

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

TO: CHAIR AND BOARD MEMBERS
FROM: ANDREW ALLEN, SUPERVISING ENGINEER
WATER DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: WATER SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN SANTA ROSA
WATER AND WRIGHT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR
ASSISTANCE REQUEST (AR) 6104 WRIGHT ELEMENTARY –
PROP 1 CONSOLIDATION PROJECT

AGENDA ACTION: RESOLUTION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by Santa Rosa Water that the Board of Public Utilities, by resolution, authorize the Director of Santa Rosa Water, or designee, to enter into a Water Service Agreement with Wright Elementary School District for the AR 6104 Wright Elementary – Prop 1 Consolidation Project.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Wright Elementary School District (WESD) operates a small public water system with contamination levels that exceed the State of California's maximum contaminant level (MCL) for copper and lead along with other contaminants emanating from the existing water well on the Wright Elementary School property. WESD will be applying to the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) for funding to connect to the City's water system. The Water Board requires prior approval from the governing board of the consolidating agency before it will fund the Project, which means the Board of Public Utilities (BPU) must authorize Santa Rosa Water to enter into a Water Service Agreement with WESD.

BACKGROUND

WESD operates Wright Elementary School Public Water System No. CA4900694 serving students, staff, and recreational facilities at 4385 Price Avenue in unincorporated Sonoma County, Assessor's Parcel Number 035-081-039, which is approximately 800 feet outside current City limits. The WESD water supply relies on a

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single well of unconfirmed age and construction standards. In addition to coliform bacteria, copper, and lead have been detected in excess of the maximum contaminant action levels. Lead concentrations were also detected at more than double the applicable action level, which poses a particular public health concern for children. In addition, the system lacks a backup water source and has inadequate on-site storage capacity, leaving the school at risk of running dry during drought conditions.

The Water Board has recommended consolidation of the Wright Elementary School Public Water System No. CA900694 with the Santa Rosa Water system, a project named AR 6104 Wright Elementary - Prop 1 Water Consolidation Project (Project) due to the presence of copper and lead, along with other contaminants that exceed the State MCLs. The Water Board is anticipated to provide state grant funds to WESD for the permanent connection to City water to cover the cost of construction and fees.

The Water Board requires prior approval from the governing board of the consolidating agency, in this case the BPU, before the Water Board will enter into a funding agreement for the Project. WESD will then be able to construct the Project, and Santa Rosa Water will then be able to provide potable water to students and faculty at Wright Elementary School.

The Project includes permanent connection of Wright Elementary School to the Santa Rosa Water potable system. Wright Elementary School already has a connection to the City's water system for fire protection.

PRIOR BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES REVIEW

None.

ANALYSIS

This authorization will allow the WESD to move forward with a construction project to connect to the Santa Rosa Water potable water system to deliver potable water to the Wright Elementary School, which is in an area with known ground water contamination.

Prior to WESD applying for funding for construction costs and fees, Santa Rosa Water must enter into a Water Service Agreement with WESD. The Project includes permanent connection of the Wright Elementary School to the City's water system.

Wright Elementary School is within the City's Urban Growth Boundary and within Santa Rosa Water's sphere of influence. Connections of Wright Elementary School will be in accordance with the City's Utility Certificate process.

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FISCAL IMPACT

None. All cost for the Project will be paid by WESD and reimbursed from the Water Board via the funding agreement, including construction costs and fees.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The Project has been found in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as follows:

- Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, the project is categorically exempt because it involves the minor alteration of an existing, publicly owned utility used to deliver potable water.
- Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15303, the project is categorically exempt because it involves the installation of new equipment (pipes) in a paved area, involving minor modifications.
- Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15269, the project is statutorily exempt because it involves the installation of a small water delivery system to a single property, currently constructed with an elementary school, that will provide clean, potable water for children, in an area with known ground water contamination.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not applicable.

NOTIFICATION

Not applicable.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 – Water Service Agreement
- Attachment 2 – Location Map
- Resolution

PRESENTER

Andrew Allen, Supervising Engineer