

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-63

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VISALIA, ADOPTING MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION NO. 2024-56, WHICH EVALUATES ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS FOR THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT (SGMA) IMPLEMENTATION GRANT, CAMERON CREEK LINEAR RECHARGE PROJECT (STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO. 2024100447)

WHEREAS, the City Council at the February 7, 2022 City Council meeting, authorized the Greater Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GKGSA) to submit an application on behalf of the City of Visalia to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) for the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) call for projects; and,

WHEREAS, Under authorization from Council Resolution 2022-06, the City of Visalia, through GKGSA, submitted grant applications for three projects: Cameron Creek Check Structures Project, Northern Cameron Basin Project, and Southern Cameron Basin Project, and was awarded a grant by the DWR in the amount of \$2,000,000, for the Cameron Creek Check Structure Project, while the other two projects were not selected; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed project for this grant application proposes to construct up to three (3) separate, reinforced concrete check structure facilities with the Cameron Creek channel; and,

WHEREAS, the Area of Potential Effect contains a total of 14 acres, beginning near the start of Cameron Creek where it diverts from TID's Main Intake Canal east of Road 156, with the end location northeast of the Lovers Lane and Caldwell Avenue intersection; and,

WHEREAS, an Initial Study was prepared which disclosed that no significant environmental impacts would result from the project with mitigation measures applied to the project; and,

WHEREAS, on the basis of this Initial Study, a Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared for the Project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA), as amended; and

WHEREAS, the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (Draft IS/MND) for the Project were prepared and noticed for review and comment for 30 days beginning on October 11, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, the Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (Final IS/MND) for the Project was released on November 18, 2024, and consists of the Draft IS/MND for the Project with revisions to the Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program (MMRP); the written

comments and recommendations received on the Draft IS/MND; and the written responses of the City of Visalia to points raised in the review and consultation process; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Visalia considered the Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and found that the Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration contain and reflect the independent judgment of the City of Visalia.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the City of Visalia Environmental Guidelines.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Visalia hereby finds, on the basis of the whole record before it, that there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment and hereby adopts Final Mitigated Negative Declaration No. 2024-56. The documents and other material which constitute the record of the proceedings upon which the decisions based are located at the office of the City Planner, 315 E. Acequia Avenue, Visalia, California, 93291.