

STAFF REPORT
City of Lancaster, California

NB 3
12/11/07
MVB

Date: December 11, 2007

To: Mayor Hearn and City Council Members

From: James R. Williams, Public Works Director

Subject: **Antelope Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Adoption**

Recommendation:

Adopt Resolution No. 07-221, to adopt the Antelope Valley Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Plan. The Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) prepared the Plan and published it on November 19, 2007. The City of Lancaster is one of eleven public agencies that form the RWMG.

Fiscal Impact:

None.

Background:

Eleven public agencies, including the City of Lancaster collaboratively prepared the Plan in accordance with State guidelines to address regional water supply needs, protect and improve water quality, provide flood management, protect the environment, and establish a data management system to monitor the progress of these objectives. The adoption of the Plan will improve the Antelope Valley's competitiveness for State and Federal grant funds, including those authorized under Propositions 50, 84, and 1E.

The RWMG submitted seven projects to the State Water Board for Proposition 50 funding on August 1, 2007. On November 1, the State Water Board invited the RWMG to Step 2 of the grant application process. Submittal of a Step 2 application was by invitation only. Just eight of seventeen applications in California received this invitation. The Plan application tied for the highest score in southern California.

After each member of the RWMG and their respective Boards and Councils adopt the Plan, the implementation process will begin. The Plan's Governance Subcommittee recently identified a new governance structure to serve through 2011. The adoption of the IRWM Plan represents a significant accomplishment that will aid in the management of the precious water resources in the Antelope Valley through 2035 for the benefit of every resident.