

**MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-03**

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE REVISED MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY PLAN**

WHEREAS, in August 2014, the California Legislature passed, and in September 2014 the Governor signed, legislation creating the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”) “to provide local groundwater sustainability agencies with the authority and technical and financial assistance necessary to sustainably manage groundwater” (Wat. Code, § 10720, (d)); and

WHEREAS, SGMA requires sustainable management through the development of groundwater sustainability plans (“GSPs”), which can be a single plan developed by one or more groundwater sustainability agency (“GSA”) or multiple coordinated plans within a basin or subbasin (Wat. Code § 10727); and

WHEREAS, the Merced Subbasin GSA was formed as a GSA on March 15, 2017 for the purposes of sustainably managing groundwater in the Merced Groundwater Subbasin, within its jurisdictional boundaries, pursuant to the requirements of SGMA (Wat. Code, § 10723.6(i)); and

WHEREAS, the three California Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) approved GSAs governing the Merced Groundwater Subbasin are: Merced Irrigation-Urban Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“MIUGSA”), Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“MSGSA”), and Turner Island Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency #1 (“TIWD GSA-1”) (“Merced Subbasin GSAs”); and

WHEREAS, the Merced Subbasin GSA has the authority to draft, adopt, and implement a GSP (Wat. Code, § 10725 et seq.); and

WHEREAS, the three Merced Subbasin GSAs submitted a Notification of Intent to DWR to jointly develop a GSP for the Merced Groundwater Subbasin on January 4, 2018 in accordance with California Water Code (Wat. Code, § 10727.8 and CA Code of Regulations, Title 23, Section 353.6); and

WHEREAS, the Merced Subbasin GSA has coordinated with the other GSAs in the Merced Groundwater Subbasin to draft a single GSP; and

WHEREAS, the three Merced Subbasin GSAs submitted the Merced Groundwater Subbasin GSP on January 28, 2020 to DWR for review; and

WHEREAS, on January 28, 2022, DWR completed its review of the Merced Groundwater Subbasin GSP and released a letter determining that the GSP was “Incomplete” and identified deficiencies and corrective actions for the GSAs in the Merced Subbasin to take. The revised GSP addressing the corrective actions must be submitted to DWR by July 28, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Merced Subbasin GSAs have coordinated on public outreach and stakeholder engagement throughout the GSP revision process, including at 9 public meetings of the Subbasin's Coordination and Stakeholder Advisory committees, held between January 31 and June 27, 2022, in addition to the several public meetings held by each of the Merced Subbasin GSA's Governing Boards; and

WHEREAS, the three Merced Subbasin GSAs provided a 90-day notice to the cities and counties located within and adjacent to the Plan Area of the Merced Groundwater Subbasin GSP, that they intend to conduct public hearings to adopt the revised GSP; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Board of the Merced Subbasin GSA hereby approves and adopts the revised July 2022 Merced Groundwater Subbasin GSP and authorizes its consultants and the Plan Manager to take such other actions as may be reasonably necessary to submit the Merced Groundwater Subbasin GSP to DWR by July 28, 2022.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a special meeting of the Governing Board at Merced, California, this 19th day of July 2022, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAINING:

ABSENT:

MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

By: 
Chair

ATTEST:


Secretary