

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-04

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION OF THE
SANTA ANA WATERSHED PROJECT AUTHORITY
SUPPORTING THE
CALIFORNIA WATER FIX AND CALIFORNIA ECO RESTORE**

WHEREAS the Santa Ana River watershed comprises 2,650 square miles in four Southern California counties and has a resident population of more than 6 million people; and

WHEREAS the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority is a Joint Powers Agency formed in 1967 for regional water resources planning and management, and it comprises as member agencies the five largest water agencies in the watershed, Orange County Water District, Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Western Municipal Water District, Eastern Municipal Water District, and San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District, whose combined service areas include almost the entire Santa Ana River watershed; and

WHEREAS the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority and its member and stakeholder agencies have invested billions of dollars over many years in constructing infrastructure and implementing integrated programs to address water quality issues in the watershed; maximize water use efficiency, recycling, and beneficial use of local water supplies; and make efficient and productive use of imported water; and

WHEREAS the State Water Project was designed and constructed to be a significant part of the water supply for California, including the Santa Ana River Watershed, and development and planning have proceeded in reliance on the State Water Project; and

WHEREAS even with significant and ongoing investment by the water agencies in the Santa Ana River Watershed in the development of local supplies and increasing water use efficiency, the State Water Project remains and will remain an essential part of the region's supply portfolio; and

WHEREAS when the State Water Project was constructed, it was not completed as designed, and isolated conveyance across or around the Sacramento-San Joaquin Rivers Delta was not completed; and

WHEREAS in its unfinished form, operation of the State Water Project has unacceptable impacts on fisheries, which has led to the imposition of regulations that are having substantial adverse impacts on supply reliability from the Project; and

WHEREAS the current operation of the State Water Project by moving all Project water through the Delta in surface water bodies is vulnerable to salinity and water pollution; and

WHEREAS the current operation of the State Water Project by moving all Project water through the Delta is highly vulnerable to catastrophic interruption from earthquakes or storms, a risk exacerbated by sea level rise; and

WHEREAS pursuant to a historic legislative package passed in 2009, the State of California recommitted to solving the State's water supply reliability challenge through the achievement of the coequal goals of solving the State Water Project's conveyance problem while also addressing the challenging ecological sustainability problems in the Delta; and


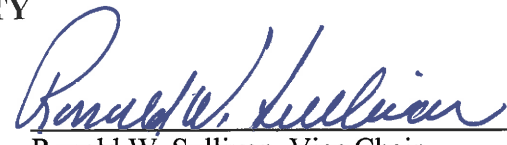
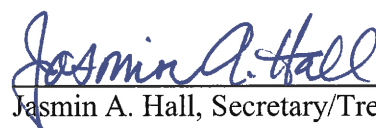


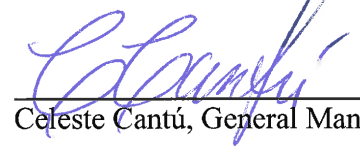
WHEREAS the State of California and the State Water Project and Central Valley Project contractors have invested approximately ten years, and more than \$250 million, in developing alternatives and completing the most rigorous technical and environmental evaluation ever performed for a water project; and

WHEREAS the preferred alternative proposed by the State of California to improve State Water Project conveyance will address the major problems created by the failure to complete the project as originally designed, will avoid the most significant environmental conflicts of the current method of operating the State Water Project, and will greatly improve California's and the Santa Ana River watershed's drought resilience by allowing higher diversions to storage during occasional wet weather;

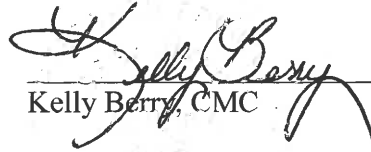
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority that this agency supports California Eco Restore and the California Water Fix Preferred Alternative (No. 4A) as described in the Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement.

ADOPTED this 7th day of February, 2017.

SANTA ANA WATERSHED PROJECT AUTHORITY

By:  Susan Lien Longville, Chair	By:  Ronald W. Sullivan, Vice Chair
By:  Jasmin A. Hall, Secretary/Treasurer	By:  Thomas P. Evans, Commissioner
By:  Phil Anthony, Commissioner	By:  Celeste Cantú, General Manager

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of Resolution No. 2017-4, consisting of two pages in total, adopted by the Commission of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority at its regular meeting held on February 7, 2017.



Kelly Berry, CMC