

**COUNCIL DIRECTION TO SANTA ROSA PLAIN GROUNDWATER  
SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY BOARDMEMBER REGARDING ADOPTION OF  
THE GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN FOR THE SANTA ROSA PLAIN  
SUBBASIN**

November 30, 2021

**City Council of Santa Rosa**

Peter Martin, Deputy Director Water Resources



SANTA ROSA PLAIN  
**GROUNDWATER**  
SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY



OUR FUTURE IN EVERY DRÖP

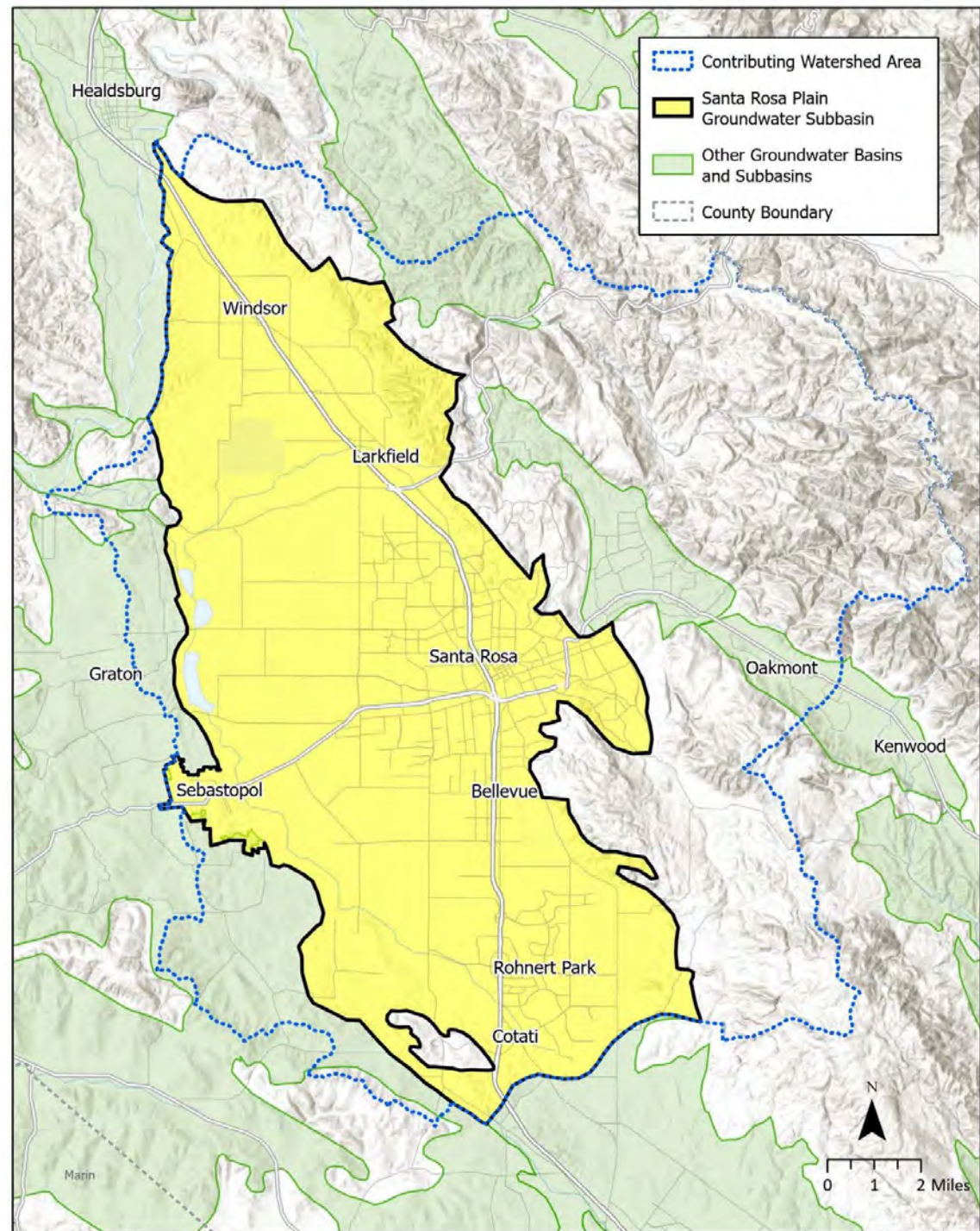
# Presentation Outline

- Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Requirements
- Overview of the Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- Public Input Process & Public Hearing of the Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- Staff Recommendation

# What does SGMA Require?

- New law effective January 1, 2015.
- Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) must be formed and prepare and submit Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) by:
  - January 2020, for critically overdrafted basins
  - January 2022, for remaining high and medium priority basins
- GSPs must include measurable objectives and milestones in increments of five years to achieve sustainability within 20 years of GSP adoption
- GSP Development must be open and transparent

# Where is the Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Sustainability Agency Boundary?





# SANTA ROSA PLAIN Groundwater Sustainability Agency

## Santa Rosa Plain GSA Governance



# Required steps to achieving Sustainability



# GSP Elements

Basin Setting and  
Aquifer Description

Sustainability  
Indicators &  
Objectives

Groundwater  
Sustainability Plan

Projects and  
Management Actions

Monitoring Plan

# Effects of GSP on Santa Rosa

- **Protection of Groundwater Resources** – Ensuring reliable groundwater
- **Land Use Planning** – The City must notify GSA of any proposal to substantially amend a general plan, and must review and consider any adopted groundwater plan (including GSA comments) when amending general plan.
- **Groundwater Users** – Fees to implement of the GSP, municipal and private wells
- **Future Projects** – The plan has conceptual multi-jurisdictional projects that could be implemented to secure and the groundwater supply for the future



# Proposed adoption of the Final GSP

- SRP GSA Board of Directors will adopt Final Groundwater Sustainability Plan on December 9 - 1:00 pm at a publicly noticed hearing
- Santa Rosa's SRP GSA Boardmember is Councilmember Schwedhelm
- *By law, plan must be adopted and submitted to CA Department of Water Resources by January 31, 2022*

# Public Meetings regarding Draft GSP

## Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Sustainability Agency

- Hosted two virtual Public Workshops regarding Draft Plan (May and October 2021)
- Routine Meetings of Board of Directors and Advisory Committee

## City of Santa Rosa Public Meetings

### Board of Public Utilities

- August 5, 2021 – Study Session
- November 18, 2021 – Report

### City Council

- November 9, 2021 – Study Session
- November 30, 2021 – Report

# Summary of Comments Received on Draft Plan

## SRP GSA Public Comment Period (30 Days)

- 17 individual commenters
- Multiple comments from organizations regarding Interconnected Surface Water Sustainable Management Criteria
- Multiple comments from individuals pertained to the chosen climate scenario for modeling future water budget
- Other requests for clarifying information and plan improvements
- Strengthening of descriptions of agencies & stakeholder engagement, tribal consultation
- Improved maps and information, descriptions



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# RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Board of Public Utilities and Santa Rosa Water that the Council, by motion, recommend that the City's representative on the Board of Directors for the Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Sustainability Agency support adoption of the Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Sustainability Plan at the Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Sustainability Agency December 9, 2021 Public Hearing.

