ATTACHMENT 11
PROGRAM PREFERENCES

The proposed Fancher Creek Flood Control Improvement Project will meet a number of PRC §75026 and CWC §10544 objectives. As detailed in Attachment 3, Work Plan, the Project will provide multiple benefits including flood control, water quality improvement, groundwater recharge and reduction of instream erosion and sedimentation.

With respect to addressing Statewide priorities, the Project primarily fulfills the specific objectives of (1) Practicing Integrated Flood Management, (2) Protecting Surface Water and Groundwater Quality, and (3) Use and reuse water more efficiently.

Integrated flood management means:

- Better emergency preparedness and response
- Improved flood protection
- More sustainable flood and water management systems
- Enhanced floodplain ecosystems
- LID techniques that store and infiltrate runoff while protecting groundwater

Practice Integrated Flood Management The Project supports implementation of the FMFCD District Service Plan, which is described in the Upper Kings IRWM Plan as a good example of how recharge/retention ponds and canal facilities can be integrated to meet multiple objectives – namely improved flood control and groundwater recharge. Integrated facilities also provide recreational and open space benefits, improved emergency response and preparedness, and more sustainable flood and water management systems.

Construction of the Fancher Creek Detention Basis and other downstream facilities is a key element in FMFCD's District Service and Drainage Management Plan (DMP). These plans focus on effective flood and watershed management. Specifically, the Project includes completion of the Detention Basin to improve flood management, reduce instream erosion and sedimentation, and capture and eventually contain up to 1,891 acre-feet (200-year, 30-day event protection) of Fancher Creek runoff and stormwater. The current improvements to the basin, which achieved 100-year, 30-day protection, will result in an immediate economic benefit to downstream residents and businesses.

The captured water will be stored in the Detention Basin for use. This additional local water supply will provide better emergency preparedness and response. Improved flood protection will result from the basin's design to hold a 100-year storm event, which will protect the water quality downstream of Fancher Creek. The act of diverting surface water, while continuing to monitor and manage high levels of groundwater, provides a balanced approach to more sustainable flood and water management systems. The ecosystems will be enhanced as runoff

is reused and downstream habitats are protected from nonpoint source pollution. There is a high degree of certainty that the Proposal meets this program preference.

Protect Surface and Groundwater Quality This Statewide priority is defined by strategies that protect and restore surface water and groundwater quality in order to safeguard public and environmental health, and secure water supplies for beneficial uses.

The proposed Project has a high degree of certainty in meeting this objective. The Project will significantly protect water quality by capturing and treating urban runoff, increase pollutant removal, and assist in meeting the region's NPDES permit requirements. The Project will prevent pollutant-carrying urban runoff from flowing into Fancher Creek by diverting runoff for treatment and storage in its basin system. This in itself is a priority for the Fresno Irrigation District, the County and the City. Protecting surface water quality in turn protects the groundwater quality of the local watershed, as polluted runoff is prevented from infiltrating into the groundwater. Details of improvements, along with exhibits to illustrate the specific construction items are presented in Attachment 3, Work Plan.

Use and Reuse Water More Efficiently The Fancher Creek Flood Control Improvement Project also includes elements to implement water use efficiency, water conservation, recycling and reuse. Stormwater collected in Basin "BO" will be used to irrigate a large to-be-developed regional shopping center. In addition, this water will be later used to water landscaped areas around the basin and for a planned urban trail and park. It is expected that approximately 65 acre-feet per year will be used for this purpose. While not a substantially large amount of water, the project provides a good example of water conservation, recycling and reuse. Exhibits 8 & 9 in Attachment 3, Work Plan, illustrate the extent of this element. There is a high degree of certainty that this objective will be met.