



February 27, 2023

SENT VIA: EMAIL

MEMBER AGENCIES

- City of Cloverdale
- City of Cotati
- City of Healdsburg
- City of Santa Rosa
- City of Sebastopol
- City of Ukiah
- County of Mendocino
- County of Sonoma
- Sonoma County Water Agency
- Town of Windsor

ANDY RODGERS

Executive Director

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Ukiah, CA 95482
(707) 508-3670

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WaterSMART: Water Recycling and Desalination Planning Grant Program
US Bureau of Reclamation Financial Assistance Division

Jim Keiffer, Division Manager

bor-sha-fafoa@usbr.gov

SUBJECT: Support for the City of Cloverdale's Recycled Water Planning Program

Dear Grant Program Review Committee:

Serving as Executive Director for the Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA), I am writing to express my enthusiastic support of the application submitted by the City of Cloverdale to the US Bureau of Reclamation for the Recycled Water Planning Program.

The RRWA is a coalition of ten public agencies in Sonoma and Mendocino Counties that have come together to coordinate regional programs in the Russian River Watershed for clean water, habitat restoration, and watershed enhancement. The RRWA provides support to communities throughout the watershed and works to enhance awareness of special studies and water resource programs funded through grants.

This planning program is the necessary next step for the City of Cloverdale to implement advanced wastewater treatment and produce recycled water for beneficial non-potable reuse. These benefits include:

- Improving resiliency against drought and wildfire through offsetting potable water use and groundwater pumping,
- Enhancing and protecting the Russian River Watershed by reducing the amount of water drawn from the drought-impacted Russian River,
- Enhancing and protecting the Cloverdale Area of the Alexander Valley Groundwater Basin by reducing groundwater pumping and permitting in-lieu recharge of the groundwater basin, compatible with groundwater protection goals, and
- Reducing the risk of unplanned discharges of secondary treated effluent into the Russian River during severe storm events.

Results of the proposed planning program will help advance water stewardship by enhancing watershed health and improve water supply management and sustainability efforts for the benefit of the City of Cloverdale's residents, businesses, the Cloverdale Rancheria tribe, local agriculture, and other stakeholders who depend on the Russian River Watershed.

Thank you in advance for considering grant funding for this important project. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, at cleanwater@rrwatershed.org or 707.508.3670.

Sincerely,

Andy Rodgers, Executive Director
Russian River Watershed Association