

Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission

STAFF REPORT

DATE: April 1, 2021

TO: Chairman and Members, Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (“NNWPC”)

FROM: Jim Smitherman, NNWPC Water Resources Program Manager

SUBJECT: Report, discussion and action on comments received on the Regional Water Planning Policies and Criteria chapter for the 2021-2040 Regional Water Management Plan (“RWMP”) update; discussion and possible direction to staff

SUMMARY

Staff has conducted a preliminary review of the Regional Water Planning Policies and Criteria Chapter and identified various elements within the chapter in need of updating. Following review, staff requested updates from the Truckee Meadows Water Authority, and the Truckee River Flood Management Authority to request updated information. Staff recommendations for revisions, based on comments received to date, are shown in redline-strikeout format on the attached document. A brief summary follows.

Goal 1: Plan for the development of sustainable water supplies Recommended revisions include:

- *Policy 1.1a Geographic Use of Truckee River Water* - minor changes;
- *Policy 1.1b Water Conservation* - section titled *Reduction in the Use of Truckee River Water Resulting from DMPs* deleted by TMWA to be consistent with the 2040 Water Resource Plan (“WRP”);
- *Policy 1.1c Evaluation of the Unexercised Portion of Committed Water Supplies* – TMWA updated discussion section.
- *Policy 1.2 Conjunctive Management of Surface Water and Groundwater Supplies to Withstand an 8-year Drought Cycle* – updated discussion to be consistent with TMWA’s WRP;
- *Policy 1.2e New Water Resources/Importation* – comments regarding Category A+ water and discussion of impacts from water importation into closed basins.
- *Policy 1.3.b Integrated Source Water and Wellhead Protection* – updated title and included discussion of Integrated Source Water Protection Planning.

Goal 2: Plan for Regional Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Requirements

Minimal comments have been received on policies under this goal. Staff concludes that the existing wording is adequate for the 2021 RWMP update.

Goal 3: Plan for the Protection of Human Health, Property, Water Quality and the Environment through Regional Flood Plain and Storm Water Management

- *Policy 3.1.g Management Strategies for Slopes Greater than 15 Percent* – staff is recommending deletion of this section as policies are enforced and are the prerogative of regional land planning and local community development entities.

Goal 4: Support the Implementation of the Truckee Meadows Regional Plan

- *Policy 4.1 Facility Plans – Conformance with Regional Water Plan* – updated to reflect proposed updated WRWC 2021 Conformance Resolution.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the NNWPC accept the report on review comments and proposed revisions to the “Planning Policies and Criteria” chapter for the 2021 RWMP update, and provide direction to staff as appropriate concerning future reviews of this and other RWMP chapters as part of the development of the 2021 RWMP.

CW:jd

Attachment: Chapter 1 showing comments using “track changes” function