



# ***Agenda Report***

## ***Fullerton City Council***

**MEETING DATE:** MARCH 17, 2020

**TO:** CITY COUNCIL / CITY MANAGER

**SUBMITTED BY:** KENNETH A. DOMER, CITY MANAGER

**PREPARED BY:** MEG McWADE, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR  
TIFFANY FOO, ASSOCIATE WATER ENGINEER

**SUBJECT:** DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT  
PROGRAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SUB-GRANT  
AGREEMENT FROM SANTA ANA WATERSHED  
PROJECT AUTHORITY (SAWPA) - \$100,000 GRANT

---

### **SUMMARY**

Approval of grant award of \$100,000 from the 2016 Proposition 1 Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP) Disadvantaged Community Involvement (DCI) Program funding from Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority for technical assistance related to water quality and resources.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

1. Accept grant award in the amount of \$100,000 for the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Disadvantaged Community Involvement - Technical Assistance Program.
2. Authorize the City Manager to enter into Sub-Grant Agreement with Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA).
3. Authorize the Public Works Director to execute any future amendments / supplements with SAWPA, in a form approved by the City Attorney.
4. Appropriate \$100,000 in grant funds (Grant Administration Fund - Fund 32).

### **PRIORITY POLICY STATEMENT**

This item matches the following Priority Policy Statement:

- Infrastructure and City Assets.

## FISCAL IMPACT

The program award is for \$100,000. The DCI Program does not require a monetary match and no City funding is required. There is no net fiscal impact to the City.

## DISCUSSION

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) administers Proposition 1 IRWM Grant Program funds and entered into an agreement with SAWPA in 2017, provided that SAWPA would serve as program manager for the \$6.3 million in IRWMP grant funds disbursed within the Santa Ana River Watershed. Of the \$6.3 million of DCI funds, \$1.8 million was available for technical assistance grants. Twenty-three applications were submitted and the City of Fullerton was awarded \$100,000 for the “Fullerton’s Water Future: Ensuring Delivery of Clean, Safe Drinking Water” Project.

The City receives approximately 75 percent of its water supply from groundwater wells in the North Basin and 25 percent from Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD), which sells imported water. Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) have been detected in the groundwater. The VOC levels detected in the City’s water wells are currently below state and federal maximum contaminant levels (MCLs), however, they could potentially migrate further into the aquifer. An MCL has not been established for PFAS. Nevertheless, the Division of Drinking Water (DDW) has assigned Notification Levels (NLs) and Response Levels (RL) to two PFAS constituents—Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS). Groundwater that exceed the NLs requires public notification while RLs are non-regulatory, precautionary measures recommending wells are removed from service.

These water quality challenges impact the City’s water supply. DDW recently lowered the RL, resulting in the shutdown of one of the City’s highest producing water wells and requiring the City to purchase more expensive import water in peak demand periods. This grant will provide funding for the necessary professional assistance to develop interim and long-term solutions for improving the reliability and quality of groundwater resources.

On December 17, 2019, the City was notified that the SAWPA Commission recommended the City’s project for Technical Assistance funding and program support through the DCI Program (see Attachment 1) in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.

The City will need to execute the attached agreement with SAWPA (Attachment 2). This agreement has been reviewed by the City Attorney’s Office and approved as to form.

The City will be submitting invoices to SAWPA who will in turn submit to DWR for eligible reimbursable costs. The turnaround time for reimbursements from DWR is usually 45 to 60 days. To issue payments for invoices submitted by the Consultant, the City will need to amend the budget to accept and appropriate \$100,000 in grant funds.

Attachments:

- Attachment 1 – DCI Program Technical Assistance Project Recommendation Allocation
- Attachment 2 – 2016 Proposition 1 Integrated Regional Water Management Program Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program Technical Assistance Sub-Grant Agreement between Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority and City of Fullerton