



GAIL FARBER, Director

## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

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ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:  
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May 06, 2014

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ADOPTED**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

63 May 6, 2014

*Sachi A. Hamai*  
SACHI A. HAMAI  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**UPPER SANTA CLARA RIVER  
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN  
FEBRUARY 2014  
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)  
(3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

As the governing body of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, this action is to adopt the February 2014 Upper Santa Clara River Integrated Regional Water Management Plan and authorize the Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District or her designee to vote as a member of the Regional Water Management Group for the Upper Santa Clara River Integrated Regional Water Management to adopt this Plan in accordance with Sections 10530 to 10546 of the California Water Code. These actions will enable the Regional Water Management Group for the Upper Santa Clara River Integrated Regional Water Management to improve regional water resources management practices as well as qualify for future grant funding for water resources-related projects.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT**

1. Adopt the enclosed Resolution (Enclosure A) adopting the February 2014 Upper Santa Clara River Integrated Regional Water Management Plan on behalf of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District.
2. Authorize the Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District or her designee to vote as a member of the Regional Water Management Group for the Upper Santa Clara River Integrated Regional Water Management to adopt this Plan in accordance with Section 10540 of the

## **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The State of California Department of Water Resources (DWR) created the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program to encourage integrated regional strategies for managing water resources and to provide funding for both planning and implementation of projects that support management of water supply, water quality, environmental interests, drought protection, flood protection, and reduction of dependence on imported water.

Agencies in the County of Los Angeles area have long recognized the importance of regional collaboration and integration of single-purpose efforts. Agencies now regularly work across jurisdictional boundaries to implement regional projects and programs that address multiple water resource management issues including recycled water, stormwater capture, water use efficiency, and many others. The Upper Santa Clara River IRWM Plan is an outgrowth of these ongoing efforts and is an acknowledgement by these agencies that integration and cost-sharing is the key to meeting future water resource management challenges in the County of Los Angeles and surrounding area.

The DWR and State Legislators have established program guidelines for the IRWM Program through Proposition 84 and Proposition 1E (2012 Guidelines). The February 2014 Upper Santa Clara River IRWM Plan addresses the provisions of Proposition 84 and Proposition 1E and meets the requirements of the 2012 Guidelines.

The IRWM Program requires IRWMs to be administered by Regional Water Management Groups (RWMGs). The RWMG for the Upper Santa Clara River IRWM is responsible for the preparation and adoption of the Upper Santa Clara River IRWM Plan. The 2012 Guidelines require adoption of an updated IRWM Plan by the governing bodies of member agencies of the RWMGs, the RWMG's representatives of the governing bodies, and by proponents of projects included in IRWM grant funding proposals.

Adopting the February 2014 Upper Santa Clara River IRWM Plan will enable participants in the Upper Santa Clara River IRWM to apply for future grant funding under various grant programs including Proposition 84 and Proposition 1E. The 2012 Guidelines include acceptance of IRWMs into the grant program; IRWM Plan standards and guidance; solicitation, submittal, and review of grant applications; and awarding of grant funding in accordance with Section 10541(f) of the California Water Code. The RWMG of the Upper Santa Clara River IRWM has previously accepted \$14.9 million from these grant programs, including funding to update the Upper Santa Clara River IRWM Plan.

The Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) is a member of the RWMG for the Upper Santa Clara River IRWM and is required to adopt the February 2014 Upper Santa Clara River IRWM Plan in order to continue participating.

## **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of Integrated Services Delivery (Goal 3) by

maximizing opportunities to measurably improve client and community outcomes and leverage resource through the continuous integration of health, community, and public safety.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

There will be no impact to the County General Fund.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

On May 1, 2007, pursuant to the Board's authorization, the LACFCD joined the RWMG of the Upper Santa Clara River IRWM to prepare and adopt an IRWM Plan in accordance to the provision of Proposition 50, Chapter 8, and Sections 10530 through 10546 of the California Water Code.

On May 1, 2012, the Board authorized the Chief Engineer of the LACFCD to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with other members of the Upper Santa Clara River RWMG to update the IRWM Plan.

Appendix B of the 2012 Guidelines requires the governing body of each member agency of a RWMG responsible for the development of an IRWM Plan to adopt the Plan by way of a Resolution. The enclosed Resolution has been reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

Adoption of the February 2014 Upper Santa Clara River IRWM Plan is not a project subject to provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is an activity that is excluded from the definition of a project by Section 15378(b) of the CEQA Guidelines. The proposed action is an administrative activity of government, which will not result in direct or indirect physical changes to the environment.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

There will be no adverse impact on current County services. This effort to adopt the February 2014 Upper Santa Clara River IRWM Plan further enhances and facilitates partnerships among water resources, stormwater quality, and open space interests while improving the quality of life for residents in the County of Los Angeles.

### **CONCLUSION**

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

5/6/2014

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Please return three adopted copies of this letter to the Department of Public Works, Watershed Management Division.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gail Farber".

GAIL FARBER

Director

GF:GH:av

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Office (Rita Robinson)  
County Counsel  
Executive Office

## ENCLOSURE A

### RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT, APPROVING THE ADOPTION OF THE FEBRUARY 2014 UPPER SANTA CLARA RIVER INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) and agencies in the Upper Santa Clara River (USCR) area recognize the importance of regional collaboration and integration of single-purpose efforts and now regularly work across jurisdictional boundaries to implement regional projects and programs that address multiple water resource management issues including local and imported water supplies, sanitation and recycled water, stormwater management, groundwater management, water use efficiency, habitat and open space management, and other such issues; and

WHEREAS, the State of California Department of Water Resources (DWR) created the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program to encourage integrated, regional strategies for managing water resources and to provide funding for both planning and implementation of projects that support management of water supply, water quality, environmental interests, drought protection, flood protection, reduction of dependence on imported water, and other such purposes; and

WHEREAS, organizations participating in the IRWM Program join together to form IRWM Regions; and

WHEREAS, the IRWM Region serving the USCR area is known as the USCR IRWM; and

WHEREAS, the USCR IRWM engages in regional water resources planning for the USCR area; and

WHEREAS, DWR recognizes the USCR IRWM as an official IRWM Region; and

WHEREAS, the IRWM Program requires that a Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) be formed to establish an IRWM Region; and

WHEREAS, the LACFCD is a member of the RWMG for the USCR IRWM; and

WHEREAS, DWR and State Legislators have established program guidelines for the IRWM Program through Proposition 84 and Proposition 1E (2012 Guidelines); and

WHEREAS, the RWMG for the USCR IRWM is responsible for the preparation and adoption an IRWM Plan; and

WHEREAS, on May 1, 2012, the Board authorized the Chief Engineer of the LACFCD or her designee to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with other members of the USCR RWMG to update the existing IRWM Plan for the USCR; and

WHEREAS, the RWMG for the USCR IRWM has developed the February 2014 USCR IRWM Plan to address the provisions of the 2012 Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the LACFCD actively participated in the development of the February 2014 USCR IRWM Plan; and

WHEREAS, the 2012 Guidelines require the governing bodies of member agencies of the RWMGs, the RWMG representatives of the governing bodies, as well as proponents of projects included in IRWM grant funding proposals to adopt an updated IRWM Plan; and

WHEREAS, adopting the February 2014 USCR IRWM Plan will enable participants in the USCR IRWM, including the LACFCD, to apply for future grant funding under various grant programs including Proposition 84 and Proposition 1E; and

WHEREAS, to date, DWR has awarded the USCR IRWM \$14.9 million in grant funding to implement 17 regionally significant water resources management planning and implementation projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles acting as the governing body of the LACFCD, hereby adopts the February 2014 USCR IRWM Plan and authorizes and directs the Chief Engineer of the LACFCD or her designee, in its role as a member agency of the RWMG of the USCR IRWM, to vote at the appropriate time to adopt the February 2014 IRWM Plan.



The foregoing Resolution was adopted on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2014,  
by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles acting as the governing body  
of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District.

SACHI A. HAMAI  
Executive Officer of the  
Board of Supervisors of the  
County of Los Angeles



By Carla Little  
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JOHN F. KRATTLI  
County Counsel

By   
Senior Associate

RB:av  
C14035