

Print This Page



The County of Santa Clara  
California

Adopted  
Dec 6, 2022 9:30 AM

Resolution  
BOS-2022-173

**Consider recommendations relating to the request from the Board of Directors for the Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation District (GCRCD) to change the District name to North Santa Clara Resource Conservation District. (County Counsel)**

Information

**Department:** County Counsel      **Sponsors:**  
**Category:** Resolution

Attachments

- [Printout](#)
- [GCRCD Name Change Request](#)
- [Resolution Approving the Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation District Name Change](#)
- [Resolution Denying the Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation District Name Change](#)
- [Correspondence from Dr. Gary Jahns, Ph.D., Board President, Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation District](#)
- [Resolution\\_2022-20\\_from\\_the\\_Board\\_of\\_Directors\\_of\\_the\\_Guadalupe-Coyote\\_Resource\\_Conservation\\_District](#)
- [Public Comment](#)
- [Public Comment No. 2](#)
- [Correspondence from Susan Hare, Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation District](#)
- [Public Comment No. 3](#)

Multiple Recommendations

- Possible action:
- a. Adopt Resolution approving the GCRCD name change to the North Santa Clara Resource Conservation District and direct the Clerk of the Board to forward certified copies of the Resolution to the GCRCD Board of Directors and the State Board of Equalization.
  - OR
  - b. Adopt Resolution denying the GCRCD name change to the North Santa Clara Resource Conservation District and direct the Clerk of the Board to forward a certified copy of the Resolution to the GCRCD Board of Directors.

Body

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no fiscal impacts associated with this item.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

Adoption of a resolution approving the name change would enable GCRCD to accomplish its goal of a district name that better reflect its integrated approach to natural resources conservation. According to GCRCD, the current name reflects the district's watersheds, although the GCRCD's work has grown beyond watershed-scale planning. The GCRCD Board of Directors believes the proposed name of North Santa Clara Resource Conservation District more accurately conveys the nature of its work. GCRCD indicates that other resource conservation districts have renamed in recent years, but all maintain a geographical reference, largely to the county or region they represent.

Alternatively, the Board of Supervisors could adopt a resolution denying the name change due to possible confusion stemming from the name "North Santa Clara," given that Santa Clara is both a City and a County. The district extends from the South Bay to the eastern and western Santa Clara County borders and south to Coyote Valley, so it is most precisely described as "North Santa Clara County." An alternative name that could be considered would be North Santa Clara County Resource Conservation District.

**CHILD IMPACT**

The recommended action will have no/neutral impact on children or youth.

**SENIOR IMPACT**

The recommended action will have no/neutral impact on seniors.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

The recommended action will have no/neutral sustainability implications.

**BACKGROUND**

The Board of Directors for the GCRCD initiated a name change process earlier this year to better reflect its integrated approach to natural resource conservation. While the current name was chosen to reflect the watersheds in the district, the Board of Directors sought a name that recognizes the district's work has grown beyond watershed-scale planning. As provided in its updated mission statement, GCRCD's goal is to provide education and technical assistance to constituents and watershed stakeholders to sustainably manage soil, water, and wildlife with the best available science. The district extends from the South Bay to the eastern and western Santa Clara County borders and south to Coyote Valley.

To approach the name change, the Board of Directors held four Board meetings and three ad hoc name change committee meetings and circulated a survey via Nextdoor and email. The results of the survey indicated that 83 percent of respondents preferred that GCRCD change its name, and the Board of Directors settled on "North Santa Clara Resource Conservation District" after determining most respondents preferred a name that included "Santa Clara."

As required by section 9622 of the California Public Resources Code the GCRCD Board of Directors adopted a resolution finding that the name change was in the best interest of the district at its October 6, 2022 meeting. The District informed the County Board of Supervisors of its resolution in an October 31, 2022 letter. Section 9624 of the Public Resources Code requires the County Board of Supervisors to consider GCRCD's request at its next regular meeting. The packet of materials submitted by GCRCD to the County are attached to this report.

**CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION**

If the Board adopts the resolution denying the name change, it will forward a certified copy of the resolution to the GCRCD Board of Directors.

**STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL**

Upon adoption of a resolution approving the name change, the Clerk of the Board is required by Section 9626 of the Public Resources Code to forward certified copies of the Resolution to the GCRCD Board of Directors and the State Board of Equalization. The name of the district shall be considered changed to the North Santa Clara Resource Conservation District upon acknowledgement of the change by the Secretary of State.

If the Board adopts the resolution denying the name change, the Clerk of the Board shall forward a certified copy of the Resolution to the GCRCD Board of Directors.

Meeting History

<p><b>Dec 6, 2022 9:30 AM Video</b></p> <p>Taken out of order after Item No. 23.</p> <p>Three individuals addressed the Board.</p> <p>Vice President Ellenberg made a motion to adopt an amended Resolution approving the GCRCD name change to the North Santa Clara County Resource Conservation District and to direct the Clerk of the Board to forward certified copies of the Resolution to the GCRCD Board of Directors and the State Board of Equalization. Supervisor Lee seconded the motion. Discussion ensued, and Vice President Ellenberg withdrew the motion.</p> <p>The Board adopted the Resolution approving the GCRCD name change to the North Santa Clara Resource Conservation District and directed the Clerk of the Board to forward certified copies of the Resolution to the GCRCD Board of Directors and the State Board of Equalization.</p> <p>President Wasserman recessed the meeting at 12:18 p.m.</p> <p><b>RESULT:</b>      <b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b></p> <p><b>MOVER:</b>        Susan Ellenberg, Vice President</p> <p><b>SECONDER:</b>    Otto Lee, Supervisor</p> <p><b>AYES:</b>            Mike Wasserman, Cindy Chavez, Otto Lee, Susan Ellenberg, S. Joseph Simitian</p>	<p><b>Board of Supervisors</b></p> <p><b>Regular Meeting</b></p> <p> <b>Draft</b></p>
---	---