

RESOLUTION NO. 17-34

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SANTA CLARITA, CALIFORNIA, TO APPROVE THE
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO FORM THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014, California Water Code section 10720 et. seq. (SGMA), went into effect on January 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the legislative intent of SGMA is to provide for the sustainable management of groundwater basins, to enhance local management of groundwater, to establish minimum standards for sustainable groundwater management, and to manage groundwater basins through the actions of local governmental agencies to the greatest extent feasible while minimizing state intervention; and

WHEREAS, SGMA requires that California groundwater basins and subbasins designated by the California Department of Water Resources as high priority or medium priority be managed by one or more Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and that such management be accomplished pursuant to one or more approved Groundwater Sustainability Plans for the basin; and

WHEREAS, California Water Code Section 10721(j) defines a GSA as one or more local agencies that implement the provisions of SGMA; and

WHEREAS, any local public agency that has water supply, water management, or land use responsibilities within a groundwater basin may decide to become a GSA over that basin (California Water Code Sections 10721 and 10723); and

WHEREAS, SGMA provides that a combination of local agencies may form a GSA by a joint powers agreement, a memorandum of understanding, or other legal agreement (Water Code Section 10723.6); and

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Clarita overlies a portion of the Santa Clara River Valley East Subbasin, groundwater basin number 4-4.07 per the State of California, Department of Water Resources (DWR) Groundwater Bulletin 118, which has been designated by the State of California as a high priority basin; and

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Clarita has land use responsibilities within the Santa Clara River Valley East Subbasin; and

WHEREAS, it is beneficial to the health, safety, and water supply reliability of the Santa Clarita Valley to retain local jurisdiction and control over groundwater resources within the Santa Clara River Valley East Subbasin; and

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Clarita has been working cooperatively with other local agencies that also plan to manage groundwater in compliance with SGMA, including Castaic Lake Water Agency, Newhall County Water District, Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 36, the Santa Clarita Water Division, and the County of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Clarita, along with its regional partners Castaic Lake Water Agency, Newhall County Water District, Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 36, the Santa Clarita Water Division, and the County of Los Angeles intend to jointly form the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SCV-GSA) through a Memorandum of Understanding to work collaboratively to manage groundwater resources within their respective service areas in the Santa Clara River Valley East Subbasin and to comply with SGMA; and

WHEREAS, prior to adopting a resolution of intent to establish the City of Santa Clarita as a member of the SCV-GSA, Water Code Section 10723 requires the City of Santa Clarita to hold a public hearing, after publication of notice pursuant to California Government Code Section 6066, on whether to become a GSA; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Government Code Section 6066, notices of a public hearing on whether or not to adopt a resolution to establish the SCV-GSA through a Memorandum of Understanding were published on April 25, 2017, and May 2, 2017; and

WHEREAS, adoption of this Resolution does not constitute a project under the California Environmental Quality Act because it does not result in any direct or indirect physical change in the environment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Santa Clarita does hereby:

SECTION 1. Elect that the City of Santa Clarita will participate as a member of the SCV-GSA to manage groundwater within its statutory boundaries of the Santa Clara River Valley East Subbasin pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding to form the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

SECTION 2. Authorize the City Manager or his designee to execute the Memorandum of Understanding to form the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

SECTION 3. Authorize the City Manager or his designee to coordinate with the other members of the SCV-GSA to provide a copy of this resolution, a Notice of Intent, and all other necessary documentation to DWR within 30 days and to otherwise comply with the requirements of Water Code Section 10723.8.

SECTION 4. Authorize the City Manager or his designee to coordinate with the other members of the SCV-GSA to maintain a list of interested parties regarding the newly formed SCV-GSA pursuant to Water Code Section 10723.4.

SECTION 5. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Resolution.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 9th day of May 2017.


MAYOR

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK

DATE: 5/24/17

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES) ss.
CITY OF SANTA CLARITA)

I, Mary Cusick, City Clerk of the City of Santa Clarita, do hereby certify that foregoing Resolution was duly passed and adopted by the City Council of Santa Clarita at a regular meeting, thereof, held on the 9th day of May 2017, by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: McLean, Kellar, Weste, Miranda, Smyth

NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: None

ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: None


CITY CLERK

