



## Water Committee Report

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**File ID:** 2019-00904

June 25, 2019

**Discussion Item 01**

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**Title:** Sacramento Regional Groundwater Bank [Oral Report]

**Location:** Citywide

**Recommendation:** Receive and file a presentation on the Sacramento Regional Groundwater Bank.

**Contact:** Jim Peifer, Principal Engineer, (916) 808-1416; Bill Busath, Director, (916) 808-1434, Department of Utilities

**Presenter:** Robert Swartz, Interim Executive Director, Regional Water Authority, (916) 967-7692

**Attachments:**

1-Description/Analysis

## Description/Analysis

**Issue Detail:** The City of Sacramento is participating in the development of the Sacramento Regional Water Bank (Water Bank). The Water Bank is an innovative groundwater storage program that will improve regional water supply reliability in the near-term and into the future. The Water Bank will increase the Sacramento region's resiliency to climate change and benefit our local water supply reliability, economy, and environment.

The Water Bank will allow the region to sustainably increase use of groundwater as a local water source during dry periods, allowing reduced surface water diversions to help meet local environmental needs. In addition, the region's location north of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta provides potential opportunities to collaborate and develop solutions to benefit the environment and communities downstream after local needs are met.

The Water Bank could be operational with existing facilities as early as 2022. However, additional planning, technical analyses, environmental review, and broad stakeholder engagement are needed to make it a reality.

**Policy Considerations:** This item is relevant to General Plan policy U 2.1.2, titled "Increase water supply sustainability," which states that "The City shall maintain a surface water/groundwater conjunctive use program, which uses more surface water when it is available and more groundwater when surface water is limited."

**Economic Impacts:** Not applicable.

**Environmental Considerations:** Not Applicable.

**Sustainability:** Not Applicable.