

STAFF REPORT
City of Lancaster

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Date: June 10, 2014

To: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

From: Robert C. Neal, Director of Public Works

Subject: **Adoption of the Antelope Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan 2013 Update**

Recommendation:

Adopt **Resolution No. 14-28**, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lancaster, California, approving the adoption of the 2013 update to Antelope Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.

Fiscal Impact:

None.

Background:

In May 2006, the City of Lancaster and ten other public agencies undertook the development of a broadly supported integrated regional water management plan to address regional water supply needs, protect and improve water quality, and provide flood management within the entire Antelope Valley Region between then and 2035. The consensus was to develop this water resource management plan consistent with the State sponsored Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program that makes grant funds available to support sound regional water management. As a result, the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) was formed in accordance with Section 10537 of the California Water Code. This IRWM Plan was completed and adopted in 2007 - 2008 by all members of the RWMG.

In 2012, the RWMG began development of this update to the IRWM Plan to incorporate changes in the Region's water resources that have occurred since 2007. This 2013 update to the IRWM Plan contains information to help take action to meet shared objectives to meet long-term water management for the entire region.

The Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (Plan), which fulfills the State requirement for a water resource management plan, is a comprehensive program for the conservation, use, and reuse of the water resources in the Antelope Valley. It defines a clear vision and direction for the sustainable management of water resources in the Antelope Valley Region for the next twenty-five (25) years and contains a strategy to provide a wide range of crucial water-related services necessary to support the well-being of people living in this diverse and vibrant region. The reliability of water supplies is especially important in the near term, given the ongoing State Water Project uncertainties and the current overdraft condition of the underground aquifers in the Antelope Valley. The development of additional water supplies will provide a

hedge against future droughts and will allow for the continued growth and economic development of the Antelope Valley.

Development of the Plan has fostered greater coordination, collaboration and communication among public agencies within the Antelope Valley and other interested stakeholders, and implementation of the Plan has achieved greater water-use efficiencies, enhanced public services, and built public support for vital projects. This regional collaboration has promoted a more efficient, comprehensive and effective approach to water resource management while being responsive within a regional context to the needs of individual communities and jurisdictions. Adoption of the update to the plan does not legally bind the City to approve or implement any plan, project or program.

The following is a list of the Antelope Valley Region's stakeholders that have participated in the development of the Plan and its 2013 update:

State Water Project Contractors: Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency (AVEK), Littlerock Creek Irrigation District, and Palmdale Water District.

Retail and Mutual Water Purveyors: Los Angeles County Waterworks District No 40, Quartz Hill Water District, Rosamond Community Services District, Antelope Park Mutual Water Company, Edgemont Acres Mutual Water Company, El Dorado Mutual Water Company, Evergreen Mutual Water Company, Golden Valley Mutual Water, Land Projects Mutual Water, Little Baldy Water Company, Palm Ranch Irrigation District, Westside Park Mutual Water Company, and White Fence Farms Mutual Water Company.

Local Jurisdictions / Land-Use Planning Agencies: City of Palmdale, City of Lancaster, City of California City, City of Boron, Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning, and Kern County Planning Department.

Other Agencies: Lahonton Regional Water Quality Control Board, California Department of Health Services, California State Parks, California State Department of Fish and Wildlife, Los Angeles County Farm Bureau, Kern County Farm Bureau, and County Sanitation District Nos. 14 and 20 of Los Angeles County.

Others: Antelope Valley Resource Conservation District, Sierra Club, Building Industry Association, U.S. Borax, and Edwards Air Force Base.

A copy of the 2013 update of the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan can be found at www.avwaterplan.org.

CSW:pjp

Attachment:

Resolution No. 14-28