

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
ARROYO GRANDE APPROVING PARTICIPATION IN THE  
DESALINATION EXECUTABLE SOLUTION LOGISTICS  
(DESAL) PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, adequate water for the people, economy and environment in San Luis Obispo County is needed in perpetuity; and

**WHEREAS**, conflicts surrounding use of the limited existing water supplies are increasing, including limitations on groundwater use and transfers, limitations on surface water diversion and State policies that lead to water system consolidation mandates; and

**WHEREAS**, despite conservation efforts which have reduced per capita consumption from 190 gallons per day to 117 gallons per day over the last 25 years, the City of Arroyo Grande remains highly vulnerable to water shortages due to its isolated location and dependence on rainfall; and

**WHEREAS**, the future reliability of existing water supplies and infrastructure that depend on rainfall, such as groundwater and surface water reservoirs and streams, is uncertain due to changing hydrologic patterns, land use, environmental regulations, population growth and aging infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, water-purveying agencies are best positioned to develop and utilize water supply projects that will reduce dependence on groundwater and surface water and can thereby relieve competition with individual well owners and the environment for those water supplies; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Arroyo Grande is participating in the Central Coast Blue project, a regional recycled water project, in partnership with the Cities of Grover Beach and Pismo Beach, to treat wastewater from the Pismo Beach Wastewater Treatment Plant in Phase 1 to an advanced level and inject it into the groundwater basin to provide additional potable water to the participating cities and to reduce the potential for seawater intrusion;

**WHEREAS**, the Central Coast Blue project will provide a renewable and drought-resistant water source to the participating cities and help meet the State's articulated goal of increasing the availability of recycled water to provide greater resiliency to communities that are otherwise dependent on surface or groundwater resources; and

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**WHEREAS**, as the Central Coast Blue project has progressed significantly toward construction and is anticipated to begin supplying water to participating cities in the year 2026 and, as such, is a near-term, high-priority water resiliency project for the City; and

**WHEREAS**, due to proximity to the ocean, and future water supply quantity, quality and reliability needs, the 2019 San Luis Obispo County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan and 2012 Countywide Master Water Report identify desalination as a water resource management strategy to pursue; and

**WHEREAS**, while desalination can provide a local, reliable, and sustainable water supply for decades to come, desalination projects take a long time to plan for, permit and construct; and

**WHEREAS**, the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District intends to develop the DESAL Plan over the next several years via a public process that, when complete, will ultimately contain balanced recommendations related to responsibly advancing the implementation of a regional desalination project that will benefit the people, economy and environment in the County; and

**WHEREAS**, the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District will be the lead agency and contract administrator for the DESAL Plan and is requesting that water-purveying agencies that wish to be evaluated during the development of the DESAL Plan adopt resolutions approving participation; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Arroyo Grande would like to participate in Phase 1, the initial, nonobligatory, and exploratory phase, of the DESAL Plan with the County of San Luis Obispo and will consider participating in Phase 2 of the DESAL Plan (the Development Phase) following an update to the City Council of Arroyo Grande regarding the progress of Phase 1.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Arroyo Grande as follows:

1. The City of Arroyo Grande wishes to be included in the development of Phase 1 of the DESAL Plan and to be evaluated as a potential partner in such a regional desalination project in the future in order to inform our decision makers and constituents.
2. The Public Works Director of the City of Arroyo Grande or designee is hereby authorized and directed to participate in the development of the DESAL Plan, Phase 1, and to bring forward related recommendations.

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On motion of Council Member \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Council Member \_\_\_\_\_, and on the following roll call vote, to wit:

**AYES:**

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

the foregoing Resolution was passed and adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2022.

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CAREN RAY RUSSOM, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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JESSICA MATSON, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

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WHITNEY MCDONALD, CITY MANAGER

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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TIMOTHY J. CARMEL, CITY ATTORNEY