

BEFORE THE
FRESNO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
RESOLUTION NO. 2013-27

RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR THE SAFE, CLEAN, AND RELIABLE DRINKING WATER SUPPLY ACT OF 2010 AND THE IMPORTANCE OF ABOVE-GROUND WATER STORAGE, DELTA IMPROVEMENTS AND REGIONAL WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of California is engaged in a re-examination of provisions within the \$11.14 billion *Safe, Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2010* (the Water Bond), signed into law in 2009 and currently scheduled to appear on the November 2014 General Election ballot; and

WHEREAS, Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG), through enactment of Resolution No. 2010-12 on April 29, 2010, supported the Water Bond as an effective and necessary means of resolving California's water crisis and helping meet current and future water supply needs, particularly those of supply reliability and availability; and

WHEREAS, said Resolution noted that Fresno County would specifically benefit from this bond through funding to enhance local water supply and reliability, including above ground storage projects such as the Temperance Flat Dam, to improve the physical infrastructure of our water system, and to lay the groundwork for development of a Delta alternative water conveyance system; and

WHEREAS, Fresno COG believes now as it did in approving the earlier Resolution that California's water system is outdated and straining to meet the needs of its residents, farms, businesses and environment; and has resulted in severely limiting deliveries of water, creating potential for catastrophic failures of levees; and falling short of meeting environmental and fishery needs, ensuring continuation of water shortages into the future if the Water Bond were not approved and implemented with its key improvements left intact; and

WHEREAS, enactment of the principles included in the *Safe, Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2010* would provide funding for programs throughout the state to increase water supply and reliability, address ecological problems in the Delta, add operational flexibility to the state's water storage and delivery system, aid disadvantaged communities with water quality problems, and expand water recycling and conservation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY Fresno COG as follows:

1. Fresno COG, does hereby reaffirm its previous support for the *Safe, Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2010*, now scheduled to appear on the General Election ballot in 2014.
2. Fresno COG, in recognition of the interest expressed by the California Legislature to re-examine and re-visit the Water Bond, does hereby inform the Governor and Members of the Legislature that Fresno COG will not support any Water Bond that fails to contain all provisions in the current Water Bond's Chapter 8, including but not limited to \$3 billion in continuous appropriation funding to develop new above-ground water storage.
3. Fresno COG further will not support a modified Water Bond unless it retains the \$2.25 billion provided for by the current Water Bond in its Delta Sustainability section.
4. Fresno COG further will not support a Water Bond modification that lacks adequate funding for regional infrastructure improvements and development, including means of meeting the ever-growing challenges faced by disadvantaged communities throughout California in dealing with and resolving water quality problems.
5. Fresno COG encourages serious consideration of the hard work the Association of California Water Agencies has recently conducted to create provisions of an \$8.2 billion Water Bond that includes the priorities set out above.
6. Fresno COG asserts that such Water Bond provisions and funding levels are crucial for sustaining water supplies in the public interest and for economic and social good in the Fresno County region and all of the State of California.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION was passed and adopted by the Fresno Council of Governments this 26th day of September, 2013.

AYES: Clovis, Coalinga, Fowler, Fresno, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, San Joaquin, Selma and Fresno County

NOES: None

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Firebaugh, Sanger

ATTEST:

Signed: 

Amarpreet Dhaliwal, Chairman

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution of the Fresno Council of Governments duly adopted at a regular meeting thereof held on the 26th day of September, 2013.

Signed: 

Tony Boren, Executive Director