

STAFF REPORT
City of Lancaster

CC 8
01/22/08
MVB

Date: January 22, 2008

To: Mayor Hearn and City Council Members

From: James R. Williams, Public Works Director

Subject: **Appropriate Additional \$74,000 to Support the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Preparation**

Recommendation:

Approve transfer of \$74,000 from Operating Contingency account number 101-4330-999 to account number 101-4710-301 to support the request for supplemental deposit for the City's share of consultant costs for the preparation of the Antelope Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.

Fiscal Impact:

Funds in the amount of \$178,443.75 are available in the Operating Contingency account. Approval of this action will leave a remaining balance of \$104,443.75 for unanticipated expenses.

Background:

The City of Lancaster has been involved in water issues in the Antelope Valley for many years and has worked cooperatively with the various water agencies to promote the regional protection, use, and reuse of the Valley's water resources. As a participant in the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG), the City's interests in water resources will be maintained. Currently, eleven agencies participate in the RWMG.

Los Angeles County Waterworks District 40 contracted with Kennedy Jenks Consultants to prepare an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP). The IRWMP is a comprehensive plan for the conservation, use, and reuse of the water resources in the Antelope Valley. The plan identifies specific water related projects to be constructed within the Antelope Valley.

On September 26, 2006, the City Council authorized the City of Lancaster to participate in the Regional Water Management Group and appropriated \$45,000 for the preparation of the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan. The additional appropriation of \$74,000 will supplement the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Los Angeles County Waterworks District 40 to fund the consultant costs in excess of the original funds deposited in accordance with Section 12(d) of the MOU. The requested funds are to pay for consultant costs associated with shortening the time frame to complete the IRWMP. The earlier completion time was necessary to allow the RWMG agencies to adopt the IRWMP in time to submit an application for possible Proposition 50 grant funding. The application is due the end of January 2008. The various projects, for which grant funding is being requested, are of benefit to the entire region. Having the IRWMP completed in time for the grant application submittal places the application in a much better position to be approved.