



CITY OF POMONA COUNCIL REPORT

March 18, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Linda Lowry, City Manager

Submitted By: Darron Poulsen, Water Resources Director

SUBJECT: APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN THE CITY OF POMONA (CITY) AND THE INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY (IEUA) TO COLLABORATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHINO BASIN PROGRAM (CBP)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council take the following actions:

- 1) Direct staff to collaborate with IEUA and other Chino Basin stakeholders to develop projects to address the various objectives of the CBP;
- 2) Authorize the City Manager to execute the MOU with IEUA in support of identifying and supporting future projects identified in the CBP.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

IEUA received conditional funding approval of \$207 million through the California Proposition 1 Water Storage and Investment Program. The CBP MOU, Attachment No. 1, was developed to initiate the planning process to identify qualifying projects for these funds to improve the long term water supply for the City and other Chino Basin stakeholders.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

PREVIOUS RELATED ACTION:

On August 3, 2015, the City Council authorized the City Manager to sign a MOU between the City, Monte Vista Water District (MVWD) and IEUA for a Recycled Water Interconnection Feasibility Study.

DISCUSSION:

On August 3, 2015, an MOU between the City, MVWD and IEUA as well as funding for a feasibility study to develop a recycled water interconnection and recharge facilities (Project) were approved by the City Council. This Project was derived to address a number of water resource concerns for the City's Water Resources Department. The Project would have the ability to provide the City with increased water reliability and a more diverse local water resource, which can help the City reduce dependence on imported water supplies. Another promising aspect of the Project is to provide a long term solution for the land subsidence issue within Management Zone 1 in the Chino Basin. Projects that can assist in reducing subsidence, like this one, are an important part of proper basin management as they providing a long term source of water for our community and assist in maximizing the use of recycled water.

IEUA submitted the Project to the State as part of a \$400 million package of projects to be considered for Proposition 1 funding. Following the State's review, they tentatively agreed to award \$207M towards the suite of projects identified in the submittal. In order to meet funding approval, IEUA has developed a CBP group to help provide input in the development of regional programs that best meet the needs of the stakeholders within the Chino Basin. Approval for funding requires the development and of refining of the projects, submitted within the package, including operations, finance, environmental permitting and all associated agreements between the participants in the Chino Basin. The development of this project and the necessary agreements is the primary task of the CBP group.

The attached MOU is substantively non-binding on the Parties, but expresses the agreement and commitment of the Parties to initiate the process to work collaboratively, in good faith, to identify issues of common concern, goals and solutions which are of common benefit to the Parties, and which may ultimately be implemented through the CBP.

ALTERNATIVES:

The City Council has the following alternatives:

- 1) Receive and file this report; or
- 2) Give City staff an alternative direction which would need to be identified.

Prepared by:

Darron Poulsen
Water Resources Director

ATTACHMENT:

Attachment No. 1 – Chino Basin Program MOU