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From: [Ryan Rhoades](#)
To: [pbscommissions](#)
Subject: Letter of support
Date: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 2:55:30 PM
Attachments: [Support for MUSD water project.pdf](#)

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Attached is my letter of support for the MUSD Use permit application U_2023-0024. Please add it to the public comments.

Thanks, Ryan

Ryan Rhoades
Superintendent, MCCSD
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April 1, 2024

To: Planning Commission of Mendocino County
RE: Case # U_2023-0004
Mendocino Unified School District water tank replacement and well installation project

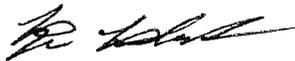
This letter is in support of the Mendocino Unified School District (MUSD) Coastal Development Use Permit Application. MUSD requests to demolish and replace two existing water storage tanks; a chlorination and control building, and related infrastructure; and to improvements to three existing wells and installation of up to 10 new wells.

The Mendocino City Community Services District (MCCSD) has been working with MUSD on ways to better prepare for the impacts of climate change, since the drought of 2021. MCCSD is a financial partner in this project, as creating a local emergency water reserve is a benefit for the community. Both MUSD and MCCSD employ the respected professionals at GHD Engineering. As environmental and community driven consultants, they ensure every step of the CEQA process is followed and that surrounding water supplies are evaluated for protection.

Mendocino has a history of water shortages. Droughts, fires, and water shortages are becoming more frequent and more severe. Despite strong conservation and groundwater management, we need more water storage in preparation for future emergencies. Drought impacts health and human safety but also the local economy. Increasing local water stores make the community better prepared and more resilient. This project is the superior option to trucking in water from Ukiah in the next major drought.

I support this project. Being a former firefighter and current District groundwater manager, I know about the need for additional water storage on the coast. I am the person who answers the call when residents and business run out of water and are scared. MCCSD supports this project because the community needs it, and our job is to serve the community. I urge you, the Planning Commission to support the community by approving this use permit.

Respectfully,



Ryan Rhoades
District Superintendent