



Agenda Date: 2/11/2021

Agenda Placement: 6B

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GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE **Board Agenda Letter**

TO: Groundwater Sustainability Plan Advisory Committee
FROM: David Morrison - Director of Planning, Building and Environmental Services
PBES - Environmental Health
REPORT BY: Jeff Sharp, SUPERVISING PLANNER - 707-259-5936
SUBJECT: Presentations and Discussion on the Napa Valley Drought Contingency Plan

RECOMMENDATION

Committee Secretary and Facilitator requests the Committee receive and discuss a presentation on the Napa Valley Drought Contingency Plan.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pat Costello, from the City of Napa Water Division, will introduce Rene Guillen, PE, with Brown and Caldwell, who will provide a presentation on the development of the Napa Valley Drought Contingency Plan (DCP). The DCP is a voluntary plan funded by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and in partnership with local Napa Valley agencies. The DCP is a regional effort to project water supplies and demands for each agency, assess vulnerability of critical supplies, develop a drought monitoring process and identify mitigation actions, response actions and individual and regional projects to build long-term water supply resilience.

This is an informational presentation and discussion. No action is required.

FISCAL & STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

County Strategic Plan pillar addressed:

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

In 2005, the 2050 Napa Valley Water Resources Study was completed by Napa, American Canyon, Yountville, St. Helena, Calistoga, Napa County and Napa Sanitation District. The project reviewed each agency's water supplies and demands and recommended potential individual and regional projects to address supply deficits in times of drought. With several of the assumptions in that 2005 study now out of date, local agencies have expressed a renewed interest in conducting a similar regional effort to update local understanding of water supplies and demand under drought conditions, and to facilitate future project funding eligibility under various Federal and State programs.

In 2017, the Sonoma County Water Agency, in conjunction with Brown and Caldwell, secured a \$200,000 grant from the Bureau of Reclamation to prepare a Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) in Sonoma, Marin and Napa Counties. Regional meetings with stakeholders were conducted in early 2018 to bring interested agencies from the three counties together to initiate a multi-county DCP. Subsequently, Marin and Sonoma County decided to focus efforts on their joint resiliency planning efforts and forego participation in the DCP. In 2019 Napa County agencies offered to proceed with the grant funding. Brown and Caldwell's team successfully coordinated efforts with the Bureau of Reclamation to revise the scope to only include the Napa County region and change the fiscal agent for the grant to the City of Napa. A local cost share plan among the Napa County agencies was developed to provide local match the BOR grant, with cost-sharing based on water deliveries and population served.

Launched in September 2019, the Napa Valley DCP is a valuable regional effort covering the entire Napa River watershed. By prioritizing the development of projects and management response actions, the DCP will assist local water managers and provide the tools for long-term drought resilience for the region's water supply. A specific focus is placed on regional efforts that may compete successfully for future grant funding. Brown and Caldwell was selected for this effort due to their extensive experience in the water resources area. In particular, Brown and Caldwell has successfully worked with North Monterey County on their DCP and has previously worked on the Bay Area Regional Reliability Partnership DCP for the Bay Area's largest water agencies. Work on the Napa Valley DCP is well underway, providing a parallel and complementary planning effort to the Groundwater Sustainability Plan. A public draft of the DCP is expected by summer 2021.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A . Presentation on the Napa Valley Drought Contingency Plan

Committee Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Jeff Sharp