

**MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
RESOLUTION NO. 2025-01**

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE REVISED 2025 MERCED SUBBASIN
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN**

WHEREAS, in August 2014, the California Legislature passed, and in September 2014 the Governor signed, legislation creating the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”) “to provide local groundwater sustainability agencies with the authority and technical and financial assistance necessary to sustainably manage groundwater” (Wat. Code, § 10720, (d)); and

WHEREAS, SGMA requires sustainable management through the development of groundwater sustainability plans (“GSPs”), which can be a single plan developed by one or more groundwater sustainability agency (“GSA”) or multiple coordinated plans within a basin or subbasin (Wat. Code § 10727); and

WHEREAS, the Merced Subbasin GSA was formed as a GSA on March 15, 2017 for the purposes of sustainably managing groundwater in the Merced Groundwater Subbasin, within its jurisdictional boundaries, pursuant to the requirements of SGMA (Wat. Code, § 10723.6(i)); and

WHEREAS, the three California Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) approved GSAs governing the Merced Groundwater Subbasin are: Merced Irrigation-Urban Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“MIUGSA”), Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“MSGSA”), and Turner Island Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency #1 (“TIWD GSA-1”) (“Merced Subbasin GSAs”); and

WHEREAS, the Merced Subbasin GSA has the authority to draft, adopt, and implement a GSP (Wat. Code, § 10725 et seq.); and

WHEREAS, the Merced Subbasin GSA has coordinated with the other GSAs in the Merced Groundwater Subbasin to draft a single GSP; and

WHEREAS, the three Merced Subbasin GSAs submitted a Notification of Intent to DWR to jointly develop a GSP for the Merced Groundwater Subbasin on January 4, 2018 in accordance with California Water Code (Wat. Code, § 10727.8 and CA Code of Regulations, Title 23, Section 353.6); and

WHEREAS, the three Merced Subbasin GSAs submitted the Merced Groundwater Subbasin GSP on January 28, 2020 to DWR for review; and

WHEREAS, on January 28, 2022, DWR completed its review of the Merced Groundwater Subbasin GSP and released a letter determining that the GSP was “Incomplete” and identified deficiencies and corrective actions for the GSAs in the Merced Subbasin to take within 180 days; and

WHEREAS, the Merced Subbasin GSAs addressed DWR's comments and identified deficiencies through revisions in the revised Merced Groundwater Subbasin GSP dated July 2022; and

WHEREAS, the revised Merced Subbasin Groundwater GSP dated July 2022 was approved by DWR in August 2023 and said approval included recommended corrective actions to be considered for inclusion in future GSP updates; and

WHEREAS, GSPs are required to be reviewed and possibly updated every five (5) years, and in anticipation of the first required review and revision of the GSP for the Merced Subbasin, staff for the Merced Subbasin GSAs have collectively and cooperatively engaged to prepare appropriate updates and revisions, which take into account and incorporate DWR's recommended corrective actions; and

WHEREAS, in addition to a revised draft GSP, staff and consultants for the Merced Subbasin GSAs have also prepared a related Periodic Evaluation of the GSP, which serves to assess the effectiveness of the GSP in achieving sustainability goals. Said Periodic Evaluation evaluates and reports on the progress of the GSP, and is required to be prepared and submitted to DWR at least once every five (5) years after the GSP's adoption; and

WHEREAS, the public review process for development of the revised GSP and Periodic Evaluation has been robust, which includes among other things, detailed discussions of the proposed updates by the Merced Subbasin GSA Governing Board, the Merced Subbasin Stakeholder Advisory Committee and the Coordination Committee; and

WHEREAS, the three Merced Subbasin GSAs provided on September 19, 2024 a 90-day notice to the cities and counties located within and adjacent to the Plan Area of the Merced Groundwater Subbasin GSP, that they intend to conduct public hearings to adopt the revised GSP; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Board of the Merced Subbasin GSA hereby approves and adopts the revised 2025 Merced Groundwater Subbasin GSP and authorizes its consultants and the Plan Manager to take such other actions as may be reasonably necessary to submit the Merced Groundwater Subbasin GSP and the Periodic Evaluation to DWR by January 28, 2025.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a special meeting of the Governing Board at Merced, California, this 16th day of January 2025, by the following vote:

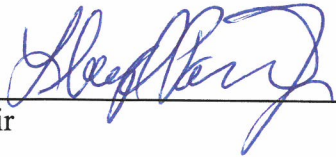
AYES: Gallo, Giampaoli, Marchini, Nervino, Pedretti,

NOES: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: Pareira

MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

By: 
Chair

ATTEST:


Secretary