

Marin Water Board of Directors Marin Water 220 Nellen Avenue, Corte Madera, CA 94925

Via email: <u>boardcomment@marinwater.org</u>

RE: Support for Marin Water's 2023 Proposed Water Rate, Fee, and Charge Increases

Dear Marin Water Board of Directors,

The Marin Conservation League (MCL) is devoted to the preservation of clean water and healthy biodiversity of the Marin Water watershed.

To that end, MCL supports MMWD's proposed four-year COSA (Cost of Service Analysis) based water rate increases and we strongly urge the board to support substantial funding increases for water conservation, and watershed maintenance and restoration programs, as integral to this rate cycle.

The increased water rates will ensure the District's ability to meet the existing and future cost of operations and fund necessary ongoing infrastructure replacement investments while prioritizing water conservation and efficiency measures to reduce demand. The increases are necessary for the District to maintain its commitment to the delivery of high-quality water while continuing to provide for the protection of biodiversity on its watershed lands and to sustain aquatic species.

The proposed water rate increases will also allow the District to take the necessary steps to identify and pursue additional effective and feasible future water supply resiliency measures in order to meet extended drought conditions arising from the anticipated effects of climate change.

While MCL continues to support conservation and efficient water use as the most environmentally responsive and least expensive means to securing water supply and managing demand, we recognize the need to invest now in an integrated water management portfolio adapted to a warming climate, not one based on historical hydrology.

Marin Water's long-view planning for system improvements to infrastructure and water management aligns with new water supply planning throughout the state that is responding to accelerating climate change. Investment is needed now, not only to protect delivery of the clean

water on which we all currently depend, but to sustain watershed health that will best serve the environment and Marin's future generations.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Terri Thomas

President

Larry Minikes Secretary

Roger Roberts Past President

Roger Roberts