

CENTRAL SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY RISK MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT  
AS AMENDED AND RESTATED  
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

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CSJVRMA Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement

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**AMENDED AND RESTATED JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT  
FOR INSURANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT PURPOSES**

THIS AMENDED AND RESTATED **AGREEMENT**, dated for convenience this 1st day of July 2025, made and entered into by, between, and among those **Member Cities** which become parties to this **Agreement** by action of their governing boards adopting a resolution agreeing to participate in the joint powers entity created by the terms and conditions of this **Agreement**;

**RECITALS:**

WHEREAS, California Government Code Section 6500, et. seq. provides that two or more public agencies may, by agreement, exercise any power common to the contracting parties; and

WHEREAS, California Government Code Sections 990 and 990.4 provide that a local entity may self-insure, purchase **insurance** through an authorized insurer, purchase **insurance** through a surplus line **broker**, or any combination thereof; and

WHEREAS, California Government Code Section 990.8 provides that two or more local public entities, by a joint powers agreement, may provide **insurance** for any authorized purpose by any one or more of the methods specified in Section 990.4; and

WHEREAS, Article XVI, Section 6, of the California Constitution provides that **insurance** pooling arrangements under joint exercise of powers agreements shall not be considered the giving or lending of credit as prohibited therein; and

WHEREAS, each of the cities which are parties to this **Agreement** desires to join together with other cities in order to collectively self-insure or pool their losses and to jointly purchase **insurance** and administrative services in connection with **Joint Protection Programs** for said cities; and

WHEREAS, the Tulare-Kings Municipal Risk Management Authority, a public entity, was created by an initial **Agreement** dated April 1, 1979, among various cities within the Counties of Tulare and Kings; and

WHEREAS, the name of the organization was changed to the Central San Joaquin Valley Risk Management Authority on July 1, 1981; and

WHEREAS, the initial **Agreement** was amended on January 1, 1985, and July 1, 1994, by a two-thirds vote of the **Member Cities**' city councils; and

WHEREAS, said **Member Cities** have determined that it is again appropriate and in the public interest to make certain technical corrections and additions to this **Agreement** which will provide clarification and will permit the governing body to meet a minimum of two times a year to conduct that business which only the governing body may act upon; and

WHEREAS, it is therefore necessary to amend said Joint Powers Agreement; and

WHEREAS, said **Agreement** provides that amendments to the **Agreement** may be made by a vote of two-thirds (2/3rds) of the **Member Cities** by resolution of the City Councils of said Cities:

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the execution of this **Agreement** by two-thirds (2/3rds) of the **Member Cities**, each of the **Member Cities** which are parties hereto does hereby adopt this amended and restated **Agreement**, dated July 1, 2025, which concurrently supersedes that certain **Agreement** creating the **Authority**, dated April 1, 1979, and all amendments thereto.

## ARTICLE I DEFINITIONS

The following words, when typed in bold print within the provisions of this **Agreement**, shall have the following definitions:

**"Administrator"** shall mean that person or group appointed by the **Executive Committee** and given responsibility for the management, administration, and operation of the **Authority**.

**"Agreement"** shall mean the Joint Powers Agreement creating the Central San Joaquin Valley Risk Management Authority.

**"Authority"** shall mean the Central San Joaquin Valley Risk Management Authority, aka the RMA.

**"Board of Directors"** or **"Board"** shall mean the governing body of the **Authority**.

**"Broker"** shall mean the **insurance broker** hired by the **Executive Committee** to acquire **insurance coverage**.

**"Claims"** shall mean demands made against the **Authority** arising out of occurrences which are claimed to be within one of the **Authority's Joint Protection Programs** as developed by the **Board**.

**"Deposit Premium"** shall mean the annual dollar amount determined by the Board of Directors payable by each **Member City** for the purpose of **self-insurance** coverage, excess **insurance premiums**, and administrative costs, charged for the purpose of carrying out the powers of the **Authority**.

**"Executive Committee"** shall mean the elected officers and the representatives appointed by each region to represent that region.

**"Fiscal Year"** shall mean the period July 1 to June 30 of each year.

**"Insurance"** shall mean any commercial insurance coverage.

**"Insurance Premium"** shall mean those funds charged for the payment of group purchased insurance.

**"Joint Protection Programs"** shall mean any program to provide risk sharing or **insurance** coverage under this **Agreement** and shall include a determination as to the amount of initial **Insurance Premiums** and/or **Deposit Premiums**, a precise allocation plan and formula, and a determination of the amount and type, if any, of excess **insurance** to be purchased. Included within the term **Joint Protection Program** is the identification of exposures to accidental loss, the reduction or limitation of losses to **Member City** properties and from injuries to persons or property caused by the operations of **Member Cities** and the funding of those risks, together with any other functions appropriate or necessary to the functioning of the **Joint Protection Program**.

**"Master Plan Document"** shall mean the document, formally adopted by the **Executive Committee**, setting forth the operations, policies, and provisions of a self-insured or pooled coverage program, which shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. The scope of the program;
2. The procedures to be followed;
3. Who may participate;
4. Any limits or restrictions;
5. How **Deposit Premiums** are determined;
6. How refunds, if any, are determined;
7. Commitments required by participants; and
8. How the document may be amended.

**"Member City"** shall mean a city which is an incorporated municipality organized with a council, City Manager/Administrator form of government, which has been approved for participation in the **Authority** by the **Executive Committee** in accordance with applicable provisions of the **Agreement** and the Bylaws and has signed the **Agreement**.

**"Operating Fund"** shall mean the fund established by the **Authority** for the purpose of paying just demands submitted to the **Authority**.

**"Representative"** shall mean the person, **designated** in writing by the **Member City** to represent and act for and on behalf of the **Member City** regarding any matter before the **Authority's Board or Executive Committee**. The **Representative** must be either: (a) the City Manager/Administrator or (b) a person designated by the City Manager/Administrator who holds a management/organizational position with the **Member City** and whose responsibilities include all or part of the **Member City's** risk management functions (i.e., finance, human resources, claims/losses, insurance, and safety/risk control).

**"Self-Insurance"** shall mean the process whereby the **Authority** maintains sufficient reserves to pay all **claims** and associated expenses of a risk exposure without purchasing **insurance** to cover the risk or a portion of the risk.

## ARTICLE II PURPOSES

The purpose of this **Agreement** is to provide joint powers common to each **Member City** for **insurance** purposes; to pool self-insured **claims** and losses, to purchase or participate in excess pooling or excess **insurance** coverage, and to provide related administrative services including risk management, consulting, actuarial services, claims adjusting and legal defense services; to implement risk management principles; and to provide for the future inclusion of additional incorporated municipalities desiring to become parties to the **Agreement**.

## ARTICLE III CREATION OF JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

Pursuant to Section 6500, et. seq. of the California Government Code, the **Authority** is a public entity separate and apart from the parties to this **Agreement**. Pursuant to Government Code Section 6508.1, the debts, liabilities, and obligations of this joint powers authority shall not constitute debts, liabilities, or obligations of any party to this **Agreement**.

It is the express understanding of all parties that the **Authority** created originally on or about April 1, 1979, is the same **Authority** continued under this **Agreement**, even though some powers and procedures may be changed by this **Agreement**.

The **Authority**, its **Board**, officers, membership, and staff shall be governed by this **Agreement**, the Bylaws, **Master Plan Documents**, Memoranda of Coverage, and other documents duly adopted by the **Authority**.

## ARTICLE IV PARTIES TO AGREEMENT

Each city which has applied to and been accepted as a member of the **Authority** is a party to the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement. Each party to the **Agreement** shall be bound by this **Agreement** when two-thirds (2/3rds) of the city councils of the **Member Cities** have adopted this amended and restated **Agreement**. A party to this **Agreement** certifies that it intends to and does contract with the **Authority** and with all other **Member Cities** which have signed this **Agreement** and, in addition, with each city which may hereafter be added as a party to and may sign this **Agreement**. Each city which has or may hereafter sign this **Agreement** also certifies that the deletion of any city from the **Authority** by voluntary withdrawal, involuntary termination, or otherwise, shall not affect this **Agreement** nor each **Member City**'s intent to contract as described above with the then remaining **Member Cities**.

Each city which is a member of the **Authority** at the time this amended and restated **Agreement** is adopted by two-thirds (2/3rds) of the **Member Cities**, certifies that it intends to and does hereby contract with the **Authority** and with all other current **Member Cities**, and in addition, with each city which may hereafter be added as a party to and may sign this **Agreement**.

## ARTICLE V MEMBERSHIP

### A. ELIGIBILITY

To be a member of this **Authority**, a city must be an incorporated municipality which is characterized by having professional management as typified by a bona fide Council Manager/Administrator form of government and must be approved for participation in the **Authority** in the manner provided by the Bylaws.

### B. NEW MEMBERS

Eligible incorporated municipalities may become a party to this **Agreement** pursuant to the Bylaws of the **Authority**.

## ARTICLE VI TERM OF AGREEMENT

This **Agreement**, as amended and restated, shall become effective when approved by two thirds (2/3rds) of the respective City Councils of the **Member Cities**. When effective, this **Agreement**, as may be amended from time to time, shall continue thereafter until terminated as herein provided. This **Agreement** shall become effective as to any new **Member City** in accordance with the Bylaws and **Master Plan Documents** of the **Authority**.

## ARTICLE VII POWERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Pursuant to and to the extent required by Government Code section 6509, the **Authority** shall be restricted in the exercise of its powers in the same manner as the City of Ripon is restricted in the exercise of its powers. In the event the City of Ripon shall cease to be a Member of the **Authority**, then the **Authority** shall be restricted in the exercise of its powers in the same manner as the City of Madera.

The **Authority** is hereby authorized to do all acts necessary or appropriate for the exercise of said powers, including, but not limited to any or all of the following:

1. Make and enter into contracts;

2. Incur debts, liabilities, and obligations, but no debt, liability, or obligation of the **Authority** is a debt, liability, or obligation of a **Member City** except as otherwise provided;
3. Assess **Member Cities** as deemed appropriate by the **Executive Committee**;
4. Acquire, hold, or dispose of real and personal property;
5. Receive contributions and donations of property, funds, services, and other forms of assistance from any source;
6. Sue and be sued in its own name;
7. Employ agents and employees;
8. Acquire, construct, manage, and maintain buildings;
9. Lease real or personal property, including property of a **Member City**; and
10. To exercise all powers necessary and proper to carry out the terms and provisions of this **Agreement** or otherwise authorized by law.

This **Agreement** shall be construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of California.

## ARTICLE VIII BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### A. STRUCTURE

The **Authority** shall be governed by a **Board** composed of one **Representative** from each **Member City**, each serving in an individual capacity as a member of the **Board**. Each **Member City** shall appoint one **Representative**. Appointments shall be limited to the City Manager/Administrator of each **Member City** or his/her authorized delegate. Each **Member City** shall also appoint one alternate **Representative**. The alternate **Representative** may attend and may participate in any meeting of the **Board**. When the regular **Representative** for whom he/she is an alternate is absent from the meeting, the alternate **Representative** may vote. Each **Representative** serves at the pleasure of the **Member City** being represented. Each **Representative** has one vote as the member of the **Board**. **Representatives** are not entitled to compensation. However, the **Executive Committee** may authorize reimbursement for expense incurred by a **Representative** in connection with his/her duties for the **Authority**.

### B. MEETINGS OF THE BOARD

The **Board** shall hold at least two meetings each year. The **Executive Committee** shall determine the date upon which and the hour and place at which each regular meeting is to be held.

The President may call for a special meeting of the **Board** in compliance with open meeting laws in the State of California or a majority of the **Representatives** may call for a special

meeting by filing a written request with the Secretary. The President must then set a date, time, and place for the meeting to be held within 30 days and must make provision for notice of the special meeting being given.

Each meeting of the **Board**, and each meeting of the **Executive Committee**, including, without limitation, regular, adjourned regular, and special meetings, shall be called, noticed, held, and conducted in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Section 54950 et. seq. of the Government Code).

The **Authority** shall have minutes of regular and special meetings kept. As soon as possible after each meeting, copies of the minutes shall be forwarded to each **Member City**.

A majority of the members of the **Board** is a quorum for the transaction of business. However, less than a quorum may adjourn from time to time. A vote of the majority of a quorum at a meeting is sufficient to take action, unless otherwise specified.

#### C. POWERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The **Board** shall provide policy direction for the **Executive Committee**, the officers, and the **Administrator**. The **Board** may delegate any and all of its authority to the **Executive Committee** except the following:

1. Amendments to the Bylaws, which requires at least a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote of the **Board**;
2. Creation of any new **Joint Protection Program**;
3. Termination of any **Joint Protection Program**;
4. Expulsion of a **Member City**;
5. Adoption of an operating budget for the **Authority**;
6. Amendments to the **Authority's** Conflict of Interest Code; and
7. Authorization for the issuance, modification, or defeasance of bonds.

### ARTICLE IX BYLAWS AND REGULATIONS

The **Board** shall adopt Bylaws and general regulations not inconsistent with State law and this **Agreement**.

### ARTICLE X EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The **Board** shall establish an **Executive Committee** and delegate functions not otherwise reserved to the entire **Board**. The **Executive Committee** shall be appointed, have the powers, and hold meetings as set forth in the Bylaws.

## ARTICLE XI OFFICERS

The officers of the **Authority** shall consist of an elected President, First Vice President, and Second Vice President, and an appointed **Administrator**, Secretary, and Treasurer. Other offices may be created by the Bylaws, **Master Plan Documents**, or the **Administrator**, subject to the approval of the **Board** or the **Executive Committee**, as applicable. All offices shall be filled and have the powers and responsibilities as prescribed in the Bylaws or **Master Plan Documents**.

The functions of auditor/controller of the **Authority** shall be performed by the **Authority's** officers or employees. The Treasurer and auditor/controller have the powers, duties, and responsibilities specified in Government Code Section 6505.6. The **Authority** shall purchase a bond which includes coverage for the duties performed by the Treasurer and the auditor/controller.

## ARTICLE XII JOINT PROTECTION PROGRAMS

- A. The **Executive Committee** may at any time, and from time to time, offer to the **Board** for adoption such **Joint Protection Programs** as may be deemed desirable. All **Member Cities** shall participate in those mandatory **Joint Protection Programs** as set forth in the Bylaws. All other **Joint Protection Programs** shall be optional. The **Board** shall establish the amount of **Deposit Premium**, determine the amount of loss reserve contribution, provide for the handling of **claims**, and otherwise establish the policies and procedures necessary to provide a particular **Joint Protection Program** for **Member Cities**.
- B. Each **Joint Protection Program** shall remain separate and distinct from every other **Joint Protection Program** and the liability and obligations of each program, and its participating **Member Cities** shall not be a liability or obligation of another program or participating Member City of another program. A **Member City's** participation in one program shall not obligate it or its funds on deposit with the **Authority**, to the debts, obligations, or liabilities of any other program. Separate accounting shall be maintained for each **Joint Protection Program**.

## ARTICLE XIII RESERVE FUNDS

The **Authority** may establish a fund for the purpose of paying the losses and establishing a reserve to cover the retained portion of losses that may be insured against by the **Authority** or the **Member Cities**. The funds shall be invested in compliance with the **Authority's** Investment Policy and relevant state laws.

Refunds shall be made in accordance with the **Master Plan Document** for each program.

## ARTICLE XIV OPERATING FUND

The **Authority** shall establish an **Operating Fund**. The **Operating Fund** is for the purpose of paying **insurance premiums, broker's fees, adjusting fees, consultant and legal fees, and such other items as are appropriate**. Just demands for payment shall be made by warrants in compliance with the adopted budget. The warrants shall be paid as directed by the **Executive Committee**. The **Board** may establish such other funds as it considers appropriate which shall be maintained and invested in the same manner as the **Operating Fund**.

## ARTICLE XV BUDGET

The **Board** shall adopt a budget annually.

## ARTICLE XVI FUNDING AND PROCEDURES FOR CALCULATING ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

The provisions for funding and calculating annual contributions shall be as set forth in the Bylaws and the **Master Plan Documents** for each program.

## ARTICLE XVII RESPONSIBILITIES OF AUTHORITY

The **Authority** may perform or have performed the following functions in discharging its responsibilities under this **Agreement**:

1. Assist **Member Cities** in developing their risk management programs;
2. Participate in risk management advisory committees formed by **Member Cities**;
3. Provide loss prevention, safety, and security services;
4. Provide all program services as required by program **Master Plan Documents**;
5. Provide loss analysis control by use of statistical analysis, data processing, and record and file keeping services. The purpose of this information is to identify high exposure operations and to evaluate proper levels of self-retention and deductibles;
6. Conduct risk management audits to review the participation of each **Member City** in the program; and
7. Perform other functions as required by the **Board** for the purpose of accomplishing the goals of this **Agreement**.

## ARTICLE XVIII RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBER CITIES

The **Member Cities** have the following responsibilities:

1. Pay all financial obligations to the **Authority** within the time prescribed;
2. Appoint an individual to be responsible for coordinating the risk management activities of his/her **Member City** with the **Authority**;
3. Conduct its operations in a manner which enhances safety and loss control consistent with recommendations by **Authority** staff;
4. Carry out the duties and responsibilities as assigned or mandated by the **Board of Directors** and/or the **Executive Committee** which may include, but are not limited to, adherence to and/or adoption of policies and procedures, support of initiatives deemed necessary for the proper functioning of the **Authority**, and timely execution of tasks deemed necessary for the operation and governance of the **Authority**;
5. Report to the risk manager during the development stages the addition of new programs or the significant reduction or expansion of existing programs;
6. Permit and assist the **Authority** in conducting on-site safety and loss control inspections and/or safety or risk management audits as required by the **Board**;
7. Submit underwriting information requested by the **Authority** on a timely basis;
8. Provide accurate statistical data concerning the **Member City** to the **Authority** when requested;
9. Cooperate fully with the **Authority** in determining the cause of losses and in the settlement of losses;
10. Cooperate to the fullest extent with the **Authority**'s Litigation Manager on matters of **claims** and the conduct of defense of **claims**; and
11. Comply with risk management requirements established under the authority of this **Agreement**.

## ARTICLE XIX WITHDRAWAL

Any **Member City**, at their sole discretion, may voluntarily withdraw from membership in the **Authority** only at the end of any **fiscal year** by notifying the **Authority** in writing six (6) months prior to the end of any **fiscal year**, or at any other time which is agreed to by the **Board**, unless otherwise prohibited in the **Master Plan Document** of any program. A notice of withdrawal shall be final and irreversible upon its receipt by the **Authority** unless the **Board** authorizes it to be rescinded by the **Member City**.

## ARTICLE XX INVOLUNTARY TERMINATION

A **Member City** may be removed from this **Agreement** by a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote of the **Board** for non-compliance with any provision of the governing documents. Such involuntary termination shall proceed in accordance with the provisions set forth in the **Bylaws**.

## ARTICLE XXI CONTINUED LIABILITY

Upon any withdrawal or involuntary termination of a **Member City**, the said **Member City** shall continue to be responsible for any unpaid **insurance premiums, deposit premiums**, surcharges, administration costs, and **claims** and for any debts and assessments in accordance with the provisions of this **Agreement**, the **Bylaws**, **Resolutions**, and the **Master Plan Documents of Joint Protection Programs** in which the **Member City** has participated.

## ARTICLE XXII REFUNDS UPON WITHDRAWAL OR INVOLUNTARY TERMINATION

In the event a **Member City** withdraws from the **Authority** or its membership is involuntarily terminated, said **Member City** shall thereafter be entitled to receive its unobligated share of monies held by the **Authority**, less any and all amounts owed the **Authority** whether contingent or not, by the said withdrawing or terminated **Member City**. The remainder of any funds held by the **Authority** for the withdrawing or terminating **Member City** subject to any retention amount as provided below, shall be the unobligated share and shall be refunded to the **Member City** and shall be accepted in full settlement and satisfaction against any **claims** the **Member City** may have against the **Authority**. The **Authority** shall require that sufficient funds are retained on deposit with the **Authority** to completely pay any and all unpaid **insurance premiums, deposit premiums**, surcharges, administration costs, or **claims**, including any amounts for unreported **claims** and maturity of **claims** against said withdrawing or terminating **Member City**, and the amount to be retained on deposit shall be determined by the **Authority**. Any and all rights, entitlements, benefits, and obligations after withdrawal or termination shall be subject to ongoing obligations and responsibilities agreed to by a **Member City** by agreeing to participate in any pooled **Joint Protection Programs**.

## ARTICLE XXIII TERMINATION OF **AUTHORITY**

The **Authority** may be terminated at any time if two-thirds (2/3rds) of the respective city councils of the then-**Member Cities** adopt a resolution requesting termination of the **Authority**; provided, however, that this Joint Powers Agreement and the **Authority** shall continue to exist for the purpose of disposing of all **claims**, concluding any pending litigations, for the liquidation and distribution of assets, and for all other functions necessary to conclude the affairs of the **Authority**.

The **Board** shall take whatever action is necessary or appropriate to cause these ongoing responsibilities to be discharged and to effectively close out the affairs of the **Authority**. Upon completion of the liquidation and dissolution of the **Authority**, the **Authority** shall pay to each city which was a member of the **Authority** at the time of termination its pro rata share based on a city's contribution to the **Authority**, as determined by an independent Certified Public Accountant which has audited the financial records of the **Authority**, of the remaining assets of the **Authority** and shall pay to each **Member City** all monies held by the **Authority** in the reserve funds of that **Member City**.

#### ARTICLE XXIV AUDIT

The **Authority** shall obtain an annual certified audit of its accounts and financial records which shall be made by a Certified Public Accountant and shall conform to generally accepted auditing standards.

#### ARTICLE XXV ARBITRATION

Any controversy between the parties hereto arising out of this **Agreement** shall be submitted to arbitration, and such arbitration shall comply with and be governed by the provisions of the California Arbitration Act, Sections 1280 through 1294.2 of the California Code of Civil Procedure.

#### ARTICLE XXVI BINDING EFFECT OF BYLAWS, **MASTER PLAN DOCUMENTS**, AND MEMORANDA OF COVERAGE

Each party to this **Agreement** by the execution hereof agrees to be bound by and to comply with all of the terms and conditions of this **Agreement**, the Bylaws, the **Master Plan Documents**, Memoranda of Coverage, and any resolution adopted by the **Authority**, the **Board of Directors**, or the **Executive Committee** as they now exist or may hereafter be adopted or amended.

#### ARTICLE XXVII ENFORCEMENT

The **Authority** is hereby granted authority to enforce this **Agreement**. In the event action is instituted by the **Authority** to enforce any term of this **Agreement**, the Bylaws, or the **Master Plan Document** of any program against any **Member City**, the prevailing party shall be entitled to reasonable attorney fees and costs incurred because of said action, in addition to other appropriate relief.

ARTICLE XXVIII  
AMENDMENTS

This **Agreement** may be amended by written resolution approved and signed by two-thirds (2/3rds) of the respective city councils of the **Member Cities** that are parties to this **Agreement**. Upon signature of any amendment by two-thirds (2/3rds) of the **Member Cities**, any **Member City** failing or refusing to abide by such amendment may be involuntarily terminated as a party to this **Agreement** as provided herein.

ARTICLE XXIX  
NOTICES

Notices under this **Agreement** shall be sufficient if delivered to the office of the Clerk or Secretary of the respective jurisdictions.

ARTICLE XXX  
COUNTERPARTS

This **Agreement** may be executed in one or more counterparts and shall be as fully effective as though executed in one document.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**MEMBER CITY**

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

*Craig Cornwell* 11/21/2025  
CRAIG J. CORNWELL Date  
City Attorney-City of Merced