

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

TO: CHAIR AND BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
FROM: CHRIS BALANESI, ASSOCIATE CIVIL ENGINEER,
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS
SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL TO APPROPRIATE
\$22,534,460 IN EXPEDITED DRINKING WATER GRANT FUNDS
FOR THE SANTA ROSA WATER CONSOLIDATION PROJECT

AGENDA ACTION: MOTION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by Santa Rosa Water and the Transportation and Public Works Department that the Board of Public Utilities, by motion, recommend that the City Council approve the appropriation of Expedited Drinking Water Grant (EDWG) funding from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) in the amount of \$22,534,460.00 for the Santa Rosa Water Consolidation Project, Contract No. C02269.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The proposed motion will recommend that the City Council authorize the transfer of ledger appropriations in the amount of \$22,534,460 for the Expedited Drinking Water Grant Funding Agreement No. D2502068 ("Agreement") for use on the Santa Rosa Water Consolidation Project, Contract No. C02269 ("Project"). The appropriation is necessary to continue design and to construct the water system improvements. All costs for the Project will be reimbursed from the SWRCB via a funding agreement.

BACKGROUND

Per direction from the SWRCB, the objective of this project is to connect nine community water systems to the City's public water system and to provide upgraded fire-protection infrastructure within each service area. The following nine independent public water systems provide service to small communities in and around the City of Santa Rosa (City):

- 1) Delores Lane Water System (Delores Lane)
- 2) Plaza Mobile Home and RV Park (Plaza MHP)
- 3) Western Mobile Home Park (Western MHP)
- 4) El Crystal Mobile Home Park (El Crystal MHP)

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- 5) El Portal Mobile Estates (El Portal ME)
- 6) Mountain View Mobile Estates (Mountain View ME)
- 7) Wayside Gardens Mobile Home Park (Wayside Gardens MHP)
- 8) James Court Water System (James Court)
- 9) Roseland Mobile Home Park (Roseland MHP)

These nine small water systems comprise approximately 611 service connections, supplying approximately 1,377 residents with an estimated 21 million gallons of well water annually. Each water system generally consists of a groundwater supply well(s), storage tank(s), and distribution infrastructure. Located within City limits and unincorporated Sonoma County, all systems are regulated by the SWRCB. Additionally, the mobile estates and mobile home parks fall under the jurisdiction of the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD).

The SWRCB has identified water quality issues across all nine water systems due to contaminants of concern, such as bacteria, inorganic chemicals, volatile organic chemicals, and synthetic organic chemicals – some of which have exceeded applicable maximum contaminant levels (MCLs). While some of these water systems manage their treatment systems independently, those with multiple supply wells frequently achieve regulatory compliance by decommissioning noncompliant wells and relying on alternative potable water sources. However, this strategy ultimately compromises the reliability of some systems that rely on a single active water-supply well with no backup.

These communities also lack the technical, managerial, or financial capacity to properly operate or maintain the treatment systems necessary to mitigate the identified water quality issues.

In March 2018, SWRCB awarded Prop 1 (Assembly Bill 1471, Rendon) planning grants to Western MHP, El Portal MHP, and Plaza MHP. Subsequently, in January 2019, El Crystal MHP, Mountain View ME, Roseland MHP, Wayside Gardens MHP, James Court, and Delores Lane began receiving Prop 1 technical assistance through California State University, Sacramento – Office of Water Programs.

To address localized water quality deficiencies under this program, the SWRCB contracted NV5 Consultants, Inc. (NV5) to provide professional engineering design services, planning, and system expertise.

The proposed project will connect all nine independent water systems to the City's public water infrastructure. Connection points to existing water mains will be established along Santa Rosa Avenue, Dutton Avenue, and Sebastopol Road. Potable water meters will be installed to connect each multi-family residence within the Delores Lane and James Court water systems. For the remaining water systems, infrastructure improvements will consist of installing a master water meter, a backflow prevention device, and the necessary

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valves and distribution piping appurtenances at each location. Additionally, dedicated fire protection services will be integrated across all nine systems, incorporating new hydrants, backflow prevention devices, valves, and piping appurtenances. Upon completion of the project, the existing water supply wells and redundant distribution infrastructure will be either removed or permanently abandoned in place.

Project implementation requires coordination, review, and permitting from the City of Santa Rosa Fire Department, the Sonoma County Fire Department, Sonoma Public Infrastructure, Permit Sonoma, and the CA HCD.

The total estimated cost of the project is \$22,534,460.00, which will be fully funded through the SWRCB EDWG program. The funding is allocated under Prop 84, the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006. Prop 84 authorized the California legislature to appropriate \$1 Billion in Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) funding to assist local agencies in securing long-term regional water resilience, including the delivery of safe drinking water and the protection of water quality and the environment.

PRIOR BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES REVIEW

On June 16, 2022, the Board of Public Utilities approved Resolution No. 1296 Authorizing Santa Rosa Water to Enter into a Funding Agreement with the State Water Resources Control Board and Authorizing and Designating Representatives for the Assistance Request (AR) 5705 Santa Rosa – Prop 1 Consolidation Project.

On April 2, 2026, the Board of Public Utilities approved, by motion, a sole source Project Work Order (PWO) in the amount of \$859,746.00 with NV5 Consultants, Inc. of Sacramento, California, for professional engineering design services associated with the Santa Rosa Water Consolidation Project.

ANALYSIS

Per direction from SWRCB, Santa Rosa Water has secured SWRCB grant funding through the EDWG program to connect nine community water systems to municipal water infrastructure. The primary objective of this project is to provide safe potable water to seven mobile home parks and 27 duplex units that lack connections to the City's public water system. These specific properties currently rely on localized groundwater sources that exhibit arsenic concentrations and other contaminants that exceed the State's MCLs. Connecting to municipal water will eliminate reliance on contaminated wells and ensure long-term compliance with state public health standards.

FISCAL IMPACT

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There are no fiscal impacts. All costs for the Project will be reimbursed from the SWRCB via the funding agreement.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378, the proposed action is not a “project” subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because approval of the funding appropriation is an administrative and fiscal activity that does not have the potential to result in either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. Environmental review, as required by CEQA, will occur before any discretionary approval of the Project.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not applicable.

NOTIFICATION

Not applicable.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 – Project Location Map
- Attachment 2 - Agreement Between City of Santa Rosa and California Water Boards
- Attachment 3 – Board of Public Utilities Resolution No. 1296

PRESENTER

Chris Balanesi, Associate Civil Engineer, Transportation and Public Works