

RESOLUTION NO 1047

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES RECOMENDING THAT THE CITY COUNCIL AGREE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WATER BOND COALITION, SUPPORT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COALITION, ENDORSE EFFORTS OF THE COALITION TO DEVELOP THE FAIR AND EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF STATE WATER BOND FUNDS FOR PROJECTS THAT WILL BENEFIT THE CITY OF SANTA ROSA AND OTHER ENTITIES THROUGHOUT NORTHERN AND COASTAL CALIFORNIA, AND DESIGNATE THE DIRECTOR OF UTILITIES AS THE OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE CITY TO THE WATER BOND COALITION

WHEREAS, in the past 10 years, the California electorate has approved Propositions 50, 84 and 1E that have provided more than \$12 billion for water-related projects in California; and

WHEREAS, an additional water bond measure is now being developed and if approved by the voters, would provide additional funding for the planning and implementation of water-related programs and projects in California; and

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Rosa took an active role in the creation of the Northern and Coastal California Water Bond Coalition in 2002, a diverse network of 220 cities, counties and special districts from 34 counties that worked to support the equitable distribution of state bond funds and secure grant funds for drinking water, wastewater, fisheries, wetlands, water reuse, non-point source and flood protection projects that benefited the City of Santa Rosa; and

WHEREAS, the development of a regional coalition to organize and promote local and regional projects for funding has proven to be effective in obtaining funding from these bond measures totaling \$4,000,000 for the City of Santa Rosa and has enabled the construction of the Santa Rosa Urban Re-use Pilot Project in the City of Santa Rosa; and

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Rosa has identified \$152,000,000 in unmet funding needs for high priority projects that will increase water reuse, enhance fisheries, and improve water supply reliability; and

WHEREAS, there is a tremendous need for improvements in California's diverse water system and cities, counties, and local and regional water supply, flood control and sanitation agencies across the state are facing significant challenges including aging infrastructure, more challenging regulatory compliance standards, changes in climate that impact public safety and water supply reliability, and environmental impacts that could increase costs or reduce water availability; and

WHEREAS, existing state water infrastructure bond funds meant to help address these challenges will soon be fully expended and a new commitment of significant state funding to assist local and regional water management projects is necessary to assure water future supply reliability; and

WHEREAS, the Water Bond Coalition supports new investment in regional competitive grant programs that distribute funds equitably across the state – in acknowledgement of the importance of source watersheds as well as population centers – to achieve any of the following objectives:

- Integrated, multi-agency approaches to water management
- Improved protection of wildlife, fisheries and watersheds to reduce conflicts with water management efforts
- Improved water supply reliability
- Water systems that are diversified, resilient, and reliable in the face of natural disasters and a changing climate
- Funding for planning, implementation and sustaining projects in the following categories: integrated regional water management, water reuse and recycled water, flood protection, stormwater management, upgrades and enhancements to aging infrastructure, groundwater management, groundwater cleanup, water use efficiency, and water quality compliance

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Public Utilities recommends that the City Council participates in the Water Bond Coalition and support efforts by the Coalition to promote the principles above.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Public Utilities recommends that the City Council designate the Utilities Director to serve as the official representative for the City Council to the Water Bond Coalition.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Public Utilities recommends that the City Council authorize both the Mayor and the Utilities Director to sign letters and speak on behalf of the City of Santa Rosa in support of legislation that furthers the principles identified above.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED by the City of Santa Rosa Board of Public Utilities this 6th day of June 2013.

AYES: (6) GALE, GALVIN, CARNEY, HOLT, KAUN, AND STEFFENSEN

NOES: (0)

ABSTAIN: (1) DOWD

ABSENT: (0)

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Chairman Stephen Gale

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gina Perez  
Recording Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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City Attorney