

7.0 WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN

This section presents information regarding the City's Water Shortage Contingency Plan. The City's policies are codified in Section 13.66 of the Municipal Code, included as Appendix I.

7.1 Actions in Response to Water Supply Shortages & Catastrophic Interruptions

The City Council has the authority to declare a water shortage emergency by Resolution. Emergencies are declared in three stages with specific reduction methods used for each stage as described in Section 7.2 below.

7.2 Consumption Reduction Methods

The consumption reduction methods used to achieve Stage 1 Voluntary Conservation are outlined Section 13.66.050(A) and include:

- Application of irrigation water only during the evening and early morning hours;
- Inspection of all irrigation systems, repair of leaks, and adjustment of spray heads;
- Reduction of irrigation run-times consistent with fluctuations in weather;
- Reduction of irrigation run-times if water begins to run off the irrigation site;
- Utilization of water conservation information, incentive, rebate and giveaway programs offered by the City.

The consumption reduction methods used to achieve Stage 2 Mandatory Compliance Water Alert are outlined in Section 13.66.050(B) and include:

- Prohibitions against filling of swimming pools, noncommercial washing of privately-owned motor vehicles, use of water from a fire hydrant (except for essential needs), use of water for dust control at construction sites;
- Mandatory twenty percent reductions for vehicle washing facilities; and
- Mandatory twenty percent reductions for non-residential uses.

The consumption reduction methods for Stage 3 Mandatory Compliance Water Emergency are outlined in Section 13.66.050(C) and include:

- All Stage 2 Prohibitions;
- Prohibitions against watering residential or non-residential lawns;
- Prohibitions against new landscaping plantings except for designated drought resistant landscaping;
- Prohibitions against all but hand-held irrigation.

7.3 Additional Prohibitions against Specific Water Uses

In addition to the emergency stage consumption reduction methods, the Municipal Code specifies other prohibited water uses. Specifically these include:

- Washing of sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots and other hard-surfaced areas by direct hosing, except in specific circumstances (Section 13.62.030(A));
- The escape of water through breaks or leaks within the customer's plumbing or private distribution system (Section 13.62.030(B));
- Irrigation in a manner or to an extent which allows excessive runoff (Section 13.62.030(C));
- Washing cars, boats, trailers or other vehicles with a hose not equipped with a shutoff nozzle (Section 13.62.030(D));
- Water for non-recycling decorative water fountains (Section 13.62.030(E));
- Water for single pass evaporative cooling systems for air conditioning (Section 13.62.030(F));
- Water for new non-recirculating conveyor car wash systems (Section 13.62.030(G));
- Water for new non-recirculating industrial clothes washing systems (Section 13.62.030(H)); and
- Use of potable water when recycled water of adequate quality is available (Section 13.62.040).

7.4 Penalties and Charges for Excessive Use

Section 13.66.070 of the Municipal Code outlines the City's enforcement authority. Steps and penalties that the City will employ include:

- Personal contact with the customer
- Delivery of written notice
- Installation of a flow restricting device
- Imposition of water waste fees.

7.5 Effect on Revenues and Expenditures

The City manages its Water Enterprise to maintain cash reserves. The City's FY 2006-2007 Budget indicates that annual revenues are approximately \$ 6,600,000 and annual operational expenses (i.e., all expenses except capital project construction) are approximately \$6,200,000. Annual revenues exceed base operational costs by approximately \$400,000. Because of this, the City's Water Enterprise Fund currently has a cash reserve balance of approximately \$3,200,000, which is over 50% of the City's annual operational expenses.

Should the City experience a drop in revenues as a result of a water shortage emergency, it would defer capital projects as necessary and use available reserves to cover operational expenses.

7.6 Water Shortage Contingency Ordinance

As noted above, the City has adopted a Water Shortage Emergency Plan which was codified by Ordinance in Section 13.66 of the Municipal Code and which is attached as Appendix I.

7.7 Mechanisms for Determining Actual Reductions

The City's wells and Agency supply turnouts are all equipped with water meters. In addition, each potable and recycled water customer is metered. Non-residential landscape irrigation is metered separately from indoor use at the site. The City reads meters on a monthly basis and is able to document both demand reductions and atypically high water use. The City contacts individual customers to resolve issues related to atypically high water use.