

**BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES DIRECTION TO SANTA ROSA PLAIN
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY BOARD MEMBER REGARDING
ADOPTION OF THE GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN FOR THE
SANTA ROSA PLAIN SUBBASIN**

November 18, 2021

Board of Public Utilities

Peter Martin, Deputy Director Water Resources



SANTA ROSA PLAIN
GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY



OUR FUTURE IN EVERY DRÖP

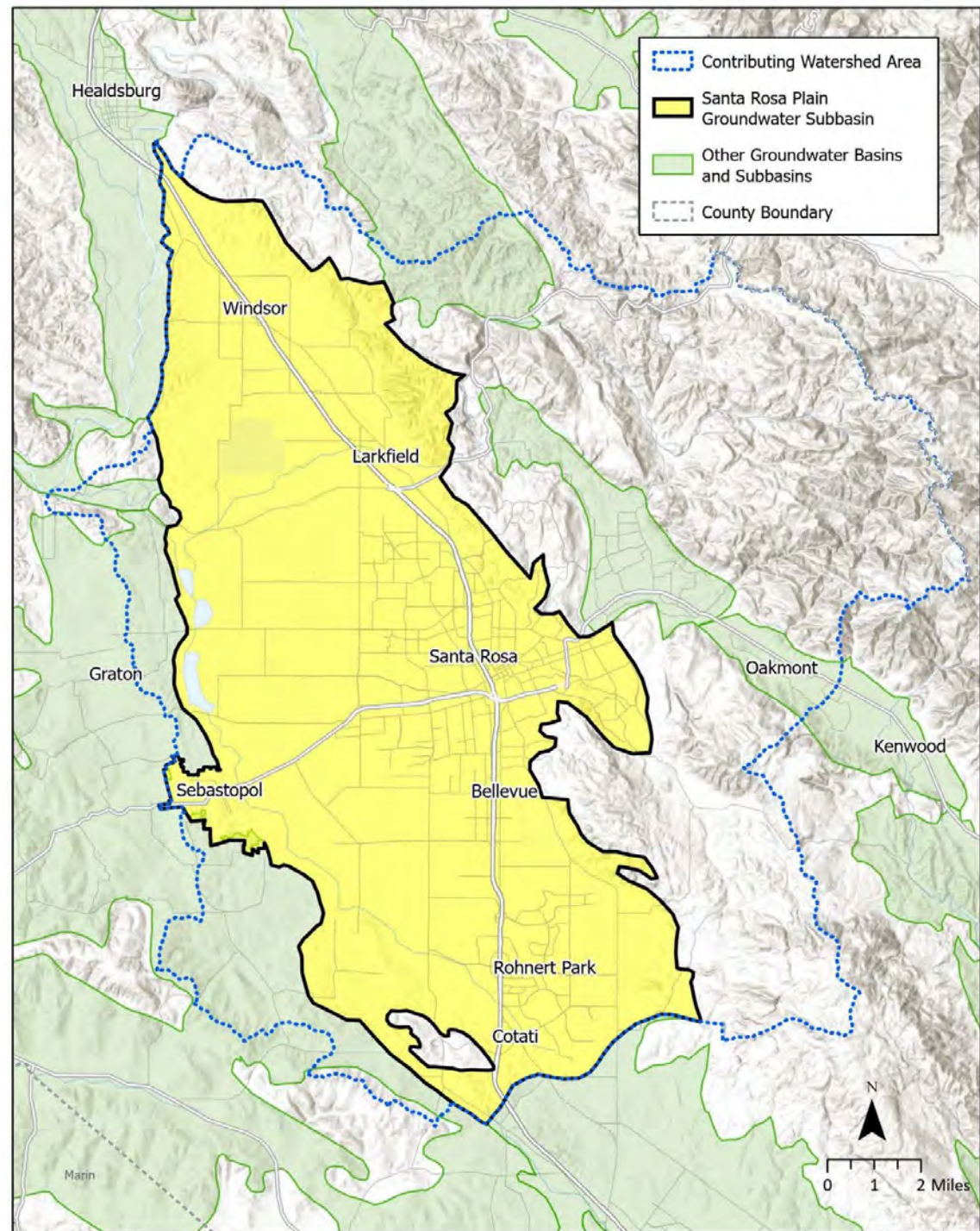
Presentation Outline

- 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 the GSP, municipal and private wells
- **Future Projects** – The plan has conceptual multi-jurisdictional projects that could be implemented to secure 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 at 1:00 pm at a publicly noticed hearing
- Staff will bring BPU recommendation to Council on November 30th - direction to City Council appointed SRP GSA Board Member (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 Santa Rosa Water staff that the Board of Public Utilities, by motion, recommend to the City Council that the Council recommend that the City's Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors representative support adoption of the Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Sustainability Plan at the December 9, 2021 Public Hearing.

