

RESOLUTION NO. 2013- 48

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF MERCED, CALIFORNIA,
ADOPTING THE MERCED INTEGRATED
REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN**

WHEREAS, The State electorate approved multiple statewide bond measures since 2000 to fund Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Planning and Implementation for water resource projects and programs; and,

WHEREAS, The benefits of IRWM Plans for water management activities include improved effectiveness, efficiencies, collaboration and responsiveness across local districts and agencies, stakeholders, and community participants; and,

WHEREAS, The Merced IRWM Region (Merced Region) comprised of the hydrologic areas that include the entire Merced Groundwater Basin area in addition to the watershed area north of and including the Merced River and contiguous with the Merced Groundwater basin; and,

WHEREAS, A partnership between at least three agencies in the Merced Region having water or land use authority was collaboratively formed for IRWM planning as the Merced Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) between the Merced Irrigation District (MID) as the lead agency, the County of Merced (County) and the City of Merced (City) as grant participants and contributors; and,

WHEREAS, The Merced Region designation and RWMG grant application for IRWM Planning funded by the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84) was approved by the State Department of Water Resources (DWR) and affirmed by the Merced Area Groundwater Pool Interests (MAGPI); and,

WHEREAS, Regional coordination and integrated water management through local districts, agencies, stakeholders, and disadvantaged community-based processes for the identification of needs and priorities, basic data and information collection, and conducting planning studies that identify potential projects, programs and policies for possible future actions can help the Merced Region meet long-term needs for water supply, water quality, flood management, ecosystem protection and enhancement , and recreation; and,

WHEREAS, The RWMG advertised and invited a widespread comprehensive stakeholder and community-based citizenry to participate on the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) for the Merced Region that was duly appointed by the MID Board of Directors; and,

WHEREAS, The RAC met over 14 times over a 14 month period to advise development of the IRWMP; and,

WHEREAS, The RWMG held at least 6 public meetings throughout the region and 8 technical workshops for public comment and input in the development of the IRWMP; and,

WHEREAS, The IRWMP was revised following the comment period to address comments received and was subsequently considered final as by report dated August, 2013; and,

WHEREAS, The RAC by resolution No. 2013-01 dated June 25, 2013 asked MID, the County and City to adopt the Merced IRWM Plan; and,

WHEREAS, As a condition of funding the DWR IRWM Planning Grant requires MID, the County and City as the grant participants to adopt the Merced IRWMP; and,

WHEREAS, IRWM Plan adoption is required for future implementation grant funding by the state and recommended for the formation of a future Merced Region governance structure; and,

WHEREAS, The City Council held a public workshop on September 3, 2013 and all those interested in the matter were provided opportunity to speak or provide written or oral comments regarding the presentation and review of the draft Merced Integrated Regional Water Management Plan; and,

WHEREAS, The City Council held a noticed public hearing on November 4, 2013 at which time all those interested in the matter were provided opportunity to speak or to provide written or oral testimony regarding the final Merced Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERCED DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, DETERMINE, FIND, AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Based upon the evidence and testimony in the record at the City Council public hearing, the City Council, exercising its independent judgment and review, hereby approves the Merced Integrated Regional Water Management Plan dated August 30, 2013.

SECTION 2. By approving the Merced Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, the City Council directs the City Manager to assist in obtaining implementation grant funding opportunities and carrying out the implementation intentions, goals and guidelines presented in the Merced Integrated Regional Water Management Plan within the financial constraints and priorities of the City to further water resource projects and programs for the benefit of the City and the Merced Region.

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PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Merced at a regular meeting held on the 4th day of November 2013, by the following vote:

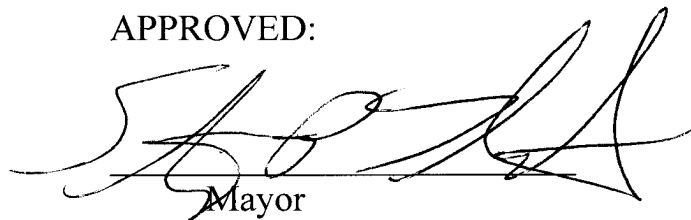
AYES: Council Members: BLAKE, MURPHY, RAWLING, LOR, PEDROZO, THURSTON

NOES: Council Members: NONE

ABSENT: Council Members: DOSSETTI

ABSTAIN: Council Members: NONE

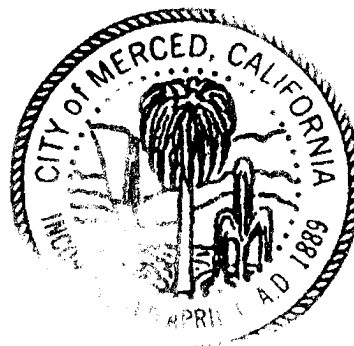
APPROVED:


Mayor


ATTEST:
JOHN M. BRAMBLE, CITY CLERK

BY: 
Assistant/Deputy City Clerk

(SEAL)



APPROVED AS TO FORM:

 10/30/13
City Attorney Date