

Resolution No. 2024-XXX N.C.S.
of the City of Petaluma, California

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING STAFF TO SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATIONS TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES' CALIFORNIA STREAM GAGE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CALSIP) FOR THE PETALUMA RIVER, ADOBE CREEK, WASHINGTON CREEK, AND WILLOWBROOK LOCATIONS, CONFIRMING AVAILABILITY OF MATCHING SUPPORT, ACCEPTING ANY POTENTIAL GRANT AWARDS, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE GRANT

WHEREAS, the City of Petaluma is dedicated to advancing sustainable water management, environmental conservation, and enhancing community resilience, in alignment with the City's long-term planning and climate action goals; and

WHEREAS, an opportunity to support these efforts is available through the California Stream Gage Improvement Program (CalSIP), a grant program administered by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), which provides funding for projects that address key water data gaps across the state through the installation and upgrade of stream gages; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill (SB) 19 (Stats. 2019, Ch. 361, Section 2.) directs DWR and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to develop a plan to deploy a network of stream gages to help address significant gaps in information needed for water management and the conservation of freshwater species; and

WHEREAS, following the directions of SB 19, DWR and the State Water Board, along with related agencies, developed the California Stream Gaging Prioritization Plan 2022 (SB 19 Plan), which recommends specific upgrades, new installations, reactivation of historical gages, and the addition of water temperature sensors to create a comprehensive water monitoring network across California; and

WHEREAS, CalSIP serves to disburse fiscal resources to public agencies and federally recognized Tribes in a timely and judicious manner to best enhance the surface water monitoring network in the state.; and

WHEREAS, CalSIP aims to implement the needed infrastructure improvements, and operations and maintenance, for stream gaging data collection that provides reliable real-time stream flow data to the public; and

WHEREAS, the City of Petaluma has identified critical locations for proposed stream gage installations, including the Petaluma River at the Highway 101 undercrossing near the SMART Trestle, the Ellis Creek Water Recycling Facility, the Payran Street Bridge, Adobe Creek (downstream of Old Adobe Road), Lynch Creek at Prince Park, Washington Creek at Prince Park, and Willowbrook (downstream of the Redwood Business Park retention ponds); and

WHEREAS, these stream gage installations would allow water managers and residents to have reliable, real-time information about the conditions and amount of water flowing into our rivers and streams to better manage water resources for public safety, water supply and the conservation of freshwater species.; and

WHEREAS, staff has closely reviewed the California Stream Gage Improvement Program (CalSIP) criteria and finds the Projects to be closely aligned with the Program’s stated goals to improve planning, forecasting, and warning about floods and droughts, monitoring environmental conditions to protect aquatic habitats, planning for safe and enjoyable recreational activities, and analysis of groundwater recharge and streamflow depletion; and

WHEREAS, the proposed stream gage installations are expected to strengthen Petaluma’s sustainable water management practices, conservation efforts, and climate resilience, in line with the City’s commitment to the Climate Action Framework and sustainable practices; and

WHEREAS, if awarded, CalSIP funding would provide substantial financial support for the permitting, equipment purchases, installation, and operation and maintenance of new stream gages, with the City’s matching contribution provided as in-kind labor hours for installation, monitoring, and data-sharing as outlined in the Guidelines for Funding Public Agencies under the California Stream Gage Improvement Program (Attachment 2); and

WHEREAS, the City has legal authority and is authorized to enter into a funding agreement with the State of California and is hereby authorized and directed to prepare and file a questionnaire for funding and take such other actions as necessary or appropriate to obtain funding, and is directed to submit any required invoices, and reports required to obtain funding documents; and

WHEREAS, the proposed action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5), as the submission of a grant application does not meet CEQA’s definition of a “project,” and any subsequent project work will be subject to environmental review and approvals prior to construction.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Petaluma as follows:

1. Declares the above recitals are hereby declared to be true and correct and are incorporated into this resolution as findings of the City Council.
2. That pursuant and subject to all of the terms and provisions of Budget Act of 2023, as amended (Stats. 2022, ch. 44, § 25), the City of Petaluma City Manager or designee is hereby authorized and directed to prepare and file a questionnaire for funding with the California Department of Water Resources’ California Stream Gage Improvement Program (CalSIP) for the installation and upgrade of stream gages at designated locations in Petaluma and take such other actions as necessary or appropriate to obtain funding.
3. Authorize the City of Petaluma City Manager, or designee is hereby authorized and directed to execute the funding agreement with the Department of Water Resources and any amendments thereto.
4. Authorize the City of Petaluma City Manager or designee is hereby authorized to utilize electronic signatures to execute California Stream Gage Improvement Program Guidelines.
5. The City of Petaluma City Manager, or designee is hereby authorized and directed to submit any required documents, invoices, and reports required to obtain funding.

Under the power and authority conferred upon this Council by the Charter of said City.

REFERENCE:

I hereby certify the foregoing Resolution was introduced and adopted by the Council of the City of Petaluma at a Regular meeting on the 18th day of November 2024 by the following vote:

Approved as to
form:

City Attorney

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor