





August 20, 2025

Board of Directors Zone 7 Water Agency 100 North Canyons Parkway Livermore, CA 94551

Subject: Support for Proposed Changes to Zone 7 Water Agency (Zone 7) Landscape Rebates - Board Item #9

Dear President Narum and Members of the Board,

Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD), the City of Livermore, and the City of Pleasanton support Zone 7's proposal to increase reimbursement maximums for its Lawn Conversion and Residential Smart Irrigation Controller Rebate programs to advance water conservation efforts in the Tri-Valley.

Since 2013, the Tri-Valley has seen a decrease in per capita water consumption, and our agencies have been able to achieve the current year's Urban Water Use Objectives (UWUO). This illustrates the historical effectiveness of Zone 7's water conservation program. Furthermore, droughts have become more frequent and severe, necessitating water conservation to become "a California Way of Life".

The standards for the UWUO will become stricter in the coming years, which will make it more difficult for our agencies to meet the objectives. Additionally, the compliance deadline for Assembly Bill (AB) 1572: Potable Water: Non-Functional Turf is approaching, which mandates that non-residential (commercial, industrial, and institutional) properties with non-functional turf replace their grass with water-efficient landscaping. Increasing the maximum reimbursement amount for these landscape rebate programs will create renewed interest in water conservation within the communities that we serve and reduce the financial burden non-residential property owners will face to comply with AB 1572. Additionally, these increases will bring Zone 7's rebates in alignment with similar programs offered by our neighboring Bay Area water agencies.

We appreciate Zone 7's role in undertaking and supporting water conservation programs for our agencies. This streamlined approach to administering conservation programs provides a more efficient service for our communities. We encourage Zone 7 to continue providing the resources needed to conduct public outreach and administer programs needed to comply with long-term conservation regulations.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. We look forward to continued collaboration with Zone 7 to ensure reliable water supplies for our customers.

Sincerely,

Jan Lee

General Manager

DSRSD

Anthony Smith

Water Resources Manager

City of Livermore

Gerry Beaudin

City Manager

City of Pleasanton

cc: Valerie Pryor, Zone 7 Water Agency