

RESOLUTION NO. _____

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT
IN THE SAN FRANCISQUITO CREEK AREA**

RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that

WHEREAS, the San Francisquito Creek area of the Midpeninsula overlies the Santa Clara and San Mateo Plain Groundwater Subbasins; and

WHEREAS, groundwater is a critical natural resource that is vital for emergency water supplies on the Midpeninsula, and therefore needs to be protected; and

WHEREAS, most of the water consumed on the Midpeninsula is purchased from a single source – the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) – with 85% coming from the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir on the Tuolumne River, making our primary water supply vulnerable to the impacts of climate change as well as major catastrophes; and

WHEREAS, interest in local groundwater extraction is growing as a result of rising SFPUC water prices, limits on current availability of SFPUC water, population growth and likely reductions in water supply due to climate change and droughts; and

WHEREAS, unsustainable groundwater extraction will result in declining groundwater levels, which may lead to saltwater intrusion, land subsidence and degradation of water quality; and

WHEREAS, contingency plans of many water providers for droughts and emergencies likely will rely on the same shared groundwater resources, making strong

support and cooperation from well owners, water agencies, land use planning agencies and all water users vital to protecting and maintaining our groundwater resources; and

WHEREAS, groundwater resources can be enhanced through conjunctive water management, including aggressive water conservation/efficiency, use of alternative supplies such as recycled water, and storm water infiltration, and all forms of groundwater recharge; and

WHEREAS, groundwater and surface water in the San Francisquito Creek area are interconnected resources that cross political boundaries and support multiple beneficial uses; and

WHEREAS, more information on the hydrology and geology of the San Francisquito Creek area is needed to better design and implement sustainable groundwater management practices.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED as follows:

1. The County of San Mateo is committed to collaborating with other agencies and organizations to better understand the hydrology and geology of the San Francisquito Creek area.
2. The County of San Mateo is committed to the sustainable management of local groundwater, including conjunctive water management and aggressive conservation, to protect its quality and ensure its availability during droughts and emergency situations.

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