



CITY OF ORLAND STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: March 7, 2025

TO: Honorable Mayor and Council

FROM: Joe Goodman, City Manager

SUBJECT: Black Butte Reservoir Infrastructure Enhancement Project MOU

SUMMARY:

Staff recommends the City Council approve a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding with regional partners to study potential enhancements at Black Butte Reservoir that could significantly improve flood protection for Orland and provide additional water supply and recreational benefits.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

Black Butte Dam, built in 1963, currently provides critical flood protection for Orland and has a reservoir capacity of 143,700 acre-feet. The proposed project would explore installing spillway control structures to potentially increase storage by up to 200,000 acre-feet, enhancing flood protection for Orland while improving regional water supply reliability and recreational opportunities.

The MOU establishes a collaborative framework among 11 local agencies including the City of Orland, Glenn, Colusa and Tehama Counties, irrigation districts, and groundwater authorities. The agreement is non-binding and runs through March 2029. It does not commit the City to spending any money. Costs for professional services toward the goals described in the MOU would require advance approval and cost-sharing among participants.

The MOU presents an opportunity for Orland to ensure its interests are represented in a project that directly benefits the community. The City retains full discretion over future commitments and can withdraw if the project direction becomes incompatible with City interests.

ATTACHMENT

RECOMMENDED MOTION: "I move to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for the Planning and Implementation of the Black Butte Reservoir Infrastructure Enhancement Project and authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement on behalf of the City of Orland."