

City Manager's Report
November 8, 2011 City Council Meeting



Prepared by: Randy Pesses, Director of Public Works

Item #: 9.4

Subject: Adopt Resolution No. _____ a Resolution of the City of Placerville:

1. Supporting the City's participation in a regional coalition to preserve and protect County of origin rights and interests for domestic, agricultural, industrial and environmental water supplies when any comprehensive solution is developed to address the current environmental crisis in the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta; and,
2. Authorizing the City Manager to work with the General Manager of the El Dorado County Water Agency towards the implementation of said resolution.

Discussion: At the City Council meeting of October 25, 2011, the City Council received a presentation by Mr. David Eggerton, General Manager of the El Dorado County Water Agency concerning water resources challenges for communities upstream of the Bay-Delta.

Within Mr. Eggerton's presentation he shared with the City Council that the Bay-Delta has become increasingly stressed to the point where conditions have reached a state of crisis that threaten the environment of the Delta and the economy of California. He outlined the fact that in 2009, legislation was passed that created a seven member Delta Stewardship Council, and required the development of a "Delta Plan". The Delta Stewardship Council has produced several drafts of the "Delta Plan", any of which could have significant negative impacts to Northern California communities without really resolving the problems of the Delta ecosystem.

In addition, there exists a "Bay Delta Conservation Plan" (BDCP) that is an ongoing effort by Southern California interests that export water from the Delta to obtain a 50 year permit to continue their diversions. The 2009 legislation requires the BDCP be included in the Delta Plan if it meets certain requirements.

The end result is that the direct impacts of the Delta solutions being proposed may seriously affect the economies, environment, and quality of life of the upstream Northern California counties that are tributary to the Bay-Delta. Some of the potential direct impacts are:

- Limiting future local water supplies and requiring more local conservation and recycling to support Delta exports.
- Threats to local environment-water forum balancing of local water uses and American River Salmon Ignored-Yuba Accord Ignored.
- Recreation-Folsom Reservoir water increasingly used for Delta fish and export water supplies.
- Reduced hydropower generation = increased local cost.
- More fees ("public goods charge") \$50 million to fund Delta governance, \$110 per acre foot (proposed in SB 34)-\$55 million in region.

Mr. Eggerton indicated that Northern California mountain counties will be faced with a number of challenges to water supplies in the coming decades. The potential negative impacts of the Delta solution on this region will only make it more difficult for these affected counties to respond.

Mr. Eggerton continued his presentation by indicating that a regional alliance on water resources was being formed, to call for a collaborative solution to the Delta problem, and that the water suppliers in the Sacramento region can and must be a part of the solution. He stated that it is critical right now that communities form a broad coalition of support in this region to ensure that our interests are protected in the regulatory, legislative, and legal proceedings that will define the future of water in California.

In closing, Mr. Eggerton requested the support of the City of Placerville towards the formation of this regional alliance on water resources and requested that the City Council indicate that support by adopting a set of principles by resolution that must become a part of any future Delta solution.


Because the presentation by Mr. Eggerton on October 25, 2011 was not an action item, the City Council requested that staff bring back to the next available City Council meeting an agenda item that would allow the Council to consider adopting a resolution that would provide the formal resolution of support for participation in a Regional Water Resources Coalition.

Cost: There is no cost associated with this agenda item. Should the formation of a Regional Water Resources Coalition require the financial contribution of member agencies, a separate agenda item will be brought forward for City Council consideration.

Budget Impact: There is no budget impact associated with this agenda item.

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution No. _____ a Resolution of the City of Placerville:

1. Supporting the City's participation in a Regional Coalition to preserve and protect County of origin rights and interests for domestic, agricultural, industrial and environmental water supplies when any comprehensive solution is developed to address the current environmental crisis in the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta; and,
2. Authorizing the City Manager to work with the General Manager of the El Dorado County Water Agency towards the implementation of said resolution.



M. Cleve Morris, City Manager



Randy Pesses, Director of Public Works

Attachment

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PLACERVILLE IN SUPPORT OF THE CITY'S PARTICIPATION IN A REGIONAL WATER RESOURCES COALITION TO PRESERVE AND PROTECT COUNTY OF ORIGIN RIGHTS AND INTERESTS FOR DOMESTIC, AGRICULTURAL, INDUSTRIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL WATER SUPPLIES WHEN ANY COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION IS DEVELOPED TO ADDRESS THE CURRENT ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS IN THE SACRAMENTO – SAN JUAQUIN DELTA, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO WORK WITH THE GENERAL MANAGER OF THE EL DORADO COUNTY WATER AGENCY TOWARDS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SAID RESOLUTION.

WHEREAS, the six county Sacramento Region and adjacent areas of Northern California can benefit from regional coordination and collaboration in developing implementable solutions to future water resource challenges and opportunities; and,

WHEREAS, conditions in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta have reached a state of crisis that threatens the environment of the Delta and the economy of California; and,

WHEREAS, proposed solutions for the Delta could pose serious risks to the water supplies, economy, environment, and quality of life the Sacramento Region of Northern California; and,

WHEREAS, in order to protect these interests the City of Placerville seeks to promote Regional cooperation on water issues, and to be a part of a collaborative and comprehensive solution to the issues facing the Delta;

WHEREAS, it is in the City's best interest to participate in a Regional Water Resources Coalition to preserve and protect County origin rights and interests for domestic, agricultural, industrial and environmental water supplies when any comprehensive solution is developed to address the current environmental crisis in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT, AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Placerville does hereby:

1. Support a Regional Water Resources Coalition based upon the attached set of principles; and,
2. Authorizes the City Manager to work with the General Manager of the El Dorado County Water Agency towards the implementation of this Resolution.

The foregoing Resolution was introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Placerville held on November 8, 2011, by Councilmember _____ who moved its adoption.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember _____. The motion was passed by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

Mayor Pro Tem Mark A. Acuna

Susan Zito, CMC, City Clerk

**PRINCIPLES SUPPORTED BY THE CITY OF PLACERVILLE AS THE BASIS FOR
PARTICIPATION IN A REGIONAL WATER RESOURCES COALITION**

1. Water rights priorities and area-of-origin assurances must be recognized and protected to ensure reliable supplies for all water uses and environmental needs in our Region.
2. Stakeholders in the Sacramento Region of Northern California must be given the opportunity be fully included in and consulted on all aspects of development of a Delta solution and other State and Federal water policies that affect the Region.
3. A Delta solution and other State or Federal actions must honor and not reduce or preempt the authority and responsibilities of cities, counties and other local agencies.
4. That the Sacramento Region of Northern California will continue to invest in and implement water supply, water efficiency, recycling and reuse, storage, and other water management projects and programs that are cost-effective and improve our regional self-sufficiency.
5. The City of Placerville will support a Delta solution that:
 - is based upon sound science to ensure is effective and implemented in an equitable manner
 - requires the beneficiaries of any actions associated with a Delta solution to fully fund the costs of such actions,
 - does not shift negative economic, environmental, or societal impacts to areas in our Region.