

March 6, 2024

Colonel Andrew Baker
Commander, Los Angeles District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
915 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Subject: Letter of Intent for Transmittal of the 595 Program Funding Awarded 2022 for the City of Maricopa Aquifer Recharge Facility, located in Maricopa, Arizona

Dear Col. Baker:

On behalf of the City of Maricopa, I am writing this letter to request the reallocation of the \$3.5 million in funding from the currently awarded West Maricopa Transmission Waterline Project. Given its possession of the Certificate of Convenience and Necessity for the service area contemplated to be served by this transmission line, Global Water-Santa Cruz Water Company, Inc. will separately finance, construct and own this water line. The requested reallocation will address the critical needs of our community's water supply, augmenting the budget for the currently awarded Aquifer Recharge Facility project. As the second fastest growing city in Arizona, we need a sustainable, long-term solution to safeguard our precious water resources and support future expansion. The Maricopa Aquifer Recharge Facility Project will replenish the City's source of groundwater by injecting excess class A+ recycled water into the Maricopa Stanfield Sub-basin aquifer, increasing the resiliency of the existing water supply in the face of drought, and supporting continued expansion.

The residents of our fast-growing community rely solely on groundwater from the Maricopa Stanfield Sub-basin aquifer that is treated, operated, and maintained by the Global Water-Santa Cruz Water Company. Farmers in and around the City of Maricopa have historically received water for their agricultural needs from the Colorado River. However, due to shortage conditions and the loss of this water supply, they have resorted to increased groundwater pumping from the same aquifer that is shared with Maricopa. This, in turn, will ultimately reduce our water supply and threaten long-term sustainability.

The reallocation of the currently awarded funding from the West Maricopa Transmission Waterline Project for \$3.5 million is crucial for several reasons:

1. The Aquifer Recharge Facility has a real need with larger costs now than previously estimated. Currently awarded for \$3 million, the reallocation would result in an augmented total contribution of \$6.5 million by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, with a total estimated budget of \$8.667 million including the City's contribution.
2. Global Water-Santa Cruz Water Company, Inc. will separately finance, construct and own the West Maricopa Transmission Waterline. There are no provisions in state statute or other restrictions that would prevent the City of Maricopa from owning the Aquifer Recharge Facility, which will be designed, built, operated, and maintained by the Global Water-Santa Cruz Water Company, in an agreement between them and the City of Maricopa.

Again, as the second fastest growing city in the state of Arizona, Maricopa is in dire need of a sustainable solution that will bolster the resiliency of our community's water supply. Our city is committed to establishing a long-lasting partnership with the US Army Corps of Engineers to ensure the successful completion of this essential project. We understand the numerous complexities and challenges that are involved in bringing this project to fruition and are prepared to cooperate with your team by providing all necessary assistance and matching funds to facilitate the process.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. We look forward to your response and to continuing our partnership with the United States Army Corps of Engineers to bring lasting benefits to our community.

Sincerely,

Nancy Smith, Mayor
City of Maricopa