

*Before the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California*

Resolution No.: 25-045

Adopt a Resolution:

- a. Approve acceptance of a \$2.5 million planning grant from the State of California - Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) grant program for preliminary design and environmental work for the CSA-75 Chualar Wastewater System Consolidation Project (Project); and)
- b. Authorize the Director of Public Works, Facilities and Parks (PWFP), or designee, to execute the Grant Agreement and associated documents and act as authorized representative for the County of Monterey in processing all documentation to secure these funds and to satisfy the conditions associated with the grant on behalf of the County of Monterey; and)
- c. Find that this Project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15262, as the Project scope involves planning and feasibility and/or data collection, research, experimental management and resource evaluation activities which will not result in any significant adverse water quality impacts.
- d. Authorize the Director of Public Works, Facilities and Parks (PWFP), or designee, to represent the County of Monterey in carrying out the County's responsibilities under the financial assistance agreement, including certifying disbursement requests on behalf of the County and assuring compliance with applicable state and federal laws, including executing a financial assistance agreement from the State Water Resources Control Board and any amendments or changes thereto.
- e. Authorize the Director of PWFP or designee to submit this Resolution and any corresponding or necessary supporting materials to the State Water Resources Board.

WHEREAS the County of Monterey (County) is the owner and operator of the CSA-75 Chualar Wastewater System, approximately 8 miles south of Salinas, California; and

WHEREAS the CSA-75 Chualar Wastewater System, consists of a wastewater collection system within the community of Chualar and a wastewater treatment facility (WWTF), approximately 2 miles west of Chualar; and

WHEREAS the WWTF utilizes a series of unlined oxidation ponds to treat and dispose of wastewater. The ponds are adjacent to the Salinas River within the 100-year flood plain with no mechanism for reclaiming water for future reuse; and

WHEREAS the County is interested in evaluating options to repair/upgrade the Chualar Wastewater Treatment Plant by constructing a new wastewater treatment plant, and/or connecting the Chualar wastewater collection system with the City of Salinas collection system for treatment at the Monterey One Water Regional Treatment and Recycling Facility; and

WHEREAS the County believes that either option would likely result in a cost effective, regulatory compliant, environmentally superior, and sustainable process by eliminating the treatment component from the CSA-75 Chualar Wastewater System and by doing so also provide benefits such as potentially connecting and converting proximal septic systems to centralized treatment, and perhaps also allow for recycled wastewater reuse; and

WHEREAS the State of California Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), through its Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF), has a financial assistance program which is available to assist the County with the costs of design and environmental work related to both options for upgrading the Chualar Wastewater Treatment Plant; and

WHEREAS neither County nor CSA-75 Chualar have funds available to pursue the consolidation without financial assistance; and

WHEREAS the County applied for financial assistance from the State Water Board through the CWSRF Program to assist with the costs of necessary preliminary design and environmental work; and

WHEREAS on December 23, 2024, the Director of PWFPP received a formal grant offer and Agreement for the County from the State Water Board for review and execution for a \$2.5 million, 100% grant to support Chualar, a disadvantaged community.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Supervisors of the County hereby authorizes and hereby determines to:

1. Approve acceptance of a \$2.5 million planning grant from the State of California - Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) grant program for preliminary design and environmental work for the CSA-75 Chualar Wastewater System Consolidation Project (Project); and
2. Authorize the Director of Public Works, Facilities and Parks (PWFPP), or designee, to execute the Grant Agreement and associated documents and act as the authorized representative for the County of Monterey in processing all documentation to secure these funds and to satisfy the conditions associated with the grant on behalf of the County of Monterey; and
3. Find that this Project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15262, as the Project scope involves planning and feasibility and/or data collection, research, experimental management and resource evaluation activities which will not result in any significant adverse water quality impacts.

4. Authorize the Director of Public Works, Facilities and Parks (PWFP), or designee, to represent the County of Monterey in carrying out the County's responsibilities under the financial assistance agreement, including certifying disbursement requests on behalf of the County and assuring compliance with applicable state and federal laws, including executing a financial assistance agreement from the State Water Resources Control Board and any amendments or changes thereto.
5. Authorize the Director of PWFP or designee to submit this Resolution and any corresponding or necessary supporting materials to the State Water Resources Board.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 18th day of February 2025, by roll call vote:

AYES: Supervisors Alejo, Church, Lopez, Askew, and Daniels

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

I, Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book 82 for the meeting February 18, 2025.

Dated: February 20, 2025

File ID: RES 25-027

Agenda Item No.: 41

Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California



Vicente Ramirez, Deputy