



City of Paso Robles GSA Board Agenda Report

From: Dick McKinley, Public Works Director
Subject: Notice of Intent to Prepare a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)
Date: January 16, 2018

Facts

1. In 2014, the California Legislature and the Governor passed into law the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) for local management of groundwater resources in California through the formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and through preparation and implementation of Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs).
2. On January 17, 2017 the City Council held a public hearing and adopted a resolution to create a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) to comply with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).
3. The City overlies a portion of the Paso Robles Sub-basin of the Salinas Groundwater Basin, which is subject to SGMA. The City of Paso Robles formed a GSA over the portion of the Paso Robles Sub-basin under the City limits, excluding the portion over the Atascadero sub-basin.
4. The City intends to work cooperatively with the other agencies and GSAs in the Paso Robles Sub-basin in SLO County to write a unified GSP. This will help the basin be more successful in reaching sustainability by 2040, and to automatically be in compliance with the coordination requirements of SGMA, and to save a lot of money.
5. On August 15, 2017 the City Council approved a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute the Paso Robles Basin MOA and to pay the City's share of costs for preparation of the GSP.

Options

1. Do nothing;
2. By motion, authorize the Mayor, as the Chair of the Board for the City of Paso Robles GSA, to transmit the attached letter to the DWR, which serves as the GSA's Notice of Intent to prepare a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP);
3. An alternative approach as determined by the GSA Board.

Analysis and Conclusions

Sending a Notice of Intent to prepare a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) is required under the SGMA. The City as the GSA has no real option to this action.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact related to sending the Notice of Intent. The fiscal impact is related to the actual preparation of the GSP, and implementation of that Sustainability Plan.

Recommendation

Authorize the Mayor, as Chair of the GSA Board, to sign and transmit the attached letter to the DWR, declaring the GSA's Notice of Intent to prepare a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

Attachments

1. GSP Notice of Intent Letter

*CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
1000 Spring Street
Paso Robles, CA 93446*

January 16, 2018

Mr. Trevor Joseph – Section Chief
Sustainable Groundwater Management Section
California Department of Water Resources
901 P Street
Sacramento, CA 94236

Subject: Notice of Intent to prepare a Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Dear Mr. Joseph:

At its meeting on January 16, 2018, the Board of the City of El Paso de Robles Groundwater Sustainability Agency (the “City of Paso Robles GSA”) authorized me to send this Notice of Intent to initiate the development of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (“GSP”) for the Paso Robles Groundwater Sub-basin of the Salinas Valley Basin, Basin No. 3-004.06 (the “Paso Robles Basin”). The City of Paso Robles GSA is working with the other GSAs in the Paso Robles Basin through an MOA to prepare one GSP for the Basin. The City of Paso Robles GSA is submitting this notice in accordance with §10727.8 of the California Water Code and §353.6 of the Department of Water Resources’ Emergency Regulations for Groundwater Sustainability Plans.

The City of Paso Robles GSA was formed under SGMA regulations and joined through a Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”) with other GSA partners to prepare a GSP and manage the Paso Robles Basin. The other partners include the County of San Luis Obispo GSA, the San Miguel CSD GSA, the Heritage Ranch CSD GSA, the Shandon-San Juan Water District GSA, and the Salinas Valley Basin GSA (with respect to the portion of the Paso Robles Basin within Monterey County). This notice will be posted on the City of Paso Robles website and also will be sent to other Interested Parties that will be identified in the Paso Robles Basin GSA Communications and Engagement Plan that will be developed.

Respectfully yours,

Steve Martin
Chair of the Paso Robles GSA Board