

RESOLUTION NO. 3136-14

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WINDSOR
SUPPORTING THE SANTA ROSA PLAIN WATERSHED GROUNDWATER
MANAGEMENT PLAN, APPROVING A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT TO FUND THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN, AND AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO
EXECUTE THE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS, the groundwater system beneath the Santa Rosa Plain provides numerous benefits to the region, including rural residential and municipal water supplies, irrigation water for agriculture, and base flow to streams and surface water bodies which helps support habitat and ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, an integrated strategy being undertaken by many local agencies, statewide, to manage groundwater resources is to develop and implement non-regulatory, voluntary groundwater management plans in compliance with the 1992 Assembly Bill 3030 and 2002 Senate Bill 1938; and

WHEREAS, on December 22, 2011, the Town of Windsor entered a cooperative agreement with the Sonoma County Water Agency, County of Sonoma Permit and Resources Management Department, City of Cotati, City of Rohnert Park, City of Santa Rosa, City of Sebastopol, and the Cal American Water Company to fund development of a groundwater management planning process in the Santa Rosa Plain compliant with Assembly Bill 3030 and Senate Bill 1938; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Windsor is a charter member of the Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Management Plan Basin Advisory Panel which is comprised of stakeholders from throughout the Santa Rosa Plain broadly representing agricultural interests, local citizen groups, environmental groups, business interests, local well owners and government interests; and

WHEREAS, the Basin Advisory Panel selected the Sonoma County Water Agency as the Lead Agency for the Plan and its implementation; and

WHEREAS, Town of Windsor Staff has attended regularly scheduled, publicly-noticed Basin Advisory Panel meetings since December 2011 to discuss and make recommendations on the groundwater management planning process in the Santa Rosa Plain; and

WHEREAS, the Basin Advisory Panel developed the Groundwater Management Plan with the stated purpose to locally manage and protect groundwater resources by a balanced group of stakeholders through non-regulatory measures to support all beneficial uses, including human, agriculture, and ecosystems, in an environmentally sound, economical, and equitable manner for present and future generation; and

WHEREAS, the Groundwater Management Plan was drafted in compliance with the California Groundwater Management Act, California Water Code (§ 10750 – 10756), originally enacted as Assembly Bill 3030, and will allow State Department of Water Resources funding of groundwater supply and groundwater quality projects in the Santa Rosa Plain; and

WHEREAS, on August 12, 2014, the Basin Advisory Panel voted to recommend the Sonoma County Water Agency Board of Directors adopt the Groundwater Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, a Cooperative Agreement for Implementation of the Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Management Program was developed which includes implementation of the Groundwater Management Plan recommendations and objectives over the first two program years ending on December 31, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the estimated total cost to implement the Groundwater Management Plan's recommendations and objectives over the period of two program years ending on December 31, 2016 is \$600,000; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Windsor's share of program costs over the first two years ending on December 31, 2016 is \$18,000, in the amount of \$9,000 per year; of which, the first year of funding is already budgeted in the adopted year 2014-15 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Windsor does hereby support the Santa Rosa Plain Watershed Groundwater Management Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council hereby approves the Cooperative Agreement to fund the Implementation of the Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Management Plan and authorizes the Town Manager to execute said Cooperative Agreement on behalf of the Town.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 1st day of October 2014, by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS ALLEN, FUDGE, SALMON AND MAYOR OKREPKIE
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBER GOBLE


BRUCE OKREPKIE, MAYOR

ATTEST:


MARIA DE LA O, TOWN CLERK