



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

First reading for the City Council Meeting of August 27, 2013
Second reading for the City Council Meeting of September 10, 2013

DATE: 8/12/2013
TO: Ronald L. Olson, City Manager
THROUGH: Mark Van Vleck, P.E., Interim Assistant City Manager
FROM: Gustavo Gonzalez, P.E., Director of Water Operations
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Amending City Code of Ordinances, Revising the City's Water Resource Management Ordinance

CAPTION:

Ordinance amending City Code of Ordinances, Chapter 55, Article XII Water Resource Management, regarding water resource management including drought restrictions, providing an effective date; and providing for penalties.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this amendment is to revise and/or edit the Water Resource Management Ordinance to make clarifications and changes.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The City adopted a Drought Contingency Plan in June of 2013. The Water Department has identified several measures for revision. Each of the measures being revised (and reasons for their revisions) are listed below.

- Definitions (Section (55-150 (d)) – To clarify terms in the Ordinance, a section with definitions is proposed.
- Irrigation testing (Section 55-151 (2)) – This proposed section will allow for people to test irrigation systems for short periods of time outside of the permitted time of irrigation. This allows for irrigation companies and the Parks Department to make repairs to or install new systems during normal business hours.
- Fountains in Stage 2 (Section 55-153 (c) (3) d) – This proposed revised section would permit the use of water for residential fountains during a Stage 2 drought. Users of commercial fountains are still required to apply for a permit to continue operation.

- Foundation watering (Section 55-153 (c) (3) g) – This proposed revision would allow customers to use water to maintain the integrity of a structure on any day and time, provided they use drip irrigation or hand-held hose. This change is proposed because it aligns with measures that apply to plant irrigation.
- Fountains in Stage 3 (Section 55-153 (d) (3) c) – This proposed measure is the same as the Stage 2 proposed measure except commercial fountains can only operate to maintain equipment.
- Fountains in Stage 4 (Section 55-153 (e)(3) e) – This proposed measure would not allow the use of *any* fountain unless it is operated to maintain equipment.
- Fire hydrant use (Section 55-153 (c)(3) h; Section 55-153 (e)(3) f) – The proposed changes to the Ordinance would clearly state that any use of water from a hydrant (other than fire protection and water line flushing) requires a permit and construction meter during Stages 2-4. The proposed changes would eliminate the provision to discontinue the use of fire hydrants during Stages 3 and 4. Instead, the proposed amendment would add 10% to the water rate from a construction meter during Stage 4 to encourage conservation. This revision is consistent with industrial customers during Stage 4.

ALTERNATIVES:

None

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

Changes to the Water Conservation Plan and Drought Contingency Plan corresponding to the Water Resource Ordinance will be made upon approval of these amendments.

CONFORMITY TO CITY POLICY:

Not application

EMERGENCY / NON-EMERGENCY:

Non-emergency, two readings.

DEPARTMENTAL CLEARANCES:

Legal

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Although the Water Department cannot project any firm figures at this time, the main financial impact will be on Revenue. Conservation efforts will result in lower revenues; however, conservation helps to reduce future demand as the region grows.

Operating

Revenue

Capital

Not applicable

Fiscal Year: 2013-2014	Project to Date Expenditures (CIP only)	Current Year	Future Years	TOTALS
Line Item Budget				
Encumbered / Expended Amount				
This item				
BALANCE				

Fund(s): Water

Comments: Not applicable.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Staff recommends approval of the Water Resource Management Ordinance

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Water Resource Management Ordinance