

RESOLUTION NO. 17-136

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA, IN SUPPORT OF THE CALIFORNIA WATERFIX

WHEREAS, the City of Glendale was one of the 13 founding cities of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD), and Glendale, as one of the founding agencies and a participating partner with a vested interest in MWD, has a seat on MWD's Board of Directors and participates in the setting of MWD's policies and priorities; and

WHEREAS, Glendale's water supply is comprised of 30% to 40% from local groundwater and 60% to 70% imported/purchased water from MWD; and

WHEREAS, Glendale also has a recycled water system and is the co-owner of the Los Angeles-Glendale Water Reclamation Plant (LAGWRP), with a right to approximately 6,000 to 8,000 acre feet of treated water per year; and

WHEREAS, Glendale, along with other parties inclusive of the cities of Los Angeles, San Fernando, and Burbank are within the Upper Los Angeles River Area (ULARA) basin comprised of the San Fernando, Verdugo, Sylmar and Eagle Rock basins; and

WHEREAS, in the 1960's City of Los Angeles sued multiple parties, including San Fernando, Glendale and Burbank in an effort to stop them from pumping water in the San Fernando Basin; and

WHEREAS, in the 1970's, after more than a decade long legal battle, the California Supreme Court rendered a judgment (Judgment) that the City of Los Angeles has exclusive right to all "native waters" in the ULARA; and

WHEREAS, the Judgment also provides Glendale with limited groundwater rights in the Verdugo Basin within the ULARA, whereby Glendale can pump up to 3,856 acre feet of groundwater per year; and

WHEREAS, due to the Verdugo Basin's physical characteristics and declining precipitation in the areas which provide water to the Verdugo Basin, the groundwater levels have been declining for decades and have made it difficult for Glendale to pump its full water right in the basin, which requires Glendale's continued reliance on MWD supplies; and

WHEREAS, Glendale's robust recycled water program will require Glendale to expand the recycled water system, while at the same time the process under the recent state regulations for reductions in discharges to the Los Angeles River will make Glendale's implementation of future recycled water projects more difficult, in turn requiring Glendale to continue discharging into the Los Angeles River and purchasing MWD water; and

WHEREAS, for the reasons noted above, Glendale is dependent on a reliable water supply from MWD to meet customer demands; and

WHEREAS, to ensure a reliable supply, MWD has developed a diverse portfolio of water inclusive of the Colorado River Aqueduct, participation in the State Water Project, various recycled water supplies, and conservation savings – all of which have benefitted Glendale customers; and

WHEREAS, the WaterFix project which is comprised of, among other features, two tunnels and three intakes, will address three water supply reliability issues, as further described in detail in the Report dated September 19, 2017 by the General Manager of Glendale Water & Power Department (September 19, 2017 Report): 1) continued water supply reliability by protecting the State water Project supplies from an earthquake near San Francisco, 2) improving water quality, and 3) reducing MWD's period of water shortage by enabling the State Water Project to operate more efficiently which in return will eliminate the need for MWD to require Glendale residents to have mandatory water restrictions (resulting in higher costs) placed on them; and

WHEREAS, the potential average monthly cost for a home in Glendale using 9,850 gallons of water per month is expected to be slightly over one-third (1/3) of a penny per gallon including the cost of the WaterFix project; and

WHEREAS, Glendale's local water supplies will help reduce the fiscal impact of the California WaterFix on Glendale's customers; and

WHEREAS, the efforts to address the issues and accomplish the goals which the WaterFix project aims to do, have been ongoing for decades; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has been supportive of projects for the enhancement of reliable water supplies; and

WHEREAS, on July 29, 2014 the City Council, by Resolution No. 14-125 supported the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) for reliable water supplies and environmental restoration, which laid the foundation for some of the study and analysis used in the final California WaterFix studies; and


WHEREAS, the City of Glendale is supportive of the proposed WaterFix project which will, among many features, greatly improve the quality of the water received through the State Water Project, as well as protect the spawning fish species, as outlined in the September 19, 2017 Report.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA:

SECTION 1. That, the City Council hereby supports the California WaterFix for the reasons described in the September 19, 2017 Report.

SECTION 2. That, the City of Glendale urges the California Department Of Water Resources to move forward with the WaterFix project implementation and also urges MWD to support the WaterFix project as a state water project contractor for the reasons so stated herein.

Adopted by the Council of the City of Glendale on this 19th day of September, 2017.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk

STATE OF CALIFORNIA) SS.
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES)

I, Ardashes Kassakhian, City Clerk of the City of Glendale, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 17-136 was adopted by a majority vote of the Council of the City of Glendale, California, at a regular meeting held on the 19th day of September, 2017, and that the same was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Agajanian, Devine, Sinanyan, Gharpetian

Noes: None

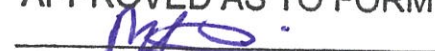
Absent: Najarian

Abstain: None



City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM



Senior Assistant City Attorney
Date 9/14/17