

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

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PETALUMA AUTHORIZING THE
CITY MANAGER TO SIGN THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING THE TOWN
OF WINDSOR BIOSOLIDS COLLABORATIVE**

WHEREAS, biosolids production is inherent in the process of wastewater treatment; and

WHEREAS, as part of the implementation of a sound management plan for biosolids produced at the Ellis Creek Water Recycling Facility (ECWRF), the City intends to continue its existing practice of contracting for hauling and management of biosolids; and

WHEREAS, the City currently contracts with Synagro-WWT, Inc. for the disposal and reuse of the biosolids produced at ECWRF; and

WHEREAS, under the current agreement with Synagro-WWT, the ECWRF biosolids are being land applied in Solano and Sacramento Counties, and 10% of the annual biosolids produced are hauled to the Lystek OMRC-FSSD processing facility in Fairfield; and

WHEREAS, biosolids disposal options and regulations are constantly changing, and having a range of biosolids disposal options available to the City is a benefit; and

WHEREAS, Windsor Water District (Windsor) owns and operates a Water Reclamation Facility that uses sludge ponds for storage and stabilization of the sludge generated at the facility; and

WHEREAS, Windsor established goals for biosolids management, including eliminating reliance on outside contractors for biosolids disposal, increasing the beneficial use of biosolids, reducing the cost and carbon footprint associated with sludge disposal; and

WHEREAS, Windsor is in design for a thickening and dewatering process for the sludge produced at the Water Reclamation Facility, as well as bio dryers and pyrolysis for biosolids disposal; and

WHEREAS, Windsor's biosolids project is eligible for funding through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program (CPRG) due to its potential for reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, Windsor reached out to neighboring agencies, including the City of Petaluma, to gauge interest in applying to the CPRG for the biosolids project as a collaborative group; and

WHEREAS, the Cities of Petaluma, Cloverdale, Healdsburg, and Santa Rosa, as well as Sonoma Water and Lytton Rancheria Tribe, agreed to participate in applying as a collaborative; and

WHEREAS, should the grant be awarded, funding would be put toward the construction of a biosolids handling facility that all partner agencies would have access to; and

WHEREAS, the collaborative application was submitted by the April 1, 2024, deadline, and for the collaborative to remain eligible for the CPRG, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) must be approved and signed by each participating agency and submitted to the EPA before July 1, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Windsor is accountable to the EPA and accepts responsibility for carrying out the full scope of work of the regional biosolids handling facility project; and

WHEREAS, participation in the MOA is entirely voluntary, and any party may withdraw from participation at any time.

WHEREAS, participation in the MOA may help achieve local and regional climate and environmental benefits once the Windsor biosolids facility is operational, including reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by decreasing transportation distances for biosolids disposal, reuse of pyrolysis product biochar as a soil amendment that promotes carbon sequestration, and reduction of levels per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and other contaminants that are found in biosolids through the pyrolysis process.

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

1. The City Manager is hereby authorized to execute the Memorandum of Agreement, attached to the Staff Report as Attachment 2, Establishing the Town of Windsor Biosolids Collaborative.

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 17 day of June 2024 by the following vote:

Approved as to form:

City Attorney

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor