

RESOLUTION NO. 17-3175

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF LAKE HAVASU CITY, MOHAVE COUNTY, ARIZONA, OPPOSING THE PROPOSED TRANSFERS OF 4TH PRIORITY COLORADO RIVER WATER TO THE CENTRAL ARIZONA WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT FROM THE TOWN OF QUARTZSITE AND LANDS SITUATED IN THE MOHAVE VALLEY IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT

RECITALS:

1. Lake Havasu City recognizes that water is one of the most precious resources, which is in jeopardy of being depleted if not managed adequately. Both Mohave and La Paz Counties previously received disaster drought designations by the United States Department of Agriculture, intensifying the concern. Raids of water rights and allocations from smaller river communities to benefit metropolitan areas sets a bad precedent and places the water supplies of rural areas at risk.
2. The Town of Quartzsite and Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD) recently entered into a long-term lease to transfer Quartzsite's 1,070 acre-feet of 4th Priority Colorado River water to Central Arizona. Quartzsite and CAWCD filed an application for transfer with the Arizona Department of Water Resources.
3. CAWCD's Board will consider at its October meeting a proposed Purchase and Sale Agreement to Acquire Water Rights and Farmland in Mohave Valley Irrigation and Drainage District (MVIDD) from various landowners. The \$34 million transaction includes the acquisition of 2,125 acres of land and the accompanying water rights consisting of 2,500 acre-feet of present perfected rights and 11,429 acre-feet of 4th Priority Colorado River water.

IT IS RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of Lake Havasu City as follows:

1. The proposed CAWCD Lease Agreement with Quartzsite and CAWCD Purchase and Sale Agreement to Acquire Water Rights and Farmland in MVIDD with various landowners to transfer 4th Priority water off the Colorado River mainstem is of critical concern to Lake Havasu City and the long range water future and economy of 4th Priority mainstem communities.
2. Lake Havasu City specifically opposes the proposed transfers of 4th Priority water off the mainstem to CAWCD and generally opposes any transfer of Colorado River from Mohave County to central Arizona.
3. Copies of this Resolution shall be provided to the City's Federal and State legislators, the Governor of Arizona, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Arizona Department of Water Resources, and the Mohave County Water Authority.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of Lake Havasu City, Arizona, on September 26, 2017.

APPROVED:

Mark S. Nexsen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kelly Williams, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

REVIEWED BY:

Kelly Garry, City Attorney

Charlie Cassens, City Manager