

RESOLUTION NO. 80-26

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GRANT APPLICATION FOR A BUREAU OF RECLAMATION GRANT FOR THE JUNIATA ENLARGED DITCH PIPING PROJECT

Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Grand Junction, Colorado that:

The City of Grand Junction by, with and through this Resolution of the City Council supports the WaterSMART Enhancing Water Resources Grant application that the City of Grand Junction has made to the United States Bureau of Reclamation (BOR). The grant will assist the City in construction of the Juniata Enlarged Ditch Piping Project.

Through WaterSMART, the Bureau of Reclamation leverages Federal and non-Federal funding to work cooperatively with states, tribes, and local entities as they plan for and implement projects that benefit multiple water users, improve water supply reliability, and enhance watershed health.

In accordance with the grant purposes, the City Utilities Department proposes to construct Phase 2 of the Juniata Enlarged Ditch Piping Project. The Juniata Enlarged Ditch has a diversion right of 129 cfs from Kannah Creek. The ditch is approximately 2.3 miles and conveys water to the Juniata Reservoir for the City's municipal water supply that serves 30,000 residents. In addition, the Juniata Enlarged Ditch conveys water to the Juniata Ditch which serves downstream agricultural water users. The Juniata Enlarged Ditch experiences about 30% water loss due to evaporation and seepage. Piping the ditch would protect critical infrastructure and reduce risk associated with potential ditch failure which could disrupt irrigation deliveries for farmers, release sediment into Kannah Creek affecting downstream users and environmental conditions, and damage nearby municipal water infrastructure. The project will protect and conserve the quantity and quality of this water and make more water available for municipal and agricultural uses in support of BOR WaterSMART goals.

The City staff is seeking Bureau of Reclamation grant funding in the amount of \$2,630,000 with an anticipated award in 2027. The City Council of the City of Grand Junction authorizes the expenditure of funds necessary to meet the terms and obligations, including established deadlines, of any Grant awarded.

If the grant is awarded, the City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to sign the grant agreement with Bureau of Reclamation for the Juniata Enlarged Ditch Piping Project grant program.

The City staff has recommended that the City Council support the grant application and if awarded that the grant be utilized for the important purposes of continuing to carefully manage the City's water resources.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 2nd day of September 2026



Ben Van Dyke
President Pro Tem of the Council

ATTEST:



Selestina Sandoval
City Clerk