

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

August 22, 2023

2:00PM

2222 M Street, Merced, CA

Merced Conference Room (Basement)

AGENDA

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: In addition to attending the physical location in person, the public may observe or provide comment through the virtual option below.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83968535893?pwd=SXhvZTZjK2NpdE40TU8xVk9CWkg4dz09>

Meeting ID: 839 6853 5893

Dial in: +1 669 900 6833

Passcode: 477722

1. INTRODUCTIONS

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Public opportunity to speak on any matter of public interest within the Agency's jurisdiction including items on the Agency's agenda. Testimony limited to three minutes per person.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 23, 2023

4. SUSTAINABILITY ZONE REVISIONS

Discussion and possible recommendations for revisions to the Sustainability Zones for application in the Allocation Policy.

5. ALLOCATION PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Discussion and possible recommendations of the allocation program schedule.

6. NEXT MEETING

September 26, 2023

7. ADJOURNMENT

Alternate formats of this agenda will be made available upon request by qualified individuals with disabilities. Appropriate interpretive services for this meeting will be provided if feasible upon advance request by qualified individuals with disabilities. Please contact the Secretary at (209) 385-7654 for assistance and allow sufficient time to process and respond to your request. Copies of agendas and minutes will be available at the Merced County Community and Economic Development Department and at www.MercedSubbasinGSA.org.

**THE MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES FOR MAY 23, 2023 SPECIAL MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee for the Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) was called to order at 2:00 p.m., on May 23, 2023 in the Livingston room.

I. INTRODUCTIONS

All attendees did roundtable introductions.

Committee members present in person:

Blake Nervino
Brad Samuelson
Michael Brazil
George Park

Public present:

Larkin Harman
Peggy Bray
Chris Heppner, EKI
Jeanne Zolezzi, Legal Counsel

Staff present:

Lacey McBride, Water Resources Manager
Danielle Bettencourt, Recording Secretary

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Committee member Blake Nervino asked questions regarding eligibility of LRP applications from the Stevinson area.

Ms. Lacey McBride confirmed that applications from Stevinson were eligible to apply for the LRP program.

Committee member Nervino provided public comment about access to flood water.

Committee member Brad Samuelson responded to comments about access to flood water.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes for March 28, 2023 meeting were presented to the committee and no edits were suggested.

No suggested edits were suggested. Lack of quorum, no action.

IV. 2023 LAND REPURPOSING PROGRAM

Mr. Chris Heppner with EKI provided an overview of the changes made to the Water Year 2024 Land Repurposing Program (LRP) in regards to the process, agreement, application scoring, and the FAQ document. Input was solicited regarding the interaction between the LRP and a future allocation program.

Time was available for the TAC members to discuss and provide feedback on the presented changes and recommendations for how the LRP will interact with the future allocation program. TAC had consensus that the LRP should continue with no change for participants, they would not receive an allocation until after the LRP agreement ended. Then they would receive their allocation. Language should also be added to the allocation policy mentioning the LRP program and how the programs coordinate.

Ms. Lacey McBride updated the TAC on the Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program Grant application.

Discussion item only.

V. NEXT MEETING

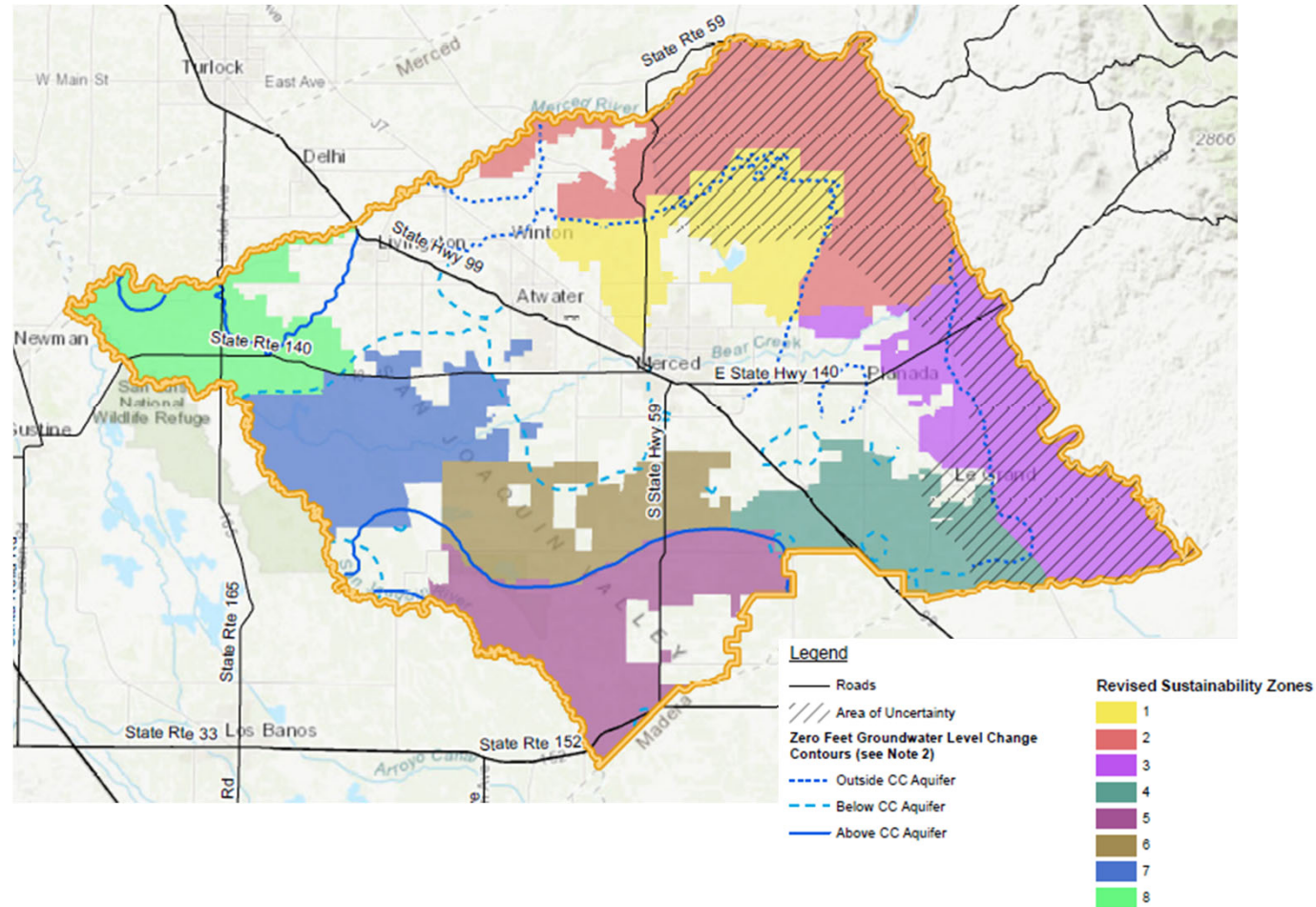
Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 25, 2023.

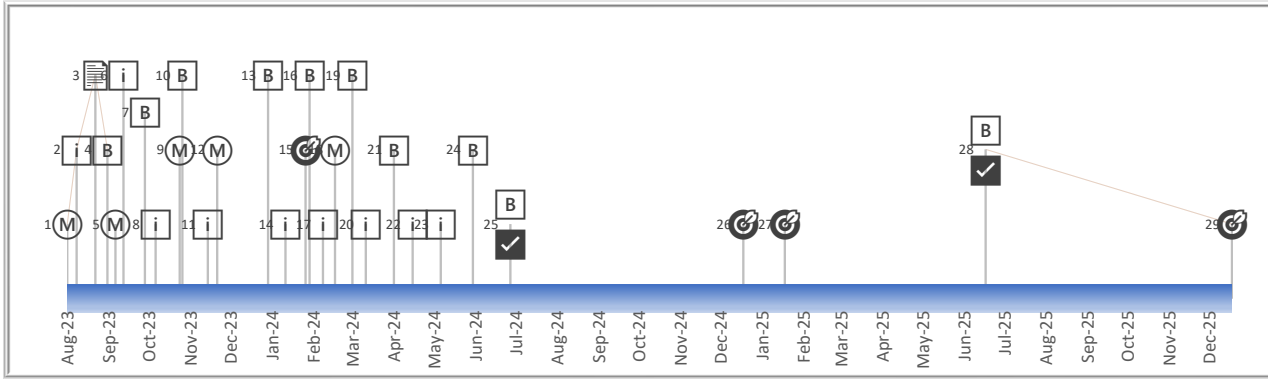
VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 3:43 p.m.

DRAFT REVISED SUSTAINABILITY ZONES

- Defined 8 zones based on:
 - GW level change contours
 - Parcel/field boundaries
 - Subsidence extent
 - Also checked against domestic well density





B	Board Meeting	i	Public Outreach		Report
M	Ad Hoc Cmt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Vote		Milestone

Item	Date	Action	Description
1	Aug	(M)	Strategic Planning Ad-hoc Cmt: Discuss Board direction, TAC input, Sustainability Zones; at least 2 meetings
2	8/22/2023	(i)	Technical Advisory Committee: Discuss allocation approach timeline and Sustainability Zones
3	Sep		Staff: Finalize Sustainability Zone maps
4	9/14/2023	(B)	MSGSA Board Meeting: (1) report from ad-hoc and TAC; (2) approve Sustainability Zones
5	Sep/Oct	(M)	Strategic Planning Ad-hoc Cmt: Continue work on allocation policy; at least 2 meetings
6	9/22/2023	(i)	Technical Advisory Committee: Discuss allocation framework as defined at this time
7	10/12/2023	(B)	MSGSA Board Meeting: (1) report from ad-hoc; (2) feedback from TAC; (3) direct mailer and op-ed
8	Oct/Nov	(i)	Public Workshops: Discuss allocation framework recommendations and Sustainability Zones; Repeat the workshop at three locations
9	Nov	(M)	Strategic Planning Ad-hoc Cmt: Discuss workshop feedback and continue work on policy; at least 2 meetings
10	11/9/2023	(B)	MSGSA Board Meeting: (1) report from ad-hoc; (2) feedback from workshops
11	11/28/2023	(i)	Technical Advisory Committee: Discuss allocation framework as defined at this time
12	Dec	(M)	Strategic Planning Ad-hoc Cmt: Discuss TAC feedback and continue work on policy; discuss allocation values
13	Jan '24	(B)	MSGSA Board Meeting: (1) report from ad-hoc; (2) feedback from TAC
14	Jan '24	(i)	Technical Advisory Committee: Discuss draft allocation approach as defined at this time
15	early 2024		Staff: Make Water Accounting Platform available for "Parcel Based Water Budgets" (note: timing dependent on platform developer)
16	Feb '24	(B)	MSGSA Board Meeting: (1) feedback from TAC; (2) discuss initial allocation values; (3) direct mailer and op-ed
17	Feb '24	(i)	Public Workshops: Discuss draft allocation policy elements; Repeat the workshop at three locations
18	early Mar '24	(M)	Strategic Planning Ad-hoc Cmt: Discuss workshop feedback and continue work on policy and allocation values
19	Mar '24	(B)	MSGSA Board Meeting: (1) feedback from ad-hoc and workshop; (2) discuss groundwater allocation values
20	Mar '24	(i)	Technical Advisory Committee: Discuss allocation policy and allocation values as defined at this time
21	Apr '24	(B)	MSGSA Board Meeting: (1) feedback from workshops and TAC; (2) recommend groundwater allocation policy and values
22	Apr/May '24	(i)	Public Workshops: Discuss final draft allocation policy elements and initial allocation values
23	May '24	(i)	Technical Advisory Committee: Discuss allocation policy and allocation values as defined at this time
24	Jun '24	(B)	MSGSA Board Meeting: (1) feedback from workshops and TAC; (2) finalize groundwater allocation policy and allocation values
25	Jul '24	(B) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MSGSA Board Meeting: adopt Groundwater Allocation Policy
26	2025		Staff: Testing allocation policies and Water Accounting Platform (dry run)
27	2025		Staff: Develop Fee and Penalty structure and prepare for Prop 218 vote for Phase 2 funding mechanism
28	Mid-2025	(B) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MSGSA Board Meeting: adopt (1) Penalty structure, and (2) Phase 2 funding mechanism
29	2026		Staff: Implement Allocation Policy and accompanying Fee and Penalty rules