



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

February 1, 2022

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DIRECTOR

Honorable Board of Supervisors  
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**SUBJECT:** Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between the Marin Municipal Water District and Local Land Use, Development, Planning and Permitting Jurisdictions Regarding Collaboration and Enforcement of Regional Conservation Programs

Building and Safety  
Environmental Health Services  
Planning  
Environmental Review  
Housing  
Sustainability  
Code Enforcement  
GIS  
Federal Grants

Dear Supervisors:

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the Marin Municipal Water District to improve water conservation efforts.

**SUMMARY:** The proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Marin, Marin Water Municipal District, and other local jurisdictions would provide coordinated regional water conservation efforts and compliance with state and local water conservation requirements.

[www.marincounty.org/cda](http://www.marincounty.org/cda)

**DISCUSSION:** The Community Development Agency (“CDA”), on behalf of the County of Marin, has been participating in negotiations for a Memorandum of Understanding between local Marin land use planning and permitting jurisdictions and the Marin Municipal Water District (“MMWD”) to collaboratively address regional water conservation. The State of California continues to issue water conservation requirements such as water efficiency standards for new development and retrofitted landscapes governed by the Model Efficient Landscape Ordinance (“MWELo”).

Local land use permitting jurisdictions, such as the County of Marin, receive and process development applications, including Planning and Building permits, that may be subject to the requirements of the MWELo. Further, local jurisdictions are required by the State to adopt, implement, and enforce the MWELo or a more stringent ordinance, which the County has done.

The County of Marin’s jurisdiction for Planning and Building permits includes unincorporated areas that are located within the service area of the MMWD. As the MMWD has codes, ordinances, and expertise relating to water conservation and regulatory compliance, including inspections to ensure the implementation of MWELo, the CDA recognizes that collaboration with the MMWD will be mutually beneficial in demonstrating compliance with State water conservation requirements.

The MOU defines the roles and responsibilities of the District and the County of Marin. The MMWD would conduct Backflow Protection, Graywater Compliance and Landscape Review of development applications. In summary, the MOU provides that the County will: (1) inform development applicants of the District's requirements at project initiation; (2) incorporate district requirements into the Building Permit application checklist; (3) maintain compliance with all applicable MWELo requirements; and (4) require that the applicant, prior to final Building Permit inspection of a project, has received approval from the District (or is exempt from review) for Landscape Plan Review, Backflow Protection and Graywater Compliance. The MMWD would report the County's compliance with State water conservation requirements (MWELo) to the State Water Board, based on the information they collect from their customers.

Every other jurisdiction within the Marin Water's jurisdiction has already entered into the MOU with the district.

**EQUITY IMPACT:** The proposed Memorandum of Understanding would provide coordinated collaboration of development application for the purpose of implementing water conservation measures across local Marin jurisdictions and the service areas of the MMWD. Water conservation is an important regional initiative to ensure adequate water supply for current and future generations in Marin County.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Each party to the MOU is solely responsible for the costs to complete its share of the work described in the MOU. Implementing the terms of the MOU are not anticipated to result in additional costs for Building Permit reviews. The costs of Building Permit review are fully covered by Building Permit fees.

<b>REVIEWED BY:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Administrator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
	<input type="checkbox"/> Department of Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Counsel	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
	<input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A

**SIGNATURE:**



Sabrina Cardoza  
Senior Planner

**Attachments:**

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