



AGENDA ITEM NO.
C-2

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: June 27, 2017

Date: June 20, 2017

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Supervisor Ryan Sundberg

Subject: Letter of Support for the Willow Creek Community Service District, Downtown Wastewater Project (C-06-5957-210)

RECOMMENDATION(S): That the Board of Supervisors authorize the Chair to sign the Letter of Support.

SOURCE OF FUNDING: N/A

DISCUSSION: The Willow Creek Community Service District has applied for a Clean Water Grant. This funding would allow for a community wastewater collection and treatment system that would serve the downtown area along Highway 299, Highway 96, residents of Willow Creek, as well as outlying areas of Humboldt and Trinity Counties and the Hoopa Valley Reservation. A community wastewater collection and treatment system is urgently needed as a long-term measure to protect public health and the environment, and to allow economic growth and development in the community it would serve. Although these grants are allocated to projects based on the number of households served, the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors would like to show their support for a project that may serve a limited number of residents on paper, but a community that needs this facility to sustain and increase their economic and residential growth.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: N/A

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: State Water Resource Control Board

Prepared by Tracy Damico

Signature Ryan Sundberg

REVIEW:	Auditor _____	County Counsel _____	Personnel _____	Risk Manager _____	Other _____
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TYPE OF ITEM:

Consent

Departmental

Public Hearing

Other _____

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

Upon motion of Supervisor Sundberg Seconded by Supervisor Fennell

Ayes Sundberg, Fennell, Bass, Bohn

Nays _____

Abstain _____

Absent Wilson

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No. _____

Meeting of: _____

and carried by those members present, the Board hereby approves the recommended action contained in this Board report.

Dated: June 27, 2017

By: Kathy Hayes

Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Board discretion.

ATTACHMENTS: Letter of Support.



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

825 5TH STREET, ROOM 111

EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 95501 PHONE: (707) 445-7266

June 20, 2017

Board Chair Felicia Marcus,
State Water Resources Control Board
1616 Capital Ave.
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Willow Creek Community Service District, Downtown Wastewater Project (C-06-5957-210)

Dear Ms. Marcus and State Water Resources Control Board Members

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors would like to voice our support for the Willow Creek Community Services District Wastewater Project (project number C-06-5957-210).

We understand the Intended Use Plan for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund has a limitation on the amount of funds allocated to a project based on the number of households served. Although this project does not directly serve a large number of existing households in Willow Creek, it will serve those in close proximity to downtown as well as the downtown business area. This downtown business area is very important to all households in Willow Creek.

The downtown area along Highway 299 and 96 provides for the community of Willow Creek as well as for individuals in the outlying areas of Humboldt and Trinity Counties and the Hoopa Valley Reservation. Critical services provided in this area, including the Community Clinic, Library, Post Office, Grocery stores, Restaurants, Gas stations, Banking, Auto Repair, and other critical services, are not readily available for miles in any other direction. Unfortunately, many of the existing septic systems for these properties and business in this area are failing and are becoming a public health and environmental concern for the area. A community wastewater collection and treatment system is urgently needed as a long-term measure to protect public health and the environment, and to allow economic growth and development in the community of Willow Creek.

The County of Humboldt is currently going through a general plan update. As part of this update, the land use designation in downtown Willow Creek is proposed to be changed from Commercial to Mix Used. This land use change and a community wastewater system will facilitate the creation of affordable housing in Willow Creek by allowing development to increase in density. The vision of the Willow Creek CSD is to encourage development with commercial units on the ground floor and household units on the upper floors.

We would like to second the opinion of the Willow Creek Community Services District that although this project does not directly connect a large number of existing households, there are many more households that will nevertheless benefit from this project. We feel that this project would benefit not only the Willow Creek community but the entire Humboldt County area. For these reasons, we strongly urge the State Water Resources Control Board to look favourably upon the Willow Creek CSD's Clean Water Grant Application.

Sincerely,

Virginia Bass, Chair

Humboldt County Board of Supervisors