

RESOLUTION NO: 19-023

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MORGAN HILL OPPOSING A REDUCTION IN THE OPEN SPACE CREDIT AGRICULTURAL WATER RATE SUBSIDY

WHEREAS, the City of Morgan Hill, is a municipal corporation and general law city duly organized and existing under and pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of California; and

WHEREAS, Valley Water has historically subsidized water rates for agricultural users using the "Open Space Credit" to backfill lost revenues; and

WHEREAS, funding sources for the Open Space Credit may not be adequate to permanently fund the Open Space Credit in the future; and

WHEREAS, Valley Water is considering a reduction in the Open Space Credit subsidy for agricultural rates; and

WHEREAS, the City values its agricultural neighbors and the vital role they play in contributing to the South County economy, in providing lands for water to infiltrate into the groundwater, and in preserving an open semirural atmosphere; and

WHEREAS, the cost of water is a major economic factor for agricultural operations and increases in the cost of water could threaten the economic viability of some farms; and

WHEREAS, the City Council determines that adoption of this Resolution is in the public interest.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MORGAN HILL DOES HEREBY FIND, DETERMINE, RESOLVE AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The City Council does hereby find, determine and resolve that all of the foregoing recitals are true and correct.

Section 2. Approval and Authorization. The City Council does further resolve, order and or direct as follows:

- a. The City of Morgan Hill supports delaying any reductions in the Open Space Credit for the next two years; and
- b. The City of Morgan Hill encourages Valley Water to seek out additional permanent funding sources for the Open Space Credit during the two-year period; and

- c. The City of Morgan Hill encourages Valley Water to establish a voluntary land fallowing program in which agricultural operations would receive compensation for significantly reducing their use of water during droughts and other water shortage events.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of Morgan Hill at a Regular Meeting held on the 1st day of May 2019 by the following vote.

AYES:	COUNCIL MEMBERS:	Larry Carr, Yvonne Martinez Beltran, Rene Spring, John McKay, Rich Constantine
NOES:	COUNCIL MEMBERS:	None
ABSTAIN:	COUNCIL MEMBERS:	None
ABSENT:	COUNCIL MEMBERS:	None

APPROVED:

ATTEST:



RICHARD CONSTANTINE, MAYOR

IRMA TORREZ, City Clerk

∞ CERTIFICATION ∞

I, **IRMA TORREZ, CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF MORGAN HILL, CALIFORNIA**, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 19-023 adopted by the City Council at the Regular Meeting on May 1, 2019.

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF MORGAN HILL.

DATE: _____

IRMA TORREZ, City Clerk