

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-09-05

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE CITY OF FORT MORGAN'S SUPPORT OF THE NORTHERN INTEGRATED SUPPLY PROJECT

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Morgan is a participant in the Northern Integrated Supply Project ("NISP") along with several other entities and shares approximately ten percent (10%) of the costs and future yields of the project; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Morgan, as with several other Colorado communities, is continuously seeking opportunities to secure high quality reliable water sources to ensure the ability to fulfill current and future sustainable growth of residential and commercial water needs; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Morgan currently owns and leases a large amount of water related to the Colorado Big Thompson Project ("CBT"), which shares are increasingly difficult and expensive to obtain, which has impacted the City's ability to provide for responsible growth; and,

WHEREAS, the City's CBT units are, by their very nature, variable in their yield of water from year to year dependent upon ever-changing conditions in snow accumulation, temperatures, and other variables, whereas NISP, when completely built out, will provide for firm yields of water for municipal use; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Morgan recognizes the importance of water conservation efforts in reducing the overall usage of water within our community and has implemented changes to encourage water conservation, but the City also recognizes that the majority of our water consumption is industrial-based and cannot be efficiently curbed by water conservation methods that are traditionally targeted at residential consumers; and,

WHEREAS, the NISP participant group as a whole has enacted various water conservation efforts which has resulted in a reduction of the per capita use of water by approximately thirty percent (30%) since the year 2000; and,

WHEREAS, the City, and the NISP participant group as a whole, are cognizant of the potential impacts of the NISP project to other communities and the environment that have been thoroughly vetted by the Army Corps of Engineers in their meticulous analysis over several years in the process of developing their Final Environmental Impact Statement ("FEIS"); and,

WHEREAS, the Army Corps of Engineers, in their development of the FEIS, have provided an extremely thorough analysis including the study and analysis of water quality, hydrology, vegetation, riparian habitat, and groundwater by industry experts which culminated in over 1,400 pages of information and resolution to many of the

concerns raised throughout the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement process; and,

WHEREAS, the City, and the NISP participant group as a whole, are further aware of the potential impact of several alternatives if the NISP project is not completed as identified in the FEIS including the “buy and dry” of approximately sixty-four thousand (64,000) acres of irrigated farmland to meet the future water needs of the NISP participant group, which would have devastating environmental and economic impacts to vast regions of the State of Colorado; and,

WHEREAS, the City desires to express its support of the NISP project for the reasons set forth above.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT MORGAN, COLORADO:

SEC. 1: The City of Fort Morgan hereby publicly declares support for the Northern Integrated Supply Project and respectfully requests the Army Corps of Engineers to issue a Final Record of Decision favorable to the project.

INTRODUCED, PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 18th day of September 2018, the vote upon roll call being as follows:

Ayes: Mayor Shaver, Councilmembers Anderson, Howe, Lindell, Northrup and Schossow.

Nays: None.

Absent /Abstain: Councilmember Marler, Absent (Excused)



THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
FORT MORGAN, COLORADO

BY: 

Ronald Shaver, Mayor

ATTEST:



John Brennan, City Clerk

STATE OF COLORADO)
COUNTY OF MORGAN)
CITY OF FORT MORGAN)

ss.

CERTIFICATE

I, John Brennan, City Clerk of the City of Fort Morgan, Colorado, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing **Resolution** is a true, perfect and complete copy of the **Resolution** adopted by the City Council and is identical to the original thereof appearing in the official records of the City of Fort Morgan, Colorado, and that the same has not been, since its adoption, in any respect, rescinded or amended.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the City of Fort Morgan this 18th day of September 2018.



John Brennan, City Clerk