approved by the Governor and Chaptered by the Secretary of State on September 16, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) went into effect on January 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, SGMA requires all medium- and high-priority groundwater basins, as designated by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Bulletin 118, to be managed pursuant to a Groundwater Sustainability Plan or an approved Alternative Plan; and

WHEREAS, DWR has designated the Mission Creek Subbasin of the Coachella Valley Groundwater Basin as a medium-priority basin (DWR Bulletin 118 No. 7-021.02); and

WHEREAS, the Mission Springs Water District, Coachella Valley Water District, and Desert Water Agency (Parties) comprise the Management Committee pursuant to the 2004 Settlement Agreement; and

WHEREAS, on December 29, 2016, Mission Springs Water District, Coachella Valley Water District, and Desert Water Agency together submitted to DWR a proposed Alternative to a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (Alternative Plan) for the Mission Creek Subbasin in accordance with Water Code section 10733.6; and

WHEREAS, on July 17, 2019, DWR determined that the Mission Creek Subbasin Alternative Plan satisfies the objectives of SGMA and notified the Parties that the Alternative Plan was approved, and that it would be necessary to submit an assessment and update of the Alternative Plan by January 1, 2022, and every five years thereafter; and

WHEREAS, the Parties have jointly developed the Mission Creek Subbasin Alternative Plan Update, and released a draft for public comment on October 18, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Mission Springs Water District conducted

a public hearing on December 20, 2021 for the purpose of receiving public comments and considering adoption of the Mission Creek Subbasin Alternative Plan Update; and

WHEREAS, Water Code section 10733.6 requires the Alternative Plan Update to be submitted to DWR for review; and

WHEREAS, this resolution and approval of the Alternative Plan Update are not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to California Code of Regulations (CCR) 15262 and SGMA 10728.6 because CEQA does not apply to planning studies for possible future actions not yet approved, adopted, or funded by this Agency (CCR 15262) or to the preparation and adoption of plans pursuant to SGMA (SGMA 10728.6), and because projects to implement actions taken pursuant to the Alternative Plan will be analyzed in accordance CEQA based on the nature of the project, environmental setting and potential environmental impacts before those projects are approved.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Mission Springs Water District as follows:

1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and made an operative part of this Resolution.

2. The 2022 Mission Creek Subbasin Alternative Plan Update is hereby approved and adopted, subject to such minor, non-substantive modifications to the text as the Parties may find necessary or appropriate prior to submittal to DWR on or before December 31, 2021. A copy of the 2022 Alternative Plan Update is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

3. This Board of Directors hereby designates Coachella Valley Water District as the Party authorized to provide notification of this approval and adoption to DWR, including a copy of this Resolution, the approved Alternative Plan Update, and any additional information/documentation required by law.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____ 2021, by the following vote:

Ayes:
Noes:
Abstain:
Absent:

Nancy Wright,
President of Mission Springs Water District
and its Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Arden Wallum
Secretary of Mission Springs Water District
and its Board of Directors