

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-39

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RANCHO MIRAGE, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING ITS CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR A COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF ALL WATER IMPORT ALTERNATIVES AS PART OF THE LONG-TERM SOLUTION FOR THE SALTON SEA

WHEREAS, the City of Rancho Mirage ("City") is a charter city and recognized as a political subdivision of the State of California for certain purposes ("State"); and

WHEREAS, the inflow of water to the Salton Sea has decreased and pursuant to the Quantification Settlement Agreement, mitigation water inflows ended on December 31, 2017, and without restoration or stabilization measures, the Salton Sea will rapidly decline; and

WHEREAS, the State has developed the Salton Sea Management Plan ("SSMP") through departments within the California Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Agencies and is obligated to pay for certain costs related to habitat, air and water quality issues at the Salton Sea; and

WHEREAS, the California State Water Resources Control Board has an oversight role in monitoring and ensuring progress towards the goals of the SSMP and has set a deadline of December 31, 2022, for the completion of a long-term plan regarding the Salton Sea; and

WHEREAS, eleven (11) proposals received by the State in 2018, in response to their Request for Information, included a water importation component; and

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted Resolution 2019-42 on July 18, 2019, declaring support for a comprehensive analysis and review of all water import alternatives as a long-term solution for the restoration of the Salton Sea; and

WHEREAS, the City Council requested the analysis of water import alternatives be incorporated into the State's SMMP for the long-term plan regarding the Salton Sea; and

WHEREAS, the State will require that any water import project proposal include an engineering and logistic feasibility study conducted on behalf of the proponent by an accredited or licensed engineering, planning, or equivalent organization recognized by the State prior to incorporation into the SSMP; and

WHEREAS, the State prepared a Request for Proposals for an independent reviewer panel to conduct a feasibility study of water importation proposals in February 2020, and again in June 2020, neither of which received response; and

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RANCHO MIRAGE, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, DECLARE, DETERMINE, AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals.

That the Recitals set forth above are true and correct.

Section 2. Continued Support for a Comprehensive Analysis of All Water Import Alternatives.

That the City of Rancho Mirage hereby adopts this Resolution and declares its continued support for the completion of a comprehensive analysis and review of all water import alternatives as a long-term solution for the restoration of the Salton Sea, and requests the analysis of said alternatives be incorporated into the SSMP.

Section 3. Encourages the State to Pursue the Creation of an Independent Reviewer Panel

That the City of Rancho Mirage hereby adopts this Resolution and encourages that the State continue to aggressively pursue the creation of an independent reviewer panel for the immediate analysis of water import alternatives in order to maintain the current December 31, 2022, completion deadline as set forth by the California State Water Resources Control Board for the long-term plan regarding the Salton Sea.

Section 4. Severability.

That should any provision, section, paragraph, sentence or word of this Resolution be rendered or declared invalid by any final court action in a court of competent jurisdiction or by reason of any preemptive legislation, the remaining provisions, sections, paragraphs, sentences or words of this Resolution as hereby adopted shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 5. Repeal of Conflicting Provisions.

That all the provisions heretofore adopted by the City Council that are in conflict with the provisions of this Resolution are hereby repealed.

Section 6. Effective Date.


That this Resolution shall take effect upon its adoption.

Section 7. Certification.

That the City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this Resolution and enter it into the book of original resolutions.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED on this 5th day of November, 2020.


CITY OF RANCHO MIRAGE


G. Dana Hobart, Mayor

ATTEST:


Kristie Ramos, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


for Steven B. Quintanilla, City Attorney
Carm D. Kirkpatrick
Assistant City Attorney

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE)

CITY OF RANCHO MIRAGE)

I, Kristie Ramos, City Clerk of the City of Rancho Mirage, California, do hereby certify that Resolution No. 2020-39 was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Rancho Mirage, California, at a regular meeting thereof held on the 5th day of November 2020, by the following vote:

AYES: Hobart, Kite, Smotrich, Townsend, Weill.
NOES: None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.



Kristie Ramos
City Clerk