

REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NOS. 7112 AND 7113 SUPPORTING SUBMISSION OF WaterSMART: WATER AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANTS, DESIGNATING CITY MANAGER AS AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY FOR GRANT APPLICATION AND DEDICATING CITY TO COST SHARE 50% OF THE PROJECT

MOTION:

I move City Council adopt Resolution Nos. 7112 and 7113.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends City Council:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 7112 – Supporting submission of a WaterSMART: Water and Energy Efficiency grant for a Regional Rebate Program for water conservation and designating City Manager as authorized signatory for the grant application and dedicating City to cost share 50% of the project.
2. Adopt Resolution No. 7113 – Supporting submission of a WaterSMART: Water and Energy Efficiency grant for the construction of the City of Redlands Recycled Water Conveyance Improvement Project and designating City Manager as authorized signatory for the grant application and dedicating City to cost share 50% of the project.

DISCUSSION:

As competition for water resources grow, so too does the need for information, tools, and infrastructure to aid water purveyors in meeting customer demands. In order to meet these challenges, the United States Department of the Interior's WaterSMART program has established a framework to provide Federal leadership and assistance for the efficient use of water, and integrating water and energy policies to support the sustainable use of all natural resources. The WaterSMART, Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Program, objective is to leverage federal and local fiscal resources by cost sharing on projects that seek to conserve and use water more efficiently, increase the use of renewable energy and improve energy efficiency, facilitate water markets, and carry out other activities to address climate-related impacts on water or prevent any water-related crisis.

This WaterSMART grant requires a one-to-one funding match and will assist the city in complying with the water conservation legislation SBx7-7, which requires all water suppliers to increase water use efficiency. As a result of this legislation, a twenty percent reduction in water consumption is required. If an agency does not reach the 20 percent reduction, they will be ineligible for state grants or funding in the future.

Because of need to reduce water use, and the restrictions identified in SBx7-7, the city included both of the project identified below in its 2010 urban water management plan.

Recycled Water Conveyance Improvement Project

The Recycled Water Conveyance Improvement project is designed to expand and convert the city's existing nonpotable water system to a recycled water system. The existing nonpotable system is located in the northwest region of the city's water service area. In order to convert additional users from using potable and non-potable water to recycled water, additional infrastructure is needed. The expansion of the system will include the laying of new pipelines to provide connectivity between pressure zones, as well as the construction of a new recycled water reservoir in order to store recycled water when demands are low.

When completed this project the city will be able to utilize approximately 1,076 acre feet of recycled water each year. This represents approximately 35 percent of the needed SBx7-7 reduction.

Regional Rebate Program

The Regional Rebate Program is a collaborative effort between multiple water suppliers in the Inland Empire and is being spearheaded by city staff. In addition to the city, agencies who have shown an interest in participating in the program are Yucaipa Valley Water District, West Valley Water District, and San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District. Through grant funding, the participating agencies will receive fund to implement a rebate program. Rebates can be used for the use of synthetic turf, water smart timers, ultra low flow toilets, high efficiency washers and rotary irrigation nozzles. By incentivizing the usage of these water conservation devices, participating agencies help their customers in reducing their water consumption.

This WaterSMART grant can be used to enhance the rebates given to customers or to reach additional customers beyond the existing budgetary constraints.

The City Attorney has reviewed Resolution Nos. 7112 and 7113.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with the adoption of Resolutions 7112 and 7113. Adoption of the resolutions simply supports the submission of grant applications, designates the City Manager as the authorized signatory for the grant application, and

dedicates a 50% cost share of the project. If the applications are successful, staff will bring this item back to Council for approval of a funding agreement.

ALTERNATIVE:

Council may elect to not adopt Resolution Nos. 7112 and 7113.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution No. 7112
2. Resolution No. 7113

Prepared by:

Recommended by:

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N. ENRIQUE MARTINEZ
City Manager

Reviewed by:

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