

RESOLUTION NO. 4542

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST PALO ALTO
IN SUPPORT OF A SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT IN THE SAN
FRANCISQUITO CREEK AREA**

WHEREAS, the San Francisquito Creek area of the Midpeninsula overlies the Santa Clara and San Mateo Plain Groundwater Sub-basins; and

WHEREAS, groundwater is a critical natural resource that is vital for emergency water supplies on the Midpeninsula; and

WHEREAS, most of the water consumed on the Midpeninsula is purchased from a single source; the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC); with 85 percent coming from the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir on the Tuolumne River, making our primary water supply vulnerable to the impacts of climate change as well as major catastrophes; and

WHEREAS, interest in local groundwater extraction is growing as a result of rising SFPUC water prices, limits on current availability of SFPUC water, population growth and potential reductions in water supply due to climate change and droughts; and

WHEREAS, unsustainable groundwater extraction could result in declining groundwater levels, which may lead to saltwater intrusion, land subsidence and degradation of water quality; and

WHEREAS, contingency plans of many water providers for droughts and emergencies likely will rely on the same shared groundwater resources, making strong support and cooperation from well owners, water agencies, land use planning agencies and all water users important to protecting and maintaining our groundwater resources; and

WHEREAS, groundwater resources can be enhanced through cooperative water management, including water conservation/efficiency, use of alternative supplies such as recycled water, and storm water infiltration, and all forms of groundwater recharge; and

WHEREAS, groundwater and surface water in the San Francisquito Creek area are interconnected resources that cross political boundaries and support multiple beneficial uses; and

WHEREAS, more information on the hydrology and geology of the San Francisquito Creek area is needed to better design and implement sustainable groundwater management practices.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of East Palo Alto is committed to collaborating, as appropriate, with other agencies and organizations to better understand the hydrology and geology of the San Francisquito Creek area; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of East Palo Alto is committed to the sustainable management of local groundwater, including cooperative water management and conservation, to protect its quality and ensure its availability during droughts and emergency situations.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 2nd day, of September 2014, by the following vote:

AYES: ABRICA, GAUTHIER, MARTINEZ, RUTHERFORD, MOODY
NAES: 0
ABSENT: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

SIGNED:



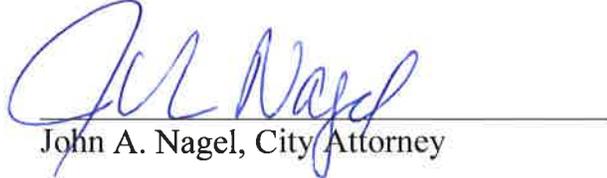
Laura Martínez, Mayor

ATTEST:



Nora Pimentel, Deputy City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



John A. Nagel, City Attorney