



NORTH BAY WATER REUSE PROGRAM

Water Supply Reliability through Regional Reuse

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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North Bay Water Reuse Board Supports Prop. 1 Water Bond Statewide Measure Includes \$725 million for Water Recycling and Desalination

(NOVATO, CA) — The Board of Directors of the North Bay Water Reuse Authority (NBWRA) today unanimously approved a resolution in support of Proposition 1, the statewide measure on the Nov. 4 ballot that would provide \$7.5 billion for water supply projects including surface and groundwater storage, ecosystem and watershed protection and drinking water protection.

Of particular interest to the North Bay Water Reuse Program (NBWRP) is the inclusion of \$750 million in Prop. 1 for recycled water projects and other activities. The North Bay Water Reuse Program is a regional program in the three North Bay counties of Napa, Sonoma and Marin that provides high-quality recycled water for traditional urban uses, premium wine grape production and restoration of tidal wetlands and wildlife habitat.

“Our board strongly supports Proposition 1 because it’s a comprehensive state water plan that will support our economy and our environment and provide a reliable water supply,” said Sonoma County Supervisor David Rabbitt, chair of the NBWRA. “It also supports the type of program we have been building in the North Bay that uses a regional approach to help solve our water supply problems with recycled water.”

Phase 1 of the NBWRP is currently under construction with six recycled water distribution projects, which when complete will provide 3,750 AFY for irrigation in the North San Pablo Bay region. In addition to irrigation uses, the Napa-Sonoma Salt Marsh project will receive up to 1,700 AFY for habitat restoration. (An acre-foot of water is 325,851 gallons.) Phase 2 of the NBWRP is in the planning stages and when fully implemented, will yield 25,300 AFY of recycled water, for a Program total of 30,750 AFY.

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Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District

“It’s important for us to support Prop. 1 because our program’s objectives are consistent with the measure’s intent,” said Bill Long, NBWRA vice chair and a member of the Novato Sanitary District Board of Directors. “We’ve take a regional approach to protect water quality, provide new water supply, treatment and storage projects. Prop. 1 will continue to support all those areas.”

As a coalition of local agencies, the NBWRA has been active in the promotion of water reuse at the state level and was involved in the efforts by recycled water advocates to have funding for water reuse projects included in Prop. 1.

“We have always tried to look at the big picture when it comes to water supply and water reuse,” said Napa County Supervisor Keith Caldwell, a past chair and board member of the NBWRA, the program’s governing board. “Prop. 1 provides a statewide approach to solving our state’s critical water shortages. We’re not just concerned with the current drought. Water reuse, groundwater protection and all the things Prop. 1 addresses, these are all long-term issues we need to take action on now.”

By approving the Prop. 1 resolution, the NBWRA joins several of its member agencies’ boards in supporting the statewide water bond. Resolutions of support for Prop. 1 have been approved by the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors (which serves as the board for the Sonoma County Water Agency), the Marin County Board of Supervisors and the Napa Sanitation District Board of Directors.

The NBWRP is a coordinated, regional effort to offset potable water demand by promoting water reuse for agriculture, urban use and environmental protection. It is comprised of 10 public agencies in Marin, Sonoma and Napa counties. Its members currently include: Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District, North Marin Water District, Marin Municipal Water District, Novato Sanitary District, City of Petaluma, Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District, Napa Sanitation District, Sonoma County Water Agency and Napa and Marin Counties.

For more information about the North Bay Water Reuse Authority, visit the website at <http://www.nbwra.org/> E-mail: info@nbwra.org, or call (707) 235-8965.

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