RESOLUTION NO.	

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA ROSA ADOPTING THE WATER DEMAND OFFSET, 2021 WATER DEMAND OFFSET FEE STUDY, AND WATER DEMAND OFFSET FEES

WHEREAS, the California Urban Water Management Planning Act (Act) requires all urban water purveyors serving over 3,000 connections or over 3,000 acre-feet of water annually to prepare a Water Shortage Contingency Plan (Shortage Plan) every five years; and

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Rosa is an urban supplier of water to approximately 54,000 connections supplying approximately 19,000 acre-feet of potable water annually and is therefore required to comply with the Act; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Act is to ensure sound planning and efficient management of water resources in the urban sector and to prepare for water shortages; and

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Rosa has the authority and responsibility to adopt water demand reduction measures within its service area; and

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Rosa adopted the 2020 Shortage Plan on June 8, 2021 and will consider adoption of the Amended 2020 Shortage Plan on November 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Shortage Plan requires existing water services to adhere to very restrictive individual water allocations (water rationing) that require water conservation sufficient to ensure that water demand does not exceed the limited supply for the duration of the water shortage emergency; and

WHEREAS, no water is available for new development during severe water shortages that require water allocations; and

WHEREAS, the Shortage Plan requires development to offset new demand during severe water shortages that require water allocations; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the WDO Policy and WDO Fee structure is to ensure that the City can adequately address short-term water shortages and comply with Water Code section 10632(a), which requires that the City plan for water shortages and adopt a Shortage Plan with that includes response actions to ensure demand for water does not exceed supply during water shortage emergencies; and

WHEREAS, the City is experiencing a housing shortage crisis and must comply California mandates to plan for and construct a certain amount of housing; and

WHEREAS, the City balances the mandate to provide housing and the mandate to assure adequate water supply through long range strategies and analysis included within the Urban Water Management Plan, Water Shortage Contingency Plan, General Plan, and Specific Plans; and

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WHEREAS, the Water Demand Offset (WDO) Policy and WDO fee structure are the tools included in the Shortage Plan to address water shortage emergencies while simultaneously promoting progress on long-term strategies for housing and economic development; and

WHEREAS, the WDO Policy implements the WDO requirements of the Shortage Plan through the payment of a fee that will be used to implement demand management efforts, water supply projects, and/or conservation programs; and

WHEREAS, the WDO Policy provides an appellate process if a development project wishes to appeal staff decisions about the project's water demand and/or WDO fee amount; and

WHEREAS, the WDO Fee Study describes the basis for the WDO fees and structure, and the City would adjust the WDO Fees for inflation on an annual basis at the beginning of the calendar year (January 1) starting in 2023, using the Engineering News Record's 20-Cities CCI (20-cities CCI); and

WHEREAS, the City would update WDO Fee calculations to the extent feasible whenever it is updating the Water Shortage Plan in accordance with the statutory requirements; and

WHEREAS, payment of WDO fees would be due when the development project requests building permit final or when any type of occupancy is requested, and WDO fees would be due if a declared water shortage emergency condition exists at that time and requires water allocations for existing customers and water demand offsets for construction projects; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Public Utilities reviewed the WDO Policy and draft 2021 WDO Fee Study in a study session at its meeting on October 7, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Public Utilities, at its meeting on November 18, 2021, recommended that the City Council adopt the WDO Policy, 2021 WDO Fee Study, and WDO Fees and further recommended that the Council consider a general fund subsidy to offset the Water Demand Offset Fee for affordable housing projects; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Santa Rosa reviewed the WDO Policy and draft 2021 WDO Fee Study in a study session at its meeting on October 26, 2021; and

WHEREAS, California Government Code Section 66019 stipulates that new mitigation fees go into effect no sooner than 60 days after they have been adopted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Santa Rosa adopts the Water Demand Offset Policy, attached to this resolution as Exhibit A and made a part of herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council adopts the 2021 Water Demand Offset Fee Study, attached to this resolution as Exhibit B and made a part of herein.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council adopts Water Demand Offset Fees in Table 1 and authorizes the fees to be adjusted on an annual basis to account for inflation at the beginning of the calendar year (January 1) starting in 2023, using the Engineering News Record's 20-Cities CCI (20-cities CCI).

Type of Development

WDO Fee

\$ 1,964
\$ 2,782
\$ 5,047
\$ 1,649
\$ 1,259
\$ 1,498
\$868
\$415

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Water Demand Offset Fee structure goes into effect on January 31, 2022, which is 62 days from the date of adoption.

IN COUNCIL DULY PASSED this 30th day of November, 2021.

AYES:				
NOES:				
ABSENT:				
ABSTAIN:				
ATTEST:City Clerk	APPROVED:	Mayor		
APPROVED AS TO FORM:City A	Attorney			
Exhibit A – Water Demand Offset Policy Exhibit B – 2021 Water Demand Offset Fee Study				

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