

**MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY  
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-06**

**RESOLUTION OF THE MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY  
ESTABLISHING A PHASE 1 LAND REPURPOSING PROGRAM**

**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 purpose of SGMA is to provide sustainable management of groundwater basins and enhance local management of groundwater through empowering local management agencies with authority necessarily to sustainably manage groundwater; and

**WHEREAS**, the Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MSGSA) was formed on March 15, 2017 as a joint powers authority pursuant to Government Code section 6500, *et seq.*, by agencies that qualify to be groundwater sustainability agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, three GSAs in the Merced Groundwater Subbasin (Basin Number 5-22.04) have coordinated on the development of a Revised Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) pursuant to Water Code section 10727(a) that was adopted by the GSAs in July 2022 and submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) on July 27, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the MSGSA adopted Resolution 2021-02 on November 12, 2021 that detailed elements of a two-phase approach to implementing the GSP that included land repurposing as a tool to achieve the Water Year 2025 Objective; and

**WHEREAS**, the MSGSA adopted Resolution 2022-05 on July 19, 2022 approving the Phase I Funding Mechanism that will generate funds to support land repurposing to help achieve the Water Year 2025 Objective; and

**WHEREAS**, the MSGSA has developed a voluntary land repurposing program, referred to as the Phase 1 Land Repurposing Program (“Program”), which will solicit applications from interested parties within the MSGSA to apply for funding to repurpose currently irrigated lands for a period of 3 to 5 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Program will initiate such solicitation no later than October 1, 2022 for land repurposing to begin on selected parcels with the 2023 irrigation season; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Program will repeat the annual solicitation period during the fall of 2023 and of 2024 allowing additional applications for land repurposing, as determined by the MSGSA to be warranted based upon evaluations of progress to achieve the Water Year 2025 Objective.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Governing Board of the Merced Subbasin GSA as follows:

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1. The Program is hereby established to assist the MSGSA with achieving the Water Year 2025.
2. The Application, Agreement and FAQ documents as each has been presented to the MSGSA at the August 11, 2022 Board meeting, are hereby approved for use in implementing the Program.
3. Staff is hereby directed to immediately begin to implement the Program.
4. Staff is hereby directed and authorized to receive, evaluate, and rank applications received during the application period and enter into applicant-specific Agreements as appropriate to help achieve the Water Year 2025 Objective.
5. Staff shall have the authority to undertake any and all reasonable actions, including preparation of additional document and/or rules, to implement the Program.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** at a regular meeting of the Governing Board at Merced, California, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of August 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: Gallo, Marchini, Pareira, Pedretti, Upton

NOES: Swenson


ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER  
SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

By:   
Chair

ATTEST:

  
Secretary