

Resolution No. **2019-12-10-1501**

STOCKTON CITY COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEARING FOR APPROVAL OF THE RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN FOR THE EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER SUBBASIN IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

In 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

The City of Stockton, together with the California Water Service Company, formed a groundwater sustainability agency ("GSA") in 2015 to sustainably manage groundwater in the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin, within its jurisdictional boundaries, pursuant to the requirements of the SGMA; and

Water Code, section 10723.6(i) states, "the following agencies created by statute to manage groundwater shall be deemed the exclusive local agencies within their respective statutory boundaries with powers to become a GSA;" and

The City of Stockton is a member of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority ("GWA"), formed to develop a groundwater sustainability plan ("GSP") and coordinate sustainable groundwater management in the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin.

The City of Stockton has the authority to draft, adopt, and implement a GSP (Wat. Code, § 10725 *et seq.*); and

The SGMA requires sustainable management through the development of GSP's, which can be a single plan developed by one or more GSA or multiple coordinate plans within a basin or subbasin (Wat. Code, § 10727); and

Of the 515 basins in California, as described in Department of Water Resources (DWR) Bulletin 118, 127 are medium- or high-priority basins. The Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin is listed as a "high-priority" basin. The SGMA defines sustainable groundwater management and requires that medium- and high-priority basins adopt a GSP by January 2020; and

The GWA submitted an Initial Notification to DWR on behalf of its members to jointly develop a GSP for the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin on February 8, 2017; and

The City of Stockton has coordinated with the GWA and all other GSAs in the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin to draft a single GSP for its members; and

On behalf of its members, the GWA developed the draft Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Subbasin GSP ("ESJGS GSP") and released the draft ESJGS GSP for public comment on July 10, 2019; and

On August 15, 2019, the GWA released the Notice of Intent to Adopt the GSP on behalf of its members pursuant to Water Code section 10728.4; and

The GWA released the final ESJGS GSP on November 5, 2019 and has recommended each of its members adopt the final ESJ GSP prior to January 2020; and

Under the SGMA, GSAs can enter into cooperation agreements to jointly manage groundwater resources with their respective neighboring jurisdictions; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STOCKTON, AS FOLLOWS:

1. Approve and adopt the final Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit 1 and incorporated by this reference.
2. Authorize the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (GWA), its consultants, and the Plan Manager to take such other actions as may be reasonably necessary to submit the GSP to the Department of Water Resources by January 31, 2020 and implement the Plan.
3. Authorize the Municipal Utilities Department (MUD) to work in collaboration with other local agencies to implement the projects and programs developed in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) in compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.
4. The City Manager or his designee is hereby authorized to take whatever actions are necessary and appropriate to carry out the purpose and intent of this Resolution.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED December 10, 2019.



MICHAEL D. TUBBS
Mayor of the City of Stockton

ATTEST:



ELIZA R. GARZA, CMC
City Clerk of the City of Stockton

