Action Item

Agenda Item No. 12

City Manager's Approval

Report to the Auburn City Council

To:	Mayor and City Council Members
From:	Kevin Hanley, Council Member
Prepared by:	Amy M. Lind, Deputy/Assistant City Clerk
Date:	November 14, 2011
Subject:	Protecting Placer's Future Interests in a Delta Solution

The Issue

Should the City Council pass a resolution that supports working with a regional water coalition to ensure that in any Delta solution crafted by the California Legislature, Delta Stewardship Council, Department of Water Resources and other state governmental agencies that the water supply interests of Placer residents are acknowledged and protected?

Conclusions and Recommendation

Pass a resolution that supports working with a regional water coalition to ensure that in any Delta solution crafted by the California Legislature, Delta Stewardship Council, Department of Water Resources and other state governmental agencies that the water supply interests of Placer residents are acknowledged and protected.

Background

In November 2009, SBx 7 1 was signed into law to create the Delta Stewardship Council (DSC). The DSC is charged with drafting a Delta Plan by January 1, 2012 that will ensure a more reliable statewide water supply and restore the Delta's ecosystem. But in reviewing the five drafts of the Delta Plan many local water agencies have expressed significant concerns that state agencies charged with implementing the plan will erode the long-standing area-of-origin water rights of Placer County, set arbitrary water flow rates through the American River and into the Delta and impose a new Public Goods Charge on residents who live in areas that supply water to the Delta. These changes could impact the ability of local water agencies to support local agricultural and businesses with sufficient water in the future. These changes could impact the ability of our hydroelectric facilities to produce power. The residents in the City of Auburn, Placer County, the six-county Sacramento region and northern California have a big stake in how the Delta is managed and how any changes are paid for.

The resolution before the Auburn City Council has been passed by the Placer County Water Agency (PCWA), Placer County Board of Supervisors, Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, El Dorado County Board of Supervisors and other local governments. The Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) has joined the regional water coalition. The resolution sets out principles for guiding the regional water coalition in helping to craft a common sense Delta solution that protects our future water supplies.

Einar Maisch from PCWA will provide a presentation and address any questions from council members.

If the resolution is passed by the council, I recommend that it be sent to John Woodling of the Regional Water Authority, John Kingsbury of the Mountain Counties Water Resources Association, PCWA, and our state legislative representatives.

Alternative Available/Implications of Alternatives
Do not adopt the proposed resolution and instead rely on other Placer county agencies to address the Delta problem and solution.

Fiscal Impact
None.

RESOLUTION NO. 11-

RESOLUTION IN FAVOR OF SUPPORTING A REGIONAL COALITION TO PROTECT PLACER'S INTEREST IN A DELTA WATER SOLUTION

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUBURN DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

WHEREAS, the six-county Sacramento Region and adjacent areas of northern California can benefit from regional coordination and collaboration in developing common sense solutions to future water resources challenges and opportunities;

WHEREAS, proposed solutions for the Delta could pose serious risks to the water supplies, economy, environment, and quality of life of the Sacramento region, Placer county and northern California;

WHEREAS, in order to protect these interests the City of Auburn seeks to promote regional cooperation on water issues, and to be part of a collaborative and comprehensive solution to issues facing the Delta;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Auburn City Council of Auburn California, assembled in a general meeting, that the city supports a regional coalition of public entities to participate in efforts to develop a solution to the problems facing the Delta based on the following principles:

1. Water rights priorities and area-of-origin assurances must be recognized and protected to ensure reliable supplies for all water uses and environmental needs in our region.
2. Stakeholders in the Sacramento region, Placer County and northern California must be given the opportunity to be fully included in and consulted on all aspects of development of a Delta solution and other state and federal water policies that affect the region.

3. A Delta solution and other state and federal action must honor and not reduce or preempt the authority and responsibilities of cities, counties, and other local agencies.
4. The Sacramento region, entities within Placer County and northern California will continue to invest in and implement water supply, water efficiency, recycling and re-use, storage, and other water management projects and programs that are cost-effective and improve our regional self-sufficiency.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Auburn supports a Delta solution that:

1. Is based on sound science to ensure it is effective and implemented in an equitable manner.
2. Requires the beneficiaries of any action associated with a Delta solution to fully fund the costs of such actions.
3. Does not shift negative economic, environmental, or societal impacts to areas in our region.

DATED: November 14, 2011

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William W. Kirby, M.D, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Joseph G. R. Labrie, City Clerk

I, Joseph G. R. Labrie, City Clerk of the City of Auburn, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly passed at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Auburn held on the 14th day of November 2011 by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:
Noes:
Absent:

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Joseph G. R. Labrie, City Clerk