

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-XX

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRENTWOOD APPROVING THE CONVERT FOR CASH CONSERVATION REBATE PROGRAM AND GUIDELINES, WHICH PROVIDE REBATES FOR CONVERSION OF LANDSCAPE TO WATER EFFICIENT PLANTS AND DRIP IRRIGATION, AS WELL AS REPLACEMENT OF APPLIANCES WITH WATER EFFICIENT MODELS, IN ORDER TO SUPPORT CONTINUED EFFORTS TO USE WATER MORE EFFICIENTLY.

WHEREAS, on May 26, 2015, City Council adopted Resolution No. 2015-80, declaring a water shortage; and adopted Urgency Ordinance Nos. 950 and 951 that required mandatory water usage reductions, prohibited certain water use activities, implemented administrative penalties for violations of water use regulations, and authorized a water conservation rebate program; and

WHEREAS, on September 8, 2015, by Ordinance 957, City Council took several actions related to the drought, including revising authorized water conservation incentives and a rebate program; and repealing Ordinance Nos. 950 and 951 if certain conditions were met; and

WHEREAS, regarding the 2015 incentive and rebate efforts, the City implemented a Convert for Cash Water Conservation Rebate Program, which proved successful with 594 conversion rebates paid, totaling approximately \$222,900, from June 2015 to June 2016, and an approximately \$300,000 in rebates paid through FY 16/17; and

WHEREAS, on January 4, 2022, the State Water Resource Control Board adopted Emergency Regulations prohibiting wasteful water use; and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2023, the California Governor issued Executive Order N-5-23 eliminating the need for certain provisions in the State Emergency Proclamations that directed action by state agencies, departments, and boards to mitigate the effects of the extreme drought conditions. Improved conditions helped rehabilitate surface water supplies but have not abated the severe drought conditions that remain in some parts of the State; and

WHEREAS, on June 23, 2023, by Resolution No. 2023-89, City Council adopted the amended 2022/23 – 2023/24 Operating Budget which includes \$165,000 in the Water Enterprise Operating Budget for drought outreach materials and incentives; and

WHEREAS, on July 25, 2023, City Council authorized staff to spend time and

resources to research a funding source and budget implications for a new discount program for residential utility customers or to bring back the previous discount program for residential utility customers; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department will be implementing and utilizing an equivalent of the previous program, also called the Convert for Cash Water Conservation Rebate Program (Program) in which eligible customers can receive rebates for certain appliance or equipment replacements with water efficient models and for lawn and drip irrigation conversions to sustainable landscapes; and

WHEREAS, these rebates will be available to residential, commercial, and multi-family customers who receive potable water for their landscape through a metered service in the City; and

WHEREAS, rebates \$25 or less will be credited on the customer's City utility account and rebates more than \$25 will be issued by check, with confirmation that the customer's City utility account is in "good standing"; and

WHEREAS, staff anticipates to implement the Program in September 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Brentwood does hereby approve the Convert for Cash Water Conservation Program and Guidelines, a copy of the latter of which is attached as Exhibit "A".

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Brentwood at a regular meeting held on the 22th day of August 2023 by the following vote: