



REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Approved by:

Keith Helmuth, Department Director

Arnaldo Rodriguez, City Manager

Council Meeting of: November 6, 2019

Agenda Number: D-1

SUBJECT:

Update on the Status of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP): Receive Update and Public Comments and Provide Council Input

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council (Council), acting as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA):

- Receive GSP status update.
- Receive public comment and provide input and suggested modifications to the draft GSP.

SUMMARY:

The City of Madera (City) is one of seven agencies that have established a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) within the boundaries of Madera Groundwater Subbasin pursuant to the 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). Four of those GSAs, including the City, County of Madera (County), Madera Irrigation District (MID), and Madera Water District (MWD), prepared the *Madera Subbasin Joint Groundwater Sustainability Plan* (Joint GSP).

The Joint GSP, now in draft form, has been prepared in compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), which requires GSAs to achieve groundwater sustainability in the subbasin by 2040. Combined, the Joint GSP GSAs are responsible for approximately 95 percent of the Madera Subbasin. Preparation of the Joint GSP was funded primarily through a State grant with additional staff and resources provided from each GSA.

DISCUSSION:

As noted in the last two updates to Council on September 4, 2019 and October 2, 2019, the Joint GSP continues to be available for comment. It is available for review by the public and the Council through

November 11, 2019. It can be viewed either as a hard copy at the City Clerk's office or downloaded from:

www.maderacountywater.com/maps/madera-subbasin/.

Since the last update, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met on October 18, 2019 to discuss the then upcoming GSP Coordination Committee meeting and other on-going items such as the Data Management System (DMS) mentioned during the last monthly update. Interviews are scheduled for October 30, 2019 for the purpose of identifying the most qualified DMS vendor.

Prior to the GSP Coordination Committee that occurred on October 22, the TAC had received ten written responses to the draft GSP.

On October 22, the Joint GSP Coordination Committee meeting for the Madera Subbasin Joint GSP was held at the Madera County Board of Supervisors chambers. During this meeting, a summary of the draft Madera Subbasin GSP was presented to attendees; in person and on-line. The public was provided an opportunity to provide verbal and written comments to the draft GSP. Unofficial counts indicate that there were nine speakers. A count of written comments was not available prior to finalizing this staff report.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

No actions will be taken as a result of this report and there are no impacts to the General Fund at this time.

CONSISTENCY WITH THE VISION MADERA 2025 PLAN:

The recommended action supports the Well-Planned Community Vision Statement. "Sound planning helps Madera celebrate its past, balance its present with available resources and infrastructure and anticipate its future with coordinated planning and interagency cooperation guided by a shared vision." Where Strategy 434 is directly related: "Ensure continued water supplies to meet the demands of all Madeirans through innovative reclamation, conservation and education on water-use."

ALTERNATIVES:

This report does not include items that would be associated with possible alternatives.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.