

**MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY  
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-02**

**RESOLUTION OF THE MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY  
AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A 2022 MULTI-BENEFIT LAND REPURPOSING  
PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) was signed into law on September 16, 2014 and adopted as California Water Code, section 10720, *et seq.*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) was formed as a joint powers authority pursuant to Government Code section 6500, *et seq.*, by agencies that qualify to be groundwater sustainability agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, the California Department of Conservation (DOC) is administering the 2022 Multi-Benefit Land Repurposing Grant Program using funds authorized by the California Budget Act of 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, the DOC Multi-Benefit Land Repurposing Program Solicitation and Application requires eligible block grant applicants to be GSAs or partnering with GSAs, in a critically overdrafted basin managed under an approved Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) or a high- or medium-priority groundwater basin where a state of emergency drought declaration has been declared; and

**WHEREAS**, the Merced Subbasin GSA is currently implementing a Groundwater Sustainability Plan in the critically overdrafted Merced Groundwater Subbasin (DWR Subbasin No. 5-22.04), which is also a high-priority basin under the Governor's May 10, 2021 proclamation of a state of emergency due to drought; and

**WHEREAS**, the Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Section 2.3.5 states the consumptive use of groundwater in the basin exceeds the available sustainable yield of the basin; and

**WHEREAS**, the Merced Subbasin GSA has identified a Merced Subbasin GSA Groundwater Demand Reduction Management Action (Merced Subbasin GSP Section 6.2.2) to "gradually reduce pumping at a consistent annual rate during the 20-year implementation period in order to reach the Native Groundwater allocation objective by 2040"; and

**WHEREAS**, the Merced Subbasin GSA has identified a Two Phased GSP Implementation Approach (Resolution 2021-02) that pursues a Water Year 2025 Objective to reduce consumptive use of groundwater by 15,000 acre foot per year (Resolution 2021-01), focusing primarily on land repurposing/fallowing and importing surface water into the GSA; and

**WHEREAS**, the Merced Subbasin GSA has already started developing a Land Repurposing Program and local funding mechanism to achieve the Phase 1 objective in the above stated resolutions; and

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**WHEREAS**, the Merced Subbasin GSA intends to submit a 2022 Multi-Benefit Land Repurposing Program Grant application to complement and expand the Land Repurposing Program the GSA is currently developing.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Governing Board of the Merced Subbasin GSA that an application be made to the California Department of Conservation for a 2022 Multi-Benefit Land Repurposing Program grant.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Merced Subbasin GSA authorizes entrance into a grant agreement with the Department of Conservation for the project and accept the template terms and conditions, if the project is awarded funding.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Merced Subbasin GSA authorizes the Chairman, or his designee, to, as agent, accept the award of grant funding and to execute tasks, such as signing documents, related to the application, grant agreement, reimbursement requests, if the project is awarded funding.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** at a special meeting of the Governing Board at Merced, California, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March 2022, by the following vote:

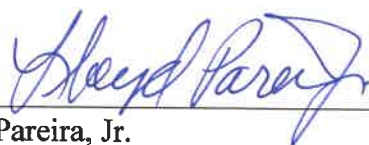
AYES:

NOES:


ABSTAINING:

ABSENT:

MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER  
SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

By:   
Lloyd Pareira, Jr.  
Chair

ATTEST:

  
Mark Hendrickson  
Secretary