

MONTARA WATER AND SANITARY DISTRICT AGENDA

For Meeting Of: **September 1, 2022**

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: Clemens Heldmaier, General Manager

SUBJECT: Review and Possible Action Concerning Authorization to Submit a Grant Application to the Department of Water Resources for the Pillar Ridge Supply Reliability Improvement Project and to File Notice of Exemption in Connection Therewith

In accordance with the approved Water System Capital Improvement Plan, the Pillar Ridge Supply Reliability Improvement Project (Project) is currently being designed by District staff. The Pillar Ridge Facility Supply Reliability Improvement Project is a multi-faceted improvement project that will ultimately provide the Pillar Ridge neighborhood with a more reliable drinking water supply. The objective of the Project is to enhance the supply reliability, drought resiliency, and operational capacity of the Pillar Ridge facilities and MWSD system through key infrastructure improvements. The proposed Project includes the following major elements:

- **Rehabilitation of the groundwater supply wells:** The three (3) existing potable water wells that currently supply the Pillar Ridge system will be cleaned and rehabilitated to restore the wells to their original condition.
- **Rehabilitation of the Water Treatment Plant:** The treatment processes inside the existing treatment plant building will be updated to efficiently treat the water from the Pillar Ridge wells and maintain acceptable water quality.
- **WTP Electrical Replacement:** The electrical panel at the WTP is aging and needs to be replaced to accommodate the rehabilitated and upgraded facilities. The installation of a generator will provide permanent backup power and increase the resilience of the installed facilities, which are regularly subjected to planned fire prevention power outages.
- **Replacement of the existing treated water tanks:** The two (2) existing 70,000-gallon bolted steel water storage tanks located at the WTP site will be demolished and replaced with two (2) 98,000-gallon welded steel tanks that will provide sufficient operational and fire storage for the Pillar Ridge Zone. The new tanks will occupy the same footprint as the existing tanks. As such, the new tanks will improve the water shortage resilience of the Pillar Ridge zone and increase operational flexibility for MWSD.
- **Replacement of the existing hydro-pneumatic system:** The existing 5,000-gallon horizontal hydro-pneumatic tank is aging and its replacement will ensure



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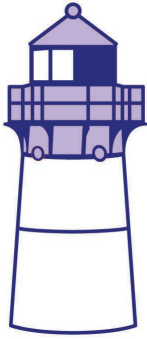
FROM: Clemens Heldmaier, General Manager

proper operation and adequate water pressures throughout the distribution system. The new hydro-pneumatic tank will have a similar configuration and will be located at the WTP site, where the existing hydro-pneumatic tank is currently located. The approximate footprint for the hydro-pneumatic tank is anticipated to remain unchanged.

- **Installation of updated infrastructure to hydraulically connect the Pillar Ridge distribution system to the rest of the MWSD distribution system:** The installation of a booster pump station and yard piping at the Pillar Ridge WTP will complete the physical consolidation between MWSD and Pillar Ridge by allowing water from the Pillar Ridge storage tanks to feed the Schoolhouse Zone and the Schoolhouse tanks.
- **Installation of access points along the supply transmission mains:** The installation of bi-directional street cleanouts at three (3) locations along the transmission mains between the groundwater supply wells and the WTP will provide key new access points to the transmission piping network. The new access points will allow for proper jet-cleaning and maintenance of the pipes, which are experiencing significant iron deposits that impact the pipe's flow capacity.

In an effort to obtain potential funding for the Project, MWSD staff has prepared a grant application to submit to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Small Community Drought Relief to fund this Project. DWR's Small Community Drought Relief Program was authorized by the Budget Act of 2021 following the 2021 State drought emergency proclamation. The Program commits 190 million dollars for financial and technical assistance to help small communities respond to and mitigate worsening drought conditions. *"The Program will support projects and program that provide immediate and near-term water supply reliability benefits and improve small communities' drought and water shortage resiliency and preparedness."* Applications for eligible projects are currently accepted on a rolling basis, until December 2023, or until all the funds have been awarded.

Eligibility for funding requires compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); as such, preliminary engineering has been completed for the Project, and Staff has evaluated the Project's impact with respect to CEQA. Based on the details above, Staff has found that the Pillar Ridge Supply Reliability Improvement Project is categorically exempt from the requirement for preparation of environmental documents under the CEQA (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.) and Section 15302 of the "State CEQA Guidelines" (14 CCR Section 15300-15331). It is recommended that the attached Notice of Exemption (NOE) be filed under Section 15302: Class 2, Replacement or Reconstruction.



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FROM: Clemens Heldmaier, General Manager

Staff is seeking Board approval to adopt a resolution authorizing submittal and acceptance of a grant application, as well as authorization to file the NOE for the Project.

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Resolution authorizing the General Manager to submit a grant application and execute a grant agreement with DWR, if selected; and authorizing the General Manager to file a Notice of Exemption through the County Clerk of San Mateo County (Class 2: Replacement of Reconstruction)

RESOLUTION NO. [xxxx]

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF THE MONTARA WATER AND SANITARY DISTRICT AUTHORIZING THE GRANT APPLICATION, ACCEPTANCE, AND EXECUTION FOR THE PILLAR RIDGE SUPPLY RELIABILITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.

WHEREAS, Montara Water and Sanitary District proposes to implement the Pillar Ridge Supply Reliability Improvement Project;

WHEREAS, the Pillar Ridge Supply Reliability Improvement Project is being implemented in response to a drought scenario, as defined by Water Code section 13198(a) and is intended to: (1) address immediate impacts on human health and safety; (2) address immediate impacts on fish and wildlife resources; or, (3) provide water to persons or communities that lose or are threatened with the loss or contamination of water supplies;

WHEREAS, Montara Water and Sanitary District has the legal authority and is authorized to enter into a funding agreement with the State of California; and

WHEREAS, Montara Water and Sanitary District intends to apply for grant funding from the California Department of Water Resources for the Pillar Ridge Supply Reliability Improvement Project;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MONTARA WATER AND SANITARY DISTRICT, A PUBLIC AGENCY IN THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, CALIFORNIA, AS FOLLOWS:

1. That pursuant and subject to all of the terms and provisions of Budget Act of 2021 (Stats. 2021, ch. 69, § 112), the Montara Water and Sanitary District General Manager is hereby authorized and directed to prepare and file an application for funding with the Department of Water Resources, and take such other actions as necessary or appropriate to obtain grant funding.
2. The Montara Water and Sanitary District General Manager is hereby authorized and directed to execute the funding agreement with the Department of Water Resources and any amendments thereto.
3. The Montara Water and Sanitary District General Manager is hereby authorized and directed to submit any required documents, invoices, and reports required to obtain grant funding.

CERTIFICATION I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Montara Water and

Sanitary District at the meeting held on September 1, 2022 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

Secretary, Montara Water and Sanitary District

Notice of Exemption**Appendix E**

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

County of: San Mateo

From: (Public Agency): Montara Water & Sanitary District
8888 Cabrillo Highway
Montara, CA 94037

(Address)

Project Title: Pillar Ridge Supply Reliability Improvement Project

Project Applicant: Montara Water & Sanitary District

Project Location - Specific:

At the existing Pillar Ridge Water Treatment Plant and Storage site, adjacent to 164 Culebra Street

Project Location - City: Moss Beach Project Location - County: San Mateo

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Pillar Ridge Facility Supply Reliability & Rehabilitation Project will ultimately provide the Pillar Ridge neighborhood with a more reliable drinking water supply. The proposed Project includes the following major elements: well rehabilitation, treatment plant upgrades, and storage facility replacement.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Montara Water & Sanitary District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Montara Water & Sanitary District

Exempt Status: **(check one):**

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15302: Class 2, Replacement and Reconst
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The Project consists of the replacement and/or reconstruction of existing water facilities and will be located on the same site as the existing Pillar Ridge Water Treatment Plant and Storage site.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Clemens Heldmaier

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: _____

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: _____ Date: 8/29/2022 Title: General Manager

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____