



Camarillo City Council

AGENDA REPORT

Date: August 24, 2022

To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

From: Greg Ramirez, City Manager

Submitted by: Dave Klotzle, Public Works Director

Subject: Urgency Ordinance to Implement Additional Water Conservation Measures

BACKGROUND

California has experienced increasingly severe drought conditions for several years with January, February and March of 2022 being the driest consecutive three months on record. In response to declarations of a water shortage emergency condition by the State, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) and Calleguas Municipal Water District (CMWD), on January 12, 2022, City Council declared a Stage 2 Water Supply Condition under the City's Water Shortage Contingency Plan implementing water conservation measures as defined by Chapter 14.12 of the Camarillo Municipal Code (CMC) (Attachment 1).

On March 28, 2022, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-7-22 (Attachment 2), calling for all urban water suppliers to implement actions to reduce water use by 20 to 30% of the water use in 2020, depending on local conditions. On April 26 and April 27, 2022, Metropolitan and CMWD respectively, adopted resolutions (Attachments 3 & 4) declaring a Water Shortage Emergency Condition requiring water purveyors to immediately implement measures to reduce water usage by up to 30 percent and either restrict outdoor watering to one day per week, or comply with volumetric allocation limits on imported water use. A plan for enforcing water conservation measures is also required and penalties of up to \$2,000 per acre-foot of purchased imported water may be imposed on a water purveyor for non-compliance with these requirements beginning June 1, 2022.

To comply with State, Metropolitan and CMWD requirements, on May 25, 2022, the City Council adopted Urgency Ordinance No. 1192, pursuant to Government Code Section 65858, declaring water conservation measures with a goal of 20 to 30% reduction in water use and limiting outdoor watering to one day per week with watering duration limited to 15 minutes. Based on the City's current reliance on purchased imported water, compliance with volumetric allocation limits is not possible.

To further comply with State, Metropolitan and CMWD requirements, on June 22, 2022, the City Council adopted Urgency Ordinance No. 1195 (Attachment 5), which repealed

Ordinance No. 1192, establishing an emergency regulation, effective immediately, adding the prohibition on watering non-functional turf with potable water at commercial, industrial, and institutional sites including common areas of homeowners' associations, condominiums, retirement communities, and other housing developments comprised of individually owned units and shared facilities. The State Water Resources Control Board regulation defines non-functional turf as turf that is solely ornamental and not regularly used for human recreational purposes or for civic or community events. Non-functional turf does not include sports fields and turf that is regularly used for human recreational purposes or for civic or community events. Urgency Ordinance No. 1195 includes the same water conservation measures as in the repealed Ordinance No. 1192.

DISCUSSION

In a letter dated June 14, 2022 (Attachment 6), Metropolitan amended their Emergency Water Conservation Program to require all Member Agencies to limit the duration of residential outdoor watering to no more than 10 minutes one day a week, effective September 1, 2022.

The proposed Urgency Ordinance (Attachment 7) for water conservation measures is required to include the Metropolitan emergency regulation limiting the duration of residential outdoor watering to 10 minutes, one day per week. The new Urgency Ordinance, submitted pursuant to Government Code Section 36937, shall remain in effect until repealed by the City Council, and includes the same water conservation measures as in Ordinance No. 1195 which is repealed by the proposed Urgency Ordinance.

Staff will continue to implement a vigorous public information campaign to notify City water customers of the increased level of water conservation requirements with a focus on gaining compliance. The City continues to significantly increase the level of monitoring, notification and enforcement of the approved water conservation measures with a focus on compliance by City water customers. When necessary, penalties for violations of the urgency ordinance may be applied in accordance with CMC Section 14.12.050.

FISCAL IMPACT

This item does not require an expenditure of funds; however, reduced water use will result in lower revenues for the water enterprise fund and increased expenditures for water conservation compliance efforts. If the required water conservation and enforcement measures implemented are not extended, the City could be subject to penalties of \$2,000 per acre-foot of water purchased from Calleguas.

RECOMMENDATION

1. Request reading of the title of the Ordinance; and
2. Waive further reading and adopt an Urgency Ordinance implementing water conservation measures with a goal of 20 to 30% reduction in water use, limiting the duration of residential outdoor watering to 10 minutes one day per week and repealing Urgency Ordinance No. 1195.

ATTACHMENTS

1. CMC Section 14.12
2. Executive Order N-7-22
3. Metropolitan Water District Resolution No. 9305
4. Calleguas Municipal Water District Resolution No. 2042
5. Urgency Ordinance No. 1195
6. Metropolitan Water District Letter
7. Urgency Ordinance

REFERENCE MATERIALS – AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AT CITY HALL

None