

14-0002-547

APR 11 2014

RESOLUTION

RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles (City) with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal government body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the City is facing a number of complex water resource challenges; and

WHEREAS, local groundwater aquifers that once provided nearly 30 percent of the City's water supply in dry years have been impacted by contamination, resulting in the shutdown of over 70 percent of the groundwater supply wells in the San Fernando Basin (SFB); and

WHEREAS, the SFB must be remediated within the next decade to prevent total loss of the remaining groundwater supply; and

WHEREAS, the City's supply of water from the Eastern Sierra's has also diminished due to drought and regulatory restrictions; and

WHEREAS, the water supply situation in Los Angeles has become increasingly tenuous due to a variety of climate and environmental factors, thus making the City increasingly reliant upon imported water purchased from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD); and

WHEREAS, in an attempt to address the City's critical water supply needs, it has developed the 2010 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) which seeks to harness local water supply resources in order to maximize water sustainability; and

WHEREAS, advancing local water sustainability involves the strategic implementation of groundwater remediation efforts in the SFB, the associated development of recycled water infrastructure and distribution systems, and the integration of stormwater capture and replenishment projects; and

WHEREAS, the City must also comply with federal water quality standards under its Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer System Permit; and

WHEREAS, the City has implemented a number of water quality projects to address pollutants in stormwater runoff throughout Los Angeles, including in the Los Angeles River Watershed and related tributaries; and

WHEREAS, the Safe, Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Act (Water Bond) of 2014 would authorize the issuance of \$11.14 billion in general obligation bonds for water-related programs and projects; and

WHEREAS, several different State water bond proposals, ranging from \$5.1 billion to \$9.25 billion, would replace or modify the existing Water Bond; and

WHEREAS, these proposals should contain dedicated funding to support local water sustainability objectives by providing funding for groundwater remediation, and related funding for recycled water infrastructure needs and stormwater capture/watershed management projects; and

WHEREAS, harnessing local water resource opportunities is essential to reducing the City's reliance on imported water and thereby ensuring the environmental health and economic well-being of the City and region;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by adoption of this Resolution, with the concurrence of the Mayor, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2013-2014 State Legislative Program **SUPPORT** for AB 1331 (Rendon), SB 848 (Wolk), AB 2043 (Conway and Bigelow), AB 2686 (Perea), known as "the water bond legislation" and any related legislation **IF AMENDED** to recognize the City's local water sustainability objectives by including:

- A dedicated bond chapter of \$1 billion for groundwater remediation needs;
- Funding for recycled water infrastructure, treatment and distribution systems;
- Funding for stormwater capture/watershed management and replenishment projects including the Los Angeles River Watershed and related tributaries.

PRESENTED BY:

FELIPE FUENTES
Councilmember, 7th District

MITCH O'FARRELL
Councilmember, 13th District

SECONDED BY:

Paul Kerkonia

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