


REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

DATE: AUGUST 28, 2019

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: GREG RAMIREZ, CITY MANAGER *had for G.R.*

BY: RAMIRO ADEVA, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS/CITY ENGINEER 

SUBJECT: ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 19-1910, APPROVING THE ADOPTION OF THE 2017 UPDATED GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGION INTERGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

The State of California Department of Water Resources (DWR) created the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program to encourage cooperative strategies for managing water resources and to provide funding for both planning and implementation of projects that support management of water supply, water quality, environmental interests, drought protection, and reduction of dependence on imported water.

The Greater Los Angeles County (GLAC) IRWM Region boundaries include approximately 10 million residents, portions of four counties, 84 cities, and hundreds of agencies and districts over a 2,058 square mile area. To make governance and stakeholder involvement manageable, the Region was organized into five sub-regions:

- Lower San Gabriel and Los Angeles Rivers
- North Santa Monica Bay
- South Bay
- Upper Los Angeles River
- Upper San Gabriel and Rio Hondo Rivers

In 2006, the GLAC IRWM group published the first GLAC IRWM Plan (IRWMP) following a multi-year effort among water retailers, wastewater agencies, stormwater and flood managers, watershed groups, the business community, tribes, agriculture, and non-profit stakeholders to improve water resources planning in the Los Angeles Basin.

In addition to the IRWMP being consistent with DWR goals, it specifically defined a comprehensive vision for the region in order to create funding opportunities and position the region for future state bonds.

As part of the IRWM Program Guidelines established by DWR and State Legislators, agencies submitting a project for IRWM grant funding are required to adopt an updated IRWMP by way of a Resolution.

By adopting the 2017 Updated GLAC IRWMP, the City will be able to apply and receive additional future grant funding under various programs. Among those programs is Proposition 1, which the City of Agoura Hills has been approved to receive \$3.5 million to go towards the construction of the Medea and Palo Comado Creek Stormwater Treatment Plant, Linear Park, and Wetlands Improvement Project.

Adoption of the 2017 Updated GLAC IRWM Plan is not a project subject to provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines because it is an activity that is excluded from the definition of a project by Section 15378(b) of the CEQA Guidelines. The proposed action is an administrative activity of government, which will not result in direct or indirect physical changes to the environment.

The 2017 Updated Greater Los Angeles County Region Integrated Regional Water Management Plan can be accessed electronically at, lawaterplan.org.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff respectfully recommends the City Council adopt Resolution No. 19-1910, approving the adoption of the 2017 Updated Greater Los Angeles County Region Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.

Attachment: Resolution No. 19-1910

RESOLUTION NO. 19-1910

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AGOURA HILLS, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE ADOPTION OF THE 2017 UPDATED GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGION INTERGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AGOURA HILLS HEREBY FINDS, RESOLVES, AND ORDERS, AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, the City of Agoura Hills, Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) and other agencies in the Greater Los Angeles County (GLAC) area have long recognized the importance of regional collaboration and integration of single purpose efforts and now regularly work across jurisdictional boundaries to implement regional projects and programs that address multiple water resource management issues, including local and imported water supplies, sanitation, and recycled water, stormwater management, groundwater management, water use efficiency, habitat and open space management, and many others; and

WHEREAS, the State of California Department of Water Resources (DWR) created the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program to encourage integrated, regional strategies for managing water resources and to provide funding for both planning and implementation of projects that support management of water supply, water quality, environmental interests, drought protection, flood protection, and reduction of dependence on imported water, and many other; and

WHEREAS, the IRWM Program requires that a Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) be formed to establish an IRWM Region; and

WHEREAS, DWR recognizes the GLAC IRWM as an official IRWM Region; and

WHEREAS, an entity that is approved for membership in the RWMG by a majority vote of the Leadership Committee must approve and sign an MOU to be formally seated on the RWMG; and

WHEREAS, the City of Agoura Hills has been approved for membership in the RWMG by a majority vote of the Leadership Committee; and

WHEREAS, the RWMG for the GLAC IRWM is responsible for the preparation and adoption of an IRWM Plan; and

WHEREAS, DWR and State Legislators have established Program Guidelines for the IRWM Program; and

WHEREAS, the RWMG for the GLAC IRWM has amended the 2014 Updated GLAC IRWM Plan to address the provisions of the 2016 IRWM Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, adopting the 2017 Updated GLAC IRWM Plan will enable participants in the GLAC IRWM to apply for future grant funding under various grant programs, including Proposition 1 grant rounds; and

WHEREAS, the 2016 IRWM Guidelines require the governing bodies of member agencies of the RWMGs, the RWMG representatives of the governing bodies, as well as proponents of projects included in IRWM grant funding proposals to adopt an updated IRWM Plan; and

WHEREAS, DWR has awarded the GLAC IRWM \$129M in grant funding to implement 71 regionally significant water resources management projects.

NOW, THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, the City Council of the City of Agoura Hills, California, adopts Resolution 19-1910, approving the adoption of the 2017 Updated Greater Los Angeles County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan and delegates the authority to the City Manager, or his/her designee, in their role as a member agency of the Regional Water Management Group of the Greater Los Angeles County Region Integrated Regional Water Management.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 28TH day of August, 2019, by the following vote to wit:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

Linda L. Northrup, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kimberly, M. Rodrigues, City Clerk