

CITY OF MADERA

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Dave Merchen – Director of Community Development
dmerchen@cityofmadera.com ▪ (559) 661-5430
205 W 4th Street ▪ Madera, Ca 93637

September 12, 2016

Mark Nordberg, GSA Project Manager
Senior Engineering Geologist
California Department of Water Resources
901 P Street, Room 213-B
Sacramento, Ca 94236
Mark.Nordberg@water.ca.gov

RE: City of Madera's Notice of Election to Become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Dear Mr. Nordberg,

Pursuant to California Water Cod 10723.8 of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), the purpose of this letter is to provide notice that the City of Madera has elected to be established as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for portions of the DWR Groundwater Basin 5-22.06 underlying the city limits of the City of Madera. The extents of the boundary proposed to be managed by the City of Madera GSA are shown in in Exhibit A.

On August 17, 2016, the Madera City Council held a public hearing regarding the establishment of a GSA encompassing that portion of the Madera Sub-basin lying within the City of Madera's city limits. The public hearing was conducted in accordance with Water Code Section 10723(b) and was noticed in accordance with Government Code Section 6066 (Exhibit B). After holding this public hearing, the Madera City Council adopted Resolution 16-13 establishing the City of Madera Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Exhibit C). No new bylaws or ordinances were adopted in conjunction with this action.

The City's election to be established as a GSA was made after collaborating with other agencies that have responsibility to manage groundwater resources within the Madera Sub-basin. All such agencies voluntary formed the Madera Sub-basin GSA Formation Committee, which provided a forum to evaluate alternatives for compliance with SGMA and set a preferred course of action. Agencies participating in the Madera Sub-basin GSA Formation Committee include: City of Madera, County of Madera, Aliso Water District, Gravelly Ford Water District, Madera irrigation District, Madera Water District, New Stone Water District and Root Creek Water District.

Due to the overlap which occurs between the service areas of the City of Madera and Madera Irrigation District, special collaboration was required to avoid conflict. The City and Madera Irrigation District agreed that the Irrigation District GSA boundaries would exclude the city limits, and that the City GSA boundaries would encompass the entire city limits. The City and Madera Irrigation District have executed a memorandum of understanding confirming this point and agreeing to coordinate and collaborate on other issues related to SGMA compliance.

Pursuant to Section 10723.2 of the Water Code, the City of Madera GSA shall consider the interests and work cooperatively with all beneficial uses and users of groundwater, as well as those responsible for implementing groundwater sustainability Plans. An initial list of interested parties has been developed for this purpose, attached as Exhibit D to the notice. This list may be expanded as the process of preparing a groundwater sustainability plan commences.

The following information is included in this notice and transmittal pursuant to Section 10723.8(a) of the Water Code:

1. Exhibit A - Boundary Map of the City of Madera Groundwater Sustainability Agency
2. Exhibit B - Notice of Public Hearing Pursuant to Government Code Section 6066
3. Exhibit C - City of Madera Resolution 16-13
4. Exhibit D - List of Interested parties
5. City of Madera GSA Boundary Shape File

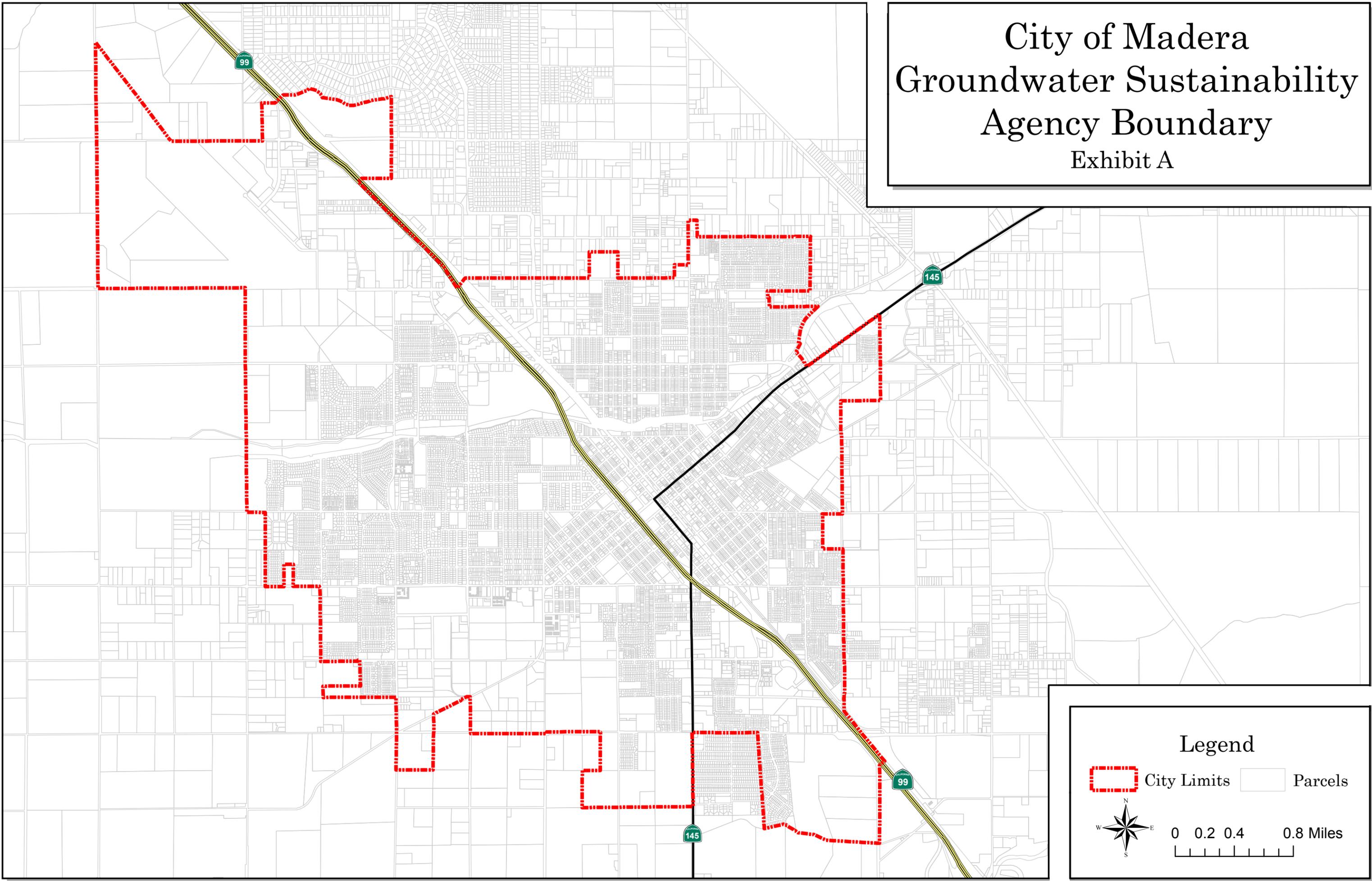
If you have any questions regarding any of the information provided in this letter please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David J. Merchen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David J. Merchen
Community Development Director

City of Madera Groundwater Sustainability Agency Boundary Exhibit A

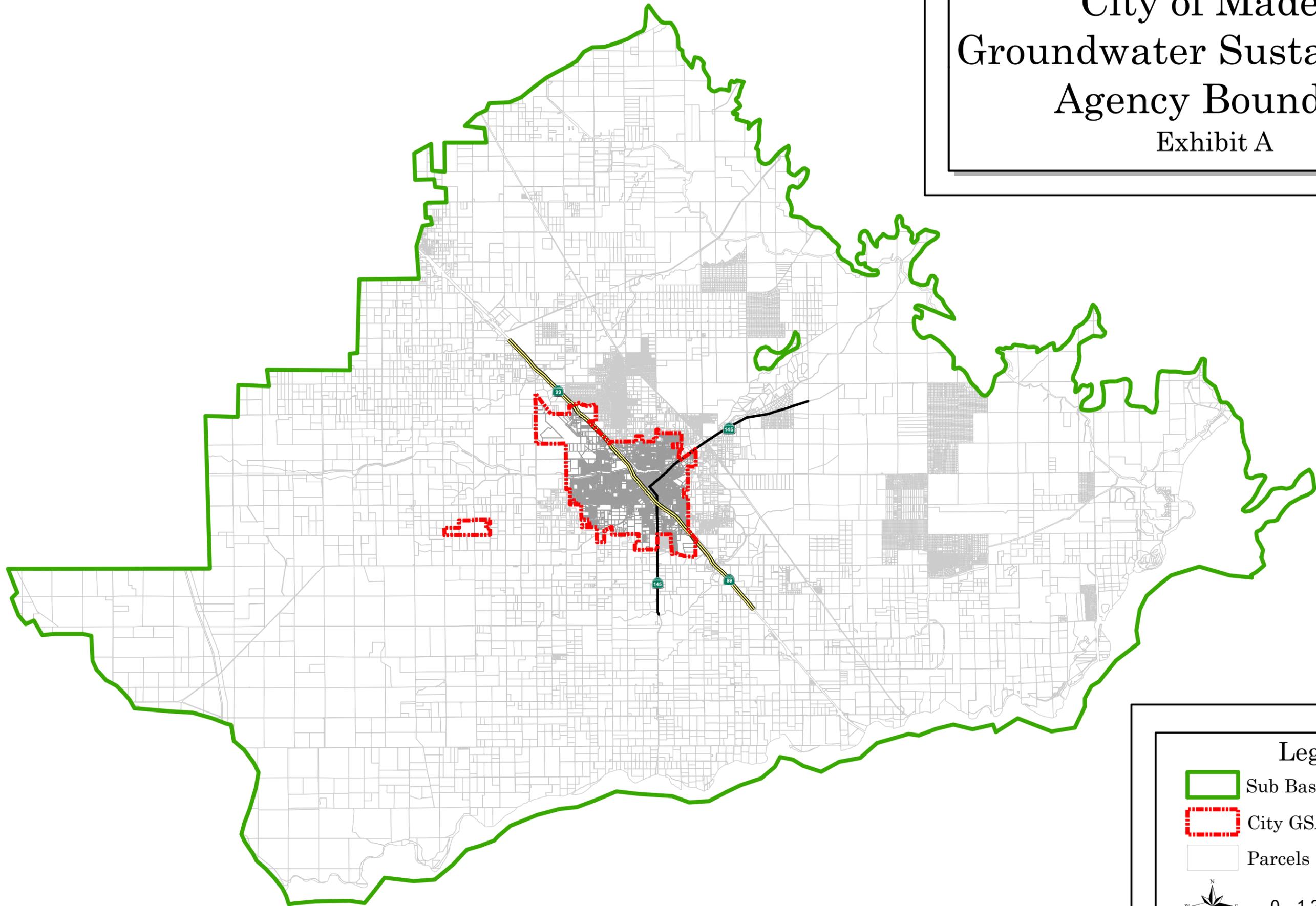


Legend

 City Limits  Parcels

 0 0.2 0.4 0.8 Miles

City of Madera Groundwater Sustainability Agency Boundary Exhibit A



Legend

-  Sub Basin 5-22.06
-  City GSA Boundary
-  Parcels

 0 1.25 2.5 5 Miles

Proof of Publication

(2015.5 C.C.P.)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

GROUND WATER SUSTAINABILITY

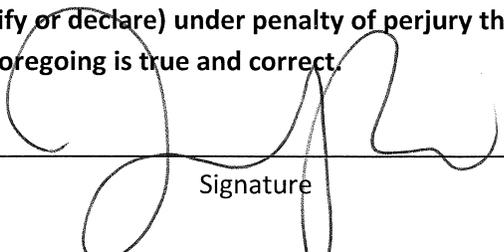
4014

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) ss.
County of Madera)

I am a citizens of the United States and a resident of the County aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above entitled matter. I am the principal clerk of the printer of the Madera Tribune, a newspaper of general circulation, published in the City of Madera, County of Madera, and which newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of General circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Madera, State of California, under the date of November 9, 1966, Case Number 4875 that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to wit:

July 30, August 6, 2016

I certify or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.



Signature
Date _____ August 6, 2016 _____

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby given that on Wednesday the 17th day of August, in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 205 West Fourth Street, Madera, California, at the hour of 6:00 p.m., the City Council of the City of Madera will hold a public hearing to consider the following matter, in addition to others that have been, or will be scheduled:

Consideration of a Resolution Approving the Formation of a Groundwater Sustainability Agency under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

Pursuant to Water Code Section 10723, the City of Madera ("City") will hold a public hearing to determine whether the City will become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for a portion of the Madera Sub-basin of the San Joaquin Valley Groundwater Basin.

Pursuant to Section 65009 of the Government Code of the State of California, Notice is Hereby Given that if any of the foregoing projects or matters are challenged in Court, such challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing, or in written correspondence delivered to the City Council at or prior to the public hearing.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this hearing notice, you may call David Merchen, Community Development Director, at (559) 661-5430. Si usted tiene preguntas o comentarios, o necesita ayuda con interpretación, favor de llamar el Departamento de Planeamiento (559) 661-5430.

SONIA ALVAREZ
City Clerk
No. 4014- July 30, August 6, 2016

Resolution No. 16-135

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA APPROVING THE FORMATION OF A
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY UNDER THE SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER
MANAGEMENT ACT

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2014, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) was signed into law by the Governor to provide for sustainable management of groundwater by providing local groundwater agencies with the authority to sustainably manage groundwater through the adoption of Groundwater Sustainability Plans; and

WHEREAS, Water Code Section 10723(a) authorizes local land use authorities, water suppliers, and certain other local agencies, or a combination of local agencies, overlying a groundwater basin to elect to become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the basin; and

WHEREAS, the City of Madera (City) is a local agency qualified to become a GSA because City manages water supply and delivery, and has land use responsibilities over a portion of the Madera Sub-basin (Basin Number 5-22.06, DWR Bulletin 118) within the San Joaquin Valley Groundwater Basin, a DWR-designated high-priority basin; and

WHEREAS, the City has informed other local agencies with responsibility for land use and groundwater authority within the Madera-Sub-basin of its intent to become a GSA; and

WHEREAS, City held a public hearing on August 17, 2016, after publication of notice pursuant to Government Code Section 6066 to consider adoption of this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, adoption of this Resolution does not constitute a "Project" under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to 15060(c)(3) and 15378(b)(5) of the State CEQA Guidelines because it is an administrative action that does not result in any direct or indirect physical change in the environment.

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

1. The above recitals and findings are true and correct.
2. The City of Madera does hereby elect to become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency to cover the portion of DWR Basin No. 5-22.06 within the City Limits as of August 17, 2016, as shown on Exhibit "A" attached to this Resolution.
3. The City of Madera Groundwater Sustainability Agency hereby created shall establish and maintain a list of persons interested in receiving notices regarding plan preparation, meeting announcements, and availability of draft plans, maps, and other relevant documents, as required by California Water Code Section 10723.4.
4. Within 30 days of the date of this Resolution, the Community Development Director is directed to submit a notice of intent to the Department of Water Resources, pursuant to Water Code section 10723.8 (a).
5. This resolution is effective immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Madera this 17th day of August, 2016 by the following vote:

AYES: Mayor Poythress, Council Members Rigby, Medellin, Holley, Robinson, Oliver, Foley Gallegos.

NOES: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None.

ABSENT: None.

APPROVED:



ROBERT L. POYTHRESS, Mayor

ATTEST:



SONIA ALVAREZ, City Clerk

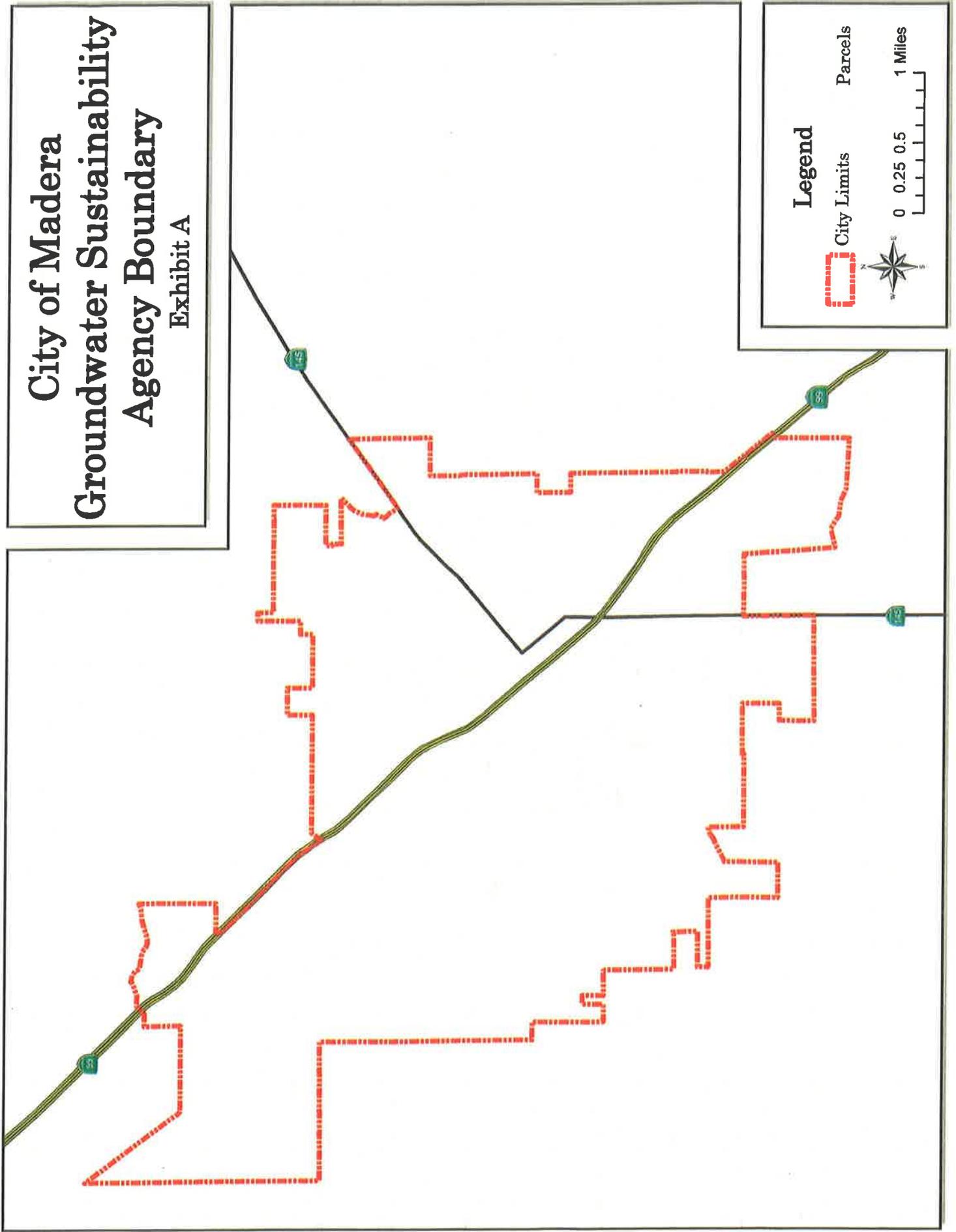
APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:



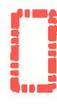
BRENT RICHARDSON, City Attorney



City of Madera Groundwater Sustainability Agency Boundary Exhibit A



Legend

-  City Limits
 -  Parcels
- 0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

City of Madera Groundwater Sustainability Agency
List of Interested Parties

The City of Madera has collaborated with all parties that are known to be eligible to form groundwater sustainability agencies within the Madera Groundwater Sub-basin. All such parties worked together to establish the “Madera Sub-Basin GSA Formation Committee”. After discussion and deliberation, the GSA Formation Committee members agreed upon a course of action whereby individual agency-based GSAs would be formed, after which all GSAs within the sub-basin would work together on a single groundwater sustainability plan (GSP). The City intends to utilize pre-established relationships and the agreed upon course of action to collaborate with other GSA’s to ensure that the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater, as well as those responsible for implementing the GSP, are considered.

1. Agricultural Users

There are a limited number of agricultural users within the City of Madera. The City will engage directly with those users. Outside the City limits, the City will work collaboratively with other GSAs within the basin, including those that provide direct service to agricultural users, to consider the interests of agricultural users within the sub-basin.

2. Domestic Well owners

There are a limited number of private domestic well owners within the City limits. The City will coordinate with the County Environmental Health Department and use public outreach tools to identify such owners and their interests such that they may be considered. Outside the City limits, the City will work collaboratively with other GSAs within the sub-basin, including those that allow the development of domestic wells, to identify and consider their interests.

3. Municipal well operators

The City is the owner and operator of municipal wells within the City of Madera GSA boundaries. There are no other known municipal water well operators within the sub-basin.

4. Public Water Systems

Outside the City limits, the City will work collaboratively with the County of Madera GSA, which operates public water systems within the Madera sub-basin, to consider their interests.

5. Local land use planning agencies

The City of Madera is the local land use and planning agency within the City of Madera GSA boundary. Outside the City limits, the City will work collaboratively with the County of Madera GSA, which functions as a local land use planning agency for the unincorporated area within the Madera Sub-basin.

6. Environmental users of groundwater

There are no known environmental users of groundwater within the Madera Sub-basin. The City of Madera GSA will seek to identify such users through the public outreach process to be conducted as part of the preparation of the groundwater sustainability plan.

7. Surface water users

There are a limited number of users of surface water within the City of Madera GSA boundary. Such users are served by the Madera Irrigation District. The City of Madera will coordinate with the Madera Irrigation District GSA to consider the interests of surface water users within the Madera Sub-basin, both within and outside the City GSA boundaries.

8. The federal government, including, but not limited to, the military and managers of federal lands.

There are lands owned by the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) for the Madera Irrigation District distribution system located within and outside the City of Madera GSA Boundaries. The City of Madera GSA will collaborate with Madera Irrigation District, which is the operator of those facilities and coordinates with the USBR on a regular basis.

9. California Native American Tribes

There are no known California Native American tribes maintaining a presence within the boundaries of the City of Madera GSA. The United States Bureau of Indian Affairs owns land on behalf of the North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California outside the City GSA Boundaries, but within the boundaries of the Madera Sub-basin. The City will engage the North Fork Rancheria directly, and through the Madera Irrigation District GSA, which previously executed an MOU addressing the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

10. Disadvantaged Communities

The City of Madera is considered a disadvantaged community as is Madera County. There are also more narrowly defined DACs within the sub-basin. The City will engage disadvantaged populations within and outside the City GSA boundaries through public outreach tools and through the points of contact that have been identified through prior planning efforts.

11. Entities listed in Section 10927 that are monitoring

The City of Madera is a member of the Madera Sub-basin GSA Formation Committee and the Madera Groundwater Authority. The City GSA will collaborate with these agencies and their members relative to groundwater monitoring.