



**City of Greenfield
Arroyo Seco
Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

599 El Camino Real
Greenfield, CA 93927

**Meeting Agenda
August 22, 2023
4:00 P.M.**

The Arroyo Seco Groundwater Sustainability Agency will be meeting on August 22, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located at 599 El Camino Real, Greenfield, California 93927, and will be open to the public. This meeting will also be accessible online and may be viewed through the following options:

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86701198267>

Meeting ID: 867 0119 8267

PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES AND PAGERS

- A. **CALL TO ORDER**
- B. **ROLL CALL**
- C. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- D. **PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE REGARDING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

This portion of the Agenda allows an individual the opportunity to address the GSA on any items not on the Closed Session, Consent Calendar, Public Hearings, and City Council Business. Under state regulations, **no action can be taken on non-agenda items, including issues raised under this agenda item.** Members of the public should be aware of this when addressing the GSA regarding items not specifically referenced on this Agenda. Please be further aware that public comments can also be submitted via email to the following email address: cityclerk@ci.greenfield.ca.us.

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E. CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and may be approved by one action of the Agency, unless a request for removal for discussion or explanation is received prior to the time Agency votes on the motion to adopt.

E-1. ADOPTION of Minutes of the June 27, 2023 Arroyo Seco GSA Meeting

F. AGENCY BUSINESS

F-1. CONSIDERATION of Adoption of the Arroyo Seco Watershed Protection Policy

- a. Staff Report
- b. Public Comments
- c. Agency Board - Comments / Review / Action

F-2. RECEIVE Arroyo Seco Groundwater Sustainability Agency General Manager's Status Report

- a. Oral Report
- b. Public Comments
- c. Agency Board - Comments / Review / Action

G. ADJOURNMENT

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In compliance with the American With Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk at (831) 674-5591. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting (CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title II).
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This agenda is duly posted outside City Hall and on the City of Greenfield web site

**CITY OF GREENFIELD ARROYO SECO
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
MINUTES**

AGENCY MEETING OF JUNE 27, 2023

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Thorp, Vice Chair Griva, Board Members Rodriguez, Wood and White

Absent: None

Staff: Interagency Attorney Thompson, General Manager Weeks, IT Director Espinosa, City Clerk Rathbun

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A MOTION by Board Member White, seconded by Board Member Rodriguez to approve Minutes of the May 23, 2023 Arroyo Seco Groundwater Sustainability Agency Meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

AGENCY BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION OF FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 BUDGET FOR THE ARROYO SECO GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Staff report was given by General Manager Weeks.

A MOTION by Board Member Wood, seconded by Board Member White to approve the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget for the Arroyo Seco Groundwater Sustainability Agency. All in favor. Motion carried.

RECEIVE ARROYO SECO GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY GENERAL MANAGER'S STATUS REPORT

General Manager Weeks stated that he was the new Chair of the Salinas Valley Basin GSA Advisory Committee.

He stated that there was now a Habitat Conservation Program for the Salinas River by the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). He gave a brief background regarding the program. He stated that the MCWRA was focused primarily on reservoir operations and not on the river maintenance program. He stated that the MCWRA was focused on how the reservoirs were operating relative to steelhead. He stated that they were surprised at the public meeting that so much work was done without them talking about it. He stated that they were

trying to establish a release program to release water in the winter and stated that it was a key element in NOAA Fisheries' desire for the re-operation of the reservoirs. He stated that he thought it was consistent to have groundwater recharged come to the reservoirs even in dry years and that it would likely be a benefit to the Arroyo Seco forebay. He stated that this was something that they would watch and be aware of it as well as participate in it. He also stated that the MCWRA had a website with information regarding the program.

He stated that with the corrective actions, where did the Agency want to go and what steps needed to be done. He suggested that a coordination meeting be scheduled, at least have one more technical committee meeting with the appropriate staff and have staff reach out to the SVBGSA to schedule a meeting so that we could describe the process we want to use going forward in creating any documents for this corrective action. He stated that he did not want to review the document and have that document prepared by someone else, but that he wanted it to be involved in creating the document.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:19 p.m.

Chair of the Board

City Clerk of the City of Greenfield



**City of Greenfield
Arroyo Seco
Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

MEMORANDUM: August 17, 2023

AGENDA DATE: August 22, 2023

TO: Board Members

FROM: Curtis Weeks, General Manager

**TITLE: CONSIDER ADOPTION OF THE ARROYO SECO RIVER
WATERSHED PROTECTION POLICY**

With the passing and adoption of the Arroyo Seco River Watershed Protection Policy (ASRWPP) by the Salinas Valley Basin GSA, the first Management Action of the Forebay Subbasin GSP is nearly complete. The final step in this process is for the ASGSA to approve and adopt the final version of the ASWPP. The Salinas Valley GSA has made minor edits to the ASRWPP to the ASRWPP that Arroyo Seco GSA had conditionally approved in December of 2022. Recall that Section 9.4.4 of the Forebay GSP requires both the ASGSA and the SVBGSA to adopt and implement an Arroyo Seco River Watershed Protection Policy.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff has reviewed the final version of the ASRWPP and recommends the Board of Directors approve and adopt Arroyo Seco River Watershed Protection Policy.

Attachment: Resolution 2023-01 and Arroyo Seco River Watershed Protection Policy

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE ARROYO SECO GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY TO ESTABLISHING AN ARROYO SECO RIVER WATERSHED PROTECTION POLICY

WHEREAS:

1. The Arroyo Seco Groundwater Basin, as defined in the State of California's Bulletin 52 and managed as the Arroyo Seco Cone Management Area ("ASCMA"), is historically and currently managed as a Sustainable Groundwater Basin in the Salinas Valley Forebay Subbasin;
2. The Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGSA) and the Arroyo Seco Groundwater Sustainability Agency (ASGSA) are responsible for managing the Forebay Subbasin as set forth in the ASGSA/SVBGSA Implementation Agreement and as outlined in Section 1.2.4.3 of the Forebay Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan ("GSP");
3. As required by the State of California's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act ("SGMA"), the ASGSA has adopted the Forebay Subbasin GSP including the ASCMA;
4. The Forebay Subbasin GSP describes sustainable management criteria, and sets forth a menu of management actions that can be implemented, if needed, to maintain sustainability, by 2042 as required by SGMA, along with required GSP annual reports and updates, constituting the "sustainability program" for the Forebay Subbasin;
5. The ASCMA and the Forebay Subbasin receive significant direct recharge from the Arroyo Seco River as described in the Forebay Subbasin GSP in Sections 4.4.4, 4.5, 6.3.1, 6.4.2, 6.6.1 and 6.7.2 providing a sustainable source of water supply and water quality benefits from the unregulated flow of the Arroyo Seco River. Recharge from the Arroyo Seco River directly contributes to create a basin of high-quality groundwater forming the ASCMA;
6. The Arroyo Seco River provides the ASCMA and much of the Salinas Valley groundwater basin significant environmental benefits to maintaining the Arroyo Seco River in a natural (unregulated) state. The Arroyo Seco River is recognized as a Class 1 Recovery stream for threatened South-Central Coast Steelhead. It is the largest unregulated tributary to the Salinas River and as a result, it has the greatest potential for sustaining steelhead populations in the Salinas River watershed;
7. Historic and current management and use of the waters of the Arroyo Seco River Watershed including surface water and groundwater have resulted in a Sustainable Arroyo Seco Cone Management Area in the Forebay Subbasin as detailed in Section 6.3.4 and 6.6.4 of the Forebay Subbasin GSP;
8. One of the key objectives of this policy is to support the unregulated flow of the Arroyo Seco River so that opportunities for steelhead recovery will not be adversely impacted or diminished;
9. As required by SGMA, the ASGSA has adopted the Forebay Subbasin GSP including the Management Action to adopt and implement an Arroyo Seco River Watershed

- Protection Policy as described in Section 9.4.4 of the Forebay Subbasin GSP; and
10. The goal of this policy is to ensure that future actions within the Arroyo Seco River Watershed will not adversely impact, change, or threaten the Sustainability of the Forebay Subbasin or the ASCMA.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the ASGSA, as follows:

1. The recitals set forth above are true and correct.
2. The Arroyo Seco River Watershed Protection Policy is established as set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto.
3. The General Manager and Agency Counsel are authorized and directed to take such other and further actions as may be necessary or appropriate to implement the intent and purposes of this resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this ___day of _____, 2023, by the following vote, to-wit:

AYES, and all in favor, thereof, Board Members:

NOES, Board Members:

ABSENT, Board Members:

ABSTAIN, Board Members:

Chair of the Board

City Clerk of the City of Greenfield

I, Ann Rathburn, Clerk of the Board of Directors of the Arroyo Seco Groundwater Sustainability Agency, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Directors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of for the meeting on _____.

Ann F. Rathburn, City Clerk

EXHIBIT A

ARROYO SECO RIVER WATERSHED PROTECTION POLICY

The Arroyo Seco River Watershed means any natural or artificial watercourse, including the Arroyo Seco River, tributary creeks, ditch, channel, canal, conduit, drain, waterway, gully, ravine or arroyo or wash that contributes surface or subface water flow into Arroyo Seco River. Water flow means waters that flow towards the Arroyo Seco River.

1. The purpose of this Policy is to protect the flow and quality of water from a non-regulated (undammed) Arroyo Seco River Watershed so that the river will recharge the Arroyo Seco Cone Management Area (ASCMA), the Forebay Subbasin, and downstream Salinas Valley groundwater basins consistent with the Forebay Subbasin GSP, and support habitat for steelhead recovery in accordance with the Forebay Subbasin GSP.
2. In the event that any of the following actions occur, or a potential adverse impact to the sustainability of the ASCMA, the Arroyo Seco Groundwater Sustainability Agency Sustainability Agency (ASGSA) will participate in the appropriate governmental processes in furtherance of the implementation of the Forebay Subbasin GSP and protect (or support) the character of the Arroyo Seco Watershed and the sustainability of the ASCMA and to avoid adverse impacts to it.
 - Impairment, diversion, impediment or alteration of the flow of water running into and throughout the Arroyo Seco River that adversely impacts the sustainability of the ASCMA or the Forebay Subbasin in accordance with the Forebay Subbasin GSP.
 - Deposition of material in the Arroyo Seco Watershed watercourses that result in flow obstructions, or impairments, diversions, impediments or alterations the characteristics of the flow of water therein.
 - Alterations to the surface of land by construction, excavation, embankment or otherwise, that have the potential to alter the capacity of a watercourse or the characteristics of the flow of water therein
 - Process of new water right appropriations from the Arroyo Seco River Watershed and the Watercourses of the Arroyo Seco River which may adversely affect the sustainability of the ASCMA.