



DATE: June 7, 2021

TO: Technical Advisory Committee to the Water Advisory Committee

FROM: Paul Piazza, Water Use Efficiency Manager, Sonoma Water

SUBJECT: New Member of SMSWP- City of Cloverdale

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## RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Water Conservation Subcommittee that the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) approve the City of Cloverdale as a new party of the First Amended Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Sonoma-Marín Saving Water Partnership (MOU).

## BACKGROUND

City of Cloverdale (Cloverdale) has submitted an inquiry to Sonoma Water staff regarding joining the Sonoma-Marín Saving Water Partnership (SMSWP). The *First Amended Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Sonoma-Marín Saving Water Partnership* (MOU) allows new parties to join upon recommendation of the Water Conservation Subcommittee and approval by the TAC. The MOU defines new parties to include a “public water system, stormwater utility, Groundwater Sustainability Agency, or local or regional public entity operating along the upper Russian River or public entity that receives water from the Russian River watershed.”

Presentations were made by Sonoma Water staff at Cloverdale’s Finance, Administrative Services, and Police Sub Committee meeting in August 2020, and subsequently to the Cloverdale City Council in January 2021, for consideration of the benefits and requirements to join the SMSWP. On April 14, 2021, the Cloverdale City Council passed a resolution authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute the MOU to join the SMSWP and authorized a budget amendment for the required expenses.

On May 5, 2021, the Water Conservation Subcommittee held a quarterly SMSWP meeting that included a vote to consider recommending Cloverdale as a new party to the MOU. The vote resulted in approval to recommend Cloverdale be added as a new party to the MOU.

There are three requirements outlined in the MOU to join the SMSWP: 1) pay an annual Water Conservation Fund fee to Sonoma Water for Regional Water Conservation Projects, 2) agree to budget and expend funding for Local Water Conservation Projects, and 3) execute the agreement, agreeing to all the terms.

## Regional Water Conservation Project Funding

Cloverdale’s Water Conservation Fund fee for Regional Water Conservation Projects has been set at \$22,000 annually. The amount covers the program expansion requirements to incorporate Cloverdale into the SMSWP’s Regional Water Conservation Projects. The fee revenue and expenditures for Cloverdale joining the SMSWP were included in Sonoma Water’s FY 21-22 Water Conservation Sub fund budget.

## **Local Water Conservation Project Funding**

Per the MOU, a SMSWP member is required to budget and expend an annualized amount of at least 175% of their Water Conservation Fund fee for Local Water Conservation Projects. Cloverdale would be required to budget and expend \$38,500 each year on local water conservation projects. Annually the actual Local Water Conservation Project expenditures will be published in the SMSWP Annual Report.