

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
CITY COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: COLIN CLOSE, SENIOR WATER RESOURCES PLANNER,
WATER DEPARTMENT
SUBJECT: 2020 URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN AND 2020 WATER
SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN

AGENDA ACTION: RESOLUTION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Board of Public Utilities and Santa Rosa Water that the Council, by resolution, adopt the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan and the 2020 Water Shortage Contingency Plan.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In conformance with the Urban Water Management Planning Act (Act), the City of Santa Rosa has prepared its 2020 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) and its 2020 Water Shortage Contingency Plan (Shortage Plan) and is conducting a public hearing prior to adoption of the 2020 UWMP and 2020 Shortage Plan.

BACKGROUND

The Urban Water Management Planning Act (Act) requires every urban water supplier that provides water for municipal purposes to more than 3,000 connections or supplies more than 3,000 acre-feet per year (AFY) of water to adopt and submit an Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) every five years. The Act requires very specific information to be included in the UWMP and requires the urban water supplier to hold a public hearing to review and adopt the UWMP. The deadline for water suppliers to submit their adopted 2020 UWMP is July 1, 2021.

The City is an urban supplier of water for approximately 54,000 connections supplying approximately 19,000 AFY of water and is therefore required to comply with the Act. The City's previous UWMP was the 2015 UWMP, which was adopted by the City Council in June 2016.

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In 2009, Senate Bill X7-7, the Water Conservation Act (SB X7-7), was signed into law. SB X7-7 set a goal of achieving a 20 percent reduction in statewide urban per capita water use by the year 2020 and required urban water retailers to set an interim 2015 and a final 2020 community urban per capita water use target. In April 2011, the Council adopted the 2015 interim water use target at 136 gallons per capita per day (gpcd) and the 2020 final water use target at 127 gpcd. As part of the 2015 UWMP requirements, the 2015 interim and 2020 final water use targets were required to be reviewed and updated, incorporating 2010 census data. Due to updated population data, the 2015 interim target did not change but the 2020 final target was reduced from 127 gpcd to 126 gpcd. The City's 2020 UWMP reports that the City is complying with the SB X7-7 goal.

The Act as amended includes a requirement to prepare a Water Shortage Contingency Plan (Shortage Plan), which details how a water supplier plans to respond to water shortage levels ranging from up to 10 percent to over 50 percent. The City's Shortage Plan was initially adopted in 1992 and was most recently updated and adopted by City Council as part of the 2015 UWMP in June 2016. For 2020, the Act requires that the Shortage Plan be prepared and adopted as a stand-alone document. The Act requires specific information to be included in the Shortage Plan and requires the urban water supplier to hold a public hearing to review and adopt the Shortage Plan. The deadline for water suppliers to submit their adopted 2020 Shortage Plan is July 1, 2021.

The Water Conservation Subcommittee of the Board of Public Utilities met three times from January through April 2021 to participate in the development of the 2020 UWMP and the 2020 Shortage Plan. The Board of Public Utilities reviewed the 2020 UWMP and the 2020 Shortage Plan in a Study Session on April 15, 2021. The Board of Public Utilities reviewed and recommended updates to the 2020 UWMP and the 2020 Shortage Plan at their meeting on May 20, 2021.

PRIOR CITY COUNCIL REVIEW

The Council reviewed the 2020 UWMP and the 2020 Shortage Plan in a Study Session on April 27, 2021.

ANALYSIS

1. The City's 2020 UWMP includes details about Santa Rosa's planned water supplies and projected water demands through 2045 during an average water year, a single dry year, and dry five-year periods; demand management program details; and information about our regional water supply.
2. The City's 2020 UWMP includes an updated demand analysis based on population and employment projections, known and projected development and land use changes, water use trends by all customer sectors, non-revenue water (e.g., firefighting, line flushing, and losses from the distribution system), and the potential

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impacts of climate change. It also incorporates estimated passive water savings from plumbing codes and water conservation regulations and ordinances. The analysis resulted in a projected total water demand of 25,097 acre-feet per year (AFY) in 2045, including 24,957 AFY for potable water and 140 AFY for non-potable recycled water.

3. The City's 2020 UWMP reports on the City's compliance with the State's mandated SB X7-7 water conservation target for 2020. The City's actual 2020 per capita water use was 99 gpcd, below the final 2020 water use target of 126 gpcd.
4. Santa Rosa has three existing and planned sources of water: entitlement of 29,100 AFY from the Sonoma County Water Agency (Sonoma Water) pursuant to the Restructured Agreement for Water Supply, which was executed in 2006; 2,300 AFY of local groundwater supply; and 140 AFY of recycled water supply.
5. The 2020 UWMP concludes that sufficient water supplies will be available to meet the projected water demands during normal water years for 2025-2045. Under normal water conditions, the City's water supply is projected to be 31,540 AFY.
6. The 2020 UWMP concludes that sufficient water supplies would be available to meet projected water demands during single-dry water year conditions which are equivalent to the driest year on record (1977) through 2025. However, after 2025, the 2020 UWMP concludes that water supplies would not be sufficient to meet projected normal water demands during single-dry water year conditions. If a single-dry year resulted in a water shortage, the City would implement its Shortage Plan to reduce demands as needed (11 to 14 percent), to ensure demands would not exceed supply.
7. The 2020 UWMP concludes that sufficient water supplies would be available to meet projected water demands during dry five-year periods equivalent to the driest five-year period on record (1987-1991) through 2045.
8. The 2020 UWMP concludes that sufficient water supplies would be available to meet estimated "unconstrained" (normal) water demands for the immediate five year period (2021-2025) if hydrologic conditions were equivalent to the driest five-year period on record (1987-1991).
9. The 2020 Shortage Plan has been prepared as a stand-alone document to comply with new regulations. The update includes the introduction of one new shortage stage (Stage 8 - over 50 percent water shortage).
10. The 2020 Shortage Plan includes changes to the Water Shortage Charge (WSC), beginning with a 5 percent WSC in Stage 2, 7.5 percent WSC in Stage 3, 10 percent WSC in Stage 4, 15 percent WSC in Stage 5, 25 percent WSC in Stage 6, 35 percent WSC in Stage 7, and 45 percent WSC in Stage 8. The WSC is added to the usage charge portion of the rate structure and would only be implemented if the City Council

determined the charge necessary as part of the declaration of a Water Shortage Emergency and implementation of the corresponding Shortage Stage.

11. The 2020 Shortage Plan updates the water allocations for water services in Stages 5, 6, 7, and 8. The Shortage Plan includes changes to the Excess Use Penalty (EUP), which only applies to water use in excess of allocation consumption limits during Stages 5, 6, 7, and 8. The EUP would only be implemented by Council as part of the adoption of the corresponding Shortage Stage. The EUP would apply to water usage that is between 101 percent and 150 percent over consumption limits and over 150 percent of consumption limits as follows:

Shortage Stage	Demand Reduction Goal	EUP	
		101 – 150 percent over consumption limit	EUP 150 percent over consumption limit
Stage 5	30 percent	10 percent	20 percent
Stage 6	40 percent	25 percent	50 percent
Stage 7	50 percent	40 percent	80 percent
Stage 8	Over 50 percent	50 percent	100 percent

12. To comply with new requirements, the 2020 Shortage Plan includes a Drought Risk Assessment for 2021-2025 and procedures for an annual water supply and demand assessment. It also includes communication protocols, compliance and enforcement procedures, monitoring and reporting procedures, and procedures for adopting, submitting, and implementing (and amending if needed) the Shortage Plan.
13. Public participation in the development of the 2020 UWMP and 2020 Shortage Plan was encouraged through a bill insert that was sent to all Water customers, public notices sent to the County of Sonoma, Sonoma Water, and surrounding cities and water districts, public notification of the public review period (May 7-June 8), notification of this public hearing, and through a dedicated website: srcity.org/uwmp.
14. The Water Conservation Subcommittee of the Board of Public Utilities met three times January through April 2021 to participate in the development of the 2020 UWMP and 2020 Shortage Plan. The Board of Public Utilities reviewed the 2020 UWMP and the 2020 Shortage Plan in a Study Session on April 15, 2021. The Board of Public Utilities reviewed and recommended the updates to the 2020 Plan and the 2020 Shortage Plan at their meeting on May 20, 2021.
15. The City Council reviewed the 2020 UWMP and the 2020 Shortage Plan in a Study Session on April 27, 2021.

FISCAL IMPACT

No impact to the General Fund. Funds for the preparation of the 2020 UWMP and the

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2020 Shortage plan were included in the Water Department budgets for fiscal years 2019-20 and 2020-21.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is not a project which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, pursuant to CEQA Guideline section 15378. Additionally, Water Code Section 10652 of the UWMP Act states that CEQA does not apply to the preparation and adoption of Plans or the implementation of actions taken pursuant to a Shortage Plan.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Water Conservation Subcommittee of the Board of Public Utilities met on January 25, March 9, and April 6, 2021 to review and provide input on the 2020 UWMP and 2020 Shortage Plan. On April 15, 2021 the Board of Public Utilities held a study session on the 2020 UWMP and 2020 Shortage Plan. On May 20, 2021, the Board of Public Utilities passed a resolution recommending that Council adopt the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan and the 2020 Water Shortage Contingency Plan.

NOTIFICATION

Public notices related to the development of the 2020 UWMP and the 2020 Shortage Plan and the June 8, 2021 public hearing were published in the Press Democrat on May 20, 2021 and May 27, 2021.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 – Draft 2020 Urban Water Management Plan (hyperlink)
- Attachment 2 – Draft 2020 Water Shortage Contingency Plan (hyperlink)
- Resolution

CONTACT

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