



CITY OF HAYWARD

Hayward City Hall
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Cover Memo

File #: CONS 18-380, **Version:** 1

DATE: June 5, 2018

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Director of Utilities & Environmental Services

SUBJECT

Sustainable Groundwater Management: Authorization for the City Manager to Execute a Cooperating Agreement with the East Bay Municipal Utility District for Preparation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the East Bay Plain Subbasin

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Cooperating Agreement with the East Bay Municipal Utility District to jointly prepare a Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the East Bay Plain Subbasin.

SUMMARY

In June 2017, the State formally designated Hayward as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the portion of the East Bay Plain Subbasin that underlies the City. The East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) is the GSA for the remaining portion of the Subbasin. GSAs for medium-priority ranked groundwater basin are responsible for developing and implementing a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) to sustainably manage the utilization of groundwater within its management area. In accordance with previous direction from the Council Sustainability Committee (CSC) and City Council, staff has negotiated a Cooperating Agreement with EBMUD, under which the parties would agree to work together and share the costs to prepare a single GSP for the East Bay Plain Subbasin. Staff is requesting that Council authorize the execution of a Cooperating Agreement with EBMUD. EBMUD's Board was briefed on the State's latest developments and moved forward with authorizing execution of the Cooperating Agreement on May 22, 2018.

The State is currently going through a process to reprioritize basins. On May 18, 2018, the State released information that could potentially result in the East Bay Plain Subbasin being re-classified as a very low-priority basin, making preparation of a GSP a voluntary, rather than a mandatory requirement. Final decisions for this latest round of basin prioritizations will be made in fall of 2018 and the State will continue to periodically reassess basin prioritization. While preparing a GSP is not required for a very low-priority basin, given that EBMUD and the City have received a \$1 million grant towards preparing a GSP and the prioritization of the East Bay Plain Subbasin may continue to change in the future such that a GSP is required, staff recommends that the City continue with the current approach to sustainable

groundwater management and prepare a GSP cooperatively with EBMUD.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment I	Staff Report
Attachment II	Resolution