

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020 - 75**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING ITS CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR A COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF WATER IMPORT ALTERNATIVES AS PART OF THE LONG-TERM SOLUTION FOR THE SALTON SEA.**

**WHEREAS**, the Salton Sea Restoration Act (known as the California Fish and Game Code 2931) in part provides that:

1. The State of California undertake the restoration of the Salton Sea ecosystem and the permanent protection of the wide variety of flora and fauna dependent upon the ecosystem.
2. Restoration shall be based upon an approved preferred alternative utilizing the Salton Sea Restoration Fund and other funds made available by the California Legislature and the federal government.
3. Air quality impacts to the surrounding region, both existing and foreseeable, shall be mitigated.
4. Complete engineering studies regarding water replenishment alternatives shall be incorporated into the restoration plan of the Salton Sea.
5. Cooperation with local governments, nonprofit organizations, private businesses and the public shall be included as a basis for moving forward.

**WHEREAS**, the State of California has developed the Salton Sea Management Program through departments within the California Natural Resources Agency and Environmental Protection Agency, and is obligated to pay for certain costs related to habitat, air and water quality issues at the Salton Sea; and

**WHEREAS**, the California State Water Resources Control Board has an oversight role in monitoring and ensuring progress towards the goals of the Salton Sea Management Program, and has set a deadline of December 31, 2022, for the completion of a long-term plan regarding the Salton Sea; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 14, 2019, the City of Palm Desert adopted Resolution 2019-06 in support of the memorandum of understanding between the County of Imperial and the County of Riverside concerning unified support for the Salton Sea; and

**WHEREAS**, Resolution 2019-06 stated, "Parties are supportive of comprehensive analysis of ocean water importation as a long-term solution for the restoration of the Salton Sea. Parties respectfully request analysis be conducted of ocean water importation and incorporated into the Salton Sea Management Plan," and

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**WHEREAS**, the Salton Sea Management Program has sufficient funding available to conduct a comprehensive analysis of water import alternatives as part of the long-term solution for the Salton Sea.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the City of Palm Desert requests the Salton Sea Management Program to allocate sufficient funds for an immediate comparative engineering review of the water import proposals accepted by the State of California in 2018.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** this 15<sup>th</sup> day of October 2020, by the City Council of the City of Palm Desert, California by the following vote, to wit:

**AYES:**

**NOES:**

**ABSTAIN:**

**ABSENT:**

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GINA NESTANDE, MAYOR  
CITY OF PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA

**ATTEST:**

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GRACE L. ROCHA, ACTING CITY CLERK  
CITY OF PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA