



AGENDA REPORT

SAN CLEMENTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Meeting Date: August 19, 2014

Agenda Item 1-A
Approvals:
City Manager RJ
Dept. Head WE
Attorney JD
Finance JV

Department: Public Works / Utilities Division
Prepared By: Andrew Kanzler, Water Conservation Analyst

Subject: *DECLARATION OF A WATER SHORTAGE LEVEL 1 WATER WATCH.*

Fiscal Impact: The net impact of reduced water sales below budget projections will result in lower revenues in the Water Fund. The reduction in revenue will not be completely offset by lower expenditures from purchased imported water. There is available fund balance within the water operating fund to absorb the net difference between water sales revenue and purchased water expenditures.

Discussion: On January 17, 2014, Governor Brown declared a drought calling for a voluntary 20% reduction of water use. In response, San Clemente declared a drought and called for a voluntary 20% reduction in water use on March 18, 2014. After the City Council declared a drought, San Clemente customers reduced water use by approximately 5% as compared to last year, while much of the rest of the state did not. As a result, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) announced emergency regulations for California to go into effect on August 1, 2014 for 270 days, approximately nine months.

The regulations prohibit the following outdoor water use:

- Washing down driveways and sidewalks with potable water.
- Causing runoff as a result of excess outdoor watering.
- Using a hose to wash a motor vehicle, unless fitted with a shut-off nozzle.
- Using potable water in a fountain or decorative water feature, unless the water is recirculated.

The mandatory restrictions set by the SWRCB have been a requirement by the City of San Clemente since 2009, when the City updated its Water Conservation Ordinance. One of the SWRCB's restrictions if an agency does not have an adequate Water Conservation Ordinance is to restrict irrigation to two days per week. Instead of restricting days for irrigation, San Clemente's ordinance requires daytime irrigation restrictions from 9 A.M. to 6 P.M., which complies with the SWRCB's requirements.

The City's Water Conservation Ordinance includes year-round water conservation and four water shortage levels based on the severity of a drought or emergency event. To comply with the SWRCB regulations to reduce water use, staff is recommending a Level 1 Water Watch within the Water Conservation Ordinance which is recommended for water use reductions up to 10%. A Level 1 Water Watch will impact the public as follows:

- Leaks shall be repaired within forty-eight (48) hours; all City staff will be notified and directed to actively educate the public when water waste is observed.
- The City shall encourage a reduction in water use for landscape irrigation.
- Residents will be encouraged to use a commercial carwash facility with water recycling.

In addition, there will be an increase in public communication and education through bill stuffers and other local publications. Outreach and meetings with homeowners association landscaping maintenance companies will be conducted and City vehicles bumper stickers will be replaced with new messaging. To help customers comply with the City's Water Conservation Ordinance, staff will increase monitoring of customer irrigation practices and will provide door hangers with information regarding violations and tips on how to conserve water.

The use of the City's Water Conservation Ordinance to promote a reduction in water use along with efforts made by the City and residents were effective during the last drought in 2009. The City was required at that time to a mandatory 12% reduction in water use, through implementation of steps within the Water Conservation Ordinance, City customers responded with a 15% cutback.

It is important that the City's water customers reduce their water usage during the ongoing drought. Not doing so statewide will further deplete dwindling water reserves and may result in further actions by the State Water Resources Control Board to mandate reduced water consumption. We are confident City water customers will cut-back their water use as they have done in the past.

Recommended

Action:

STAFF RECOMMENDS THAT THE City Council adopt Resolution No. _____ entitled "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING A WATER SHORTAGE LEVEL 1 WATER WATCH."

Attachments: 1. Resolution No. _____.

Notification: None.

i:\engineering\admin\2014 admin\08-19-2014\8-19-14-9r.docx

Attachment 1

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING A WATER SHORTAGE LEVEL 1 WATER WATCH.

WHEREAS, the state of California is experiencing record dry year conditions, with 2014 projected to become the driest year on record, and

WHEREAS, now in its third consecutive year of a drought, the State of California's annual precipitation levels are inadequate to fill the state's key reservoirs, and

WHEREAS, Governor Brown issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency on January 17, 2014 in response to the State of California experiencing drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, the State Water Resources Control Board announced emergency regulations for the drought on July 15, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the proclamation calls upon local agencies to implement local water shortage contingency plans; and

WHEREAS, Metropolitan has declared a Water Supply Alert calling for all cities, counties, member agencies and retails water agencies to implement extraordinary water use efficiency measure, adopt and implement local drought ordinances to preserve regional storage reserves; and

WHEREAS, while Southern California, due to decades of planning, water conservation policies, construction of facilities, and billions of dollars of investment is better prepared to address the current drought conditions than most, there are steps that can be taken by all to assist the State during this drought period; and

WHEREAS, the City's expanded recycled water facilities, expected to be completed in 2014, ensures a reduction in imported potable water use making the City better prepared to address drought conditions; and

NOW, THEREFORE, The City Council of the City of San Clemente does hereby resolve as follows:

Section 1. The City finds and determines that the foregoing Recitals of this Resolution are true and correct and are hereby incorporated into this Resolution as though fully set forth herein.

Section 2. The City of San Clemente hereby declares a Water Shortage Level 1 Water Watch.

Section 3. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this resolution and enter it into the book of original resolutions.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, _____.

ATTEST:

City Clerk of the City of
San Clemente, California

Mayor of the City of San
Clemente, California

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF ORANGE) §
CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE)

I, JOANNE BAADE, City Clerk of the City of San Clemente, California, do hereby certify that Resolution No. _____ was adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of San Clemente held on the _____ day of _____, _____, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the City of San Clemente, California, this _____ day of _____, _____.

CITY CLERK of the City of
San Clemente, California

Approved as to form:

City Attorney