

CITY OF SANTA ROSA  
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

TO: BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
FROM: COLIN CLOSE, SENIOR WATER RESOURCES PLANNER,  
WATER DEPARTMENT  
SUBJECT: 2020 URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN AND 2020 WATER  
SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN

AGENDA ACTION: STUDY SESSION

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RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by Santa Rosa Water that the Board of Public Utilities hold a Study Session to receive information, ask questions, discuss and provide feedback to staff regarding the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan and 2020 Water Shortage Contingency Plan

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Staff will present an informational session on the requirements of the California Urban Water Management Planning Act and the Water Conservation Act of 2009, including the preparation and submittal of the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan and the 2020 Water Shortage Contingency Plan.

BACKGROUND

In 1983, the California Legislature enacted the Urban Water Management Planning Act (UWMP Act). This law requires every urban water supplier that provides water for municipal purposes to more than 3,000 connections or supplying 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. Since the UWMP Act was passed, it has undergone significant expansion.

In 2009, the Water Conservation Act (Senate Bill X7-7, or SB X7-7), was signed into law. SB X7-7 set a goal of achieving a 20% 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. SB X7-7 required urban water suppliers to increase water use efficiency while recognizing and providing credit to those urban water suppliers that have made substantial capital investments in water conservation since the 1990s. The State required the 2010 UWMP to include the interim

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and final targets and the 2015 UWMP to include reporting on compliance with the 2015 interim target. The 2020 UWMP must include reporting on compliance with the 2020 final target.

The UWMP Act includes a requirement to prepare a Water Shortage Contingency Plan (Shortage Plan), which details how a water supplier plans to respond to water shortages 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 UWMP Act requires that the Shortage Plan be prepared and adopted as a stand-alone document.

The UWMP Act requires very specific information to be included in the UWMP and the Shortage Plan. The UWMP Act also requires each urban water supplier to hold a public hearing to review and adopt these plans.

The City is an urban supplier of water for approximately 54,000 connections supplying about 18,000 AFY of water and is therefore required to comply with the UWMP Act. In compliance with the UWMP Act every five years, City Council has held a public hearing and adopted the UWMP along with the WSCP. The 2015 UWMP and 2015 Shortage Plan were adopted by City Council in June 2016. The statutory deadline for water suppliers to hold a public hearing and adopt and submit to the State a 2020 UWMP and a 2020 Shortage Plan is July 1, 2021.

#### PRIOR BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES REVIEW

Staff provided updates about the preparation of the 2020 UWMP and the 2020 Shortage Plan at meetings of the Board of Public Utilities' Water Conservation Subcommittee on January 25, 2021, March 9, 2021, and April 6, 2021.

#### ANALYSIS

Pursuant to the UWMP Act, the City's 2020 UWMP includes details about Santa Rosa's service area, water system, and historic, current, and projected water use and planned water supplies through 2045. Projected water use considers population growth, land use development, regulatory changes, and climate change. Planned water supplies consider historic, current and projected water supplies by source through 2045 during average water years, single-dry year conditions, and dry five-year periods.

The City's 2020 UWMP analysis compares projected water demands and planned supplies through 2045 to make determinations about the City's water service reliability. In addition, the UWMP includes a drought risk assessment for 2021-2025, which compares estimated normal water demands to water supplies under dry conditions that are hydrologically equivalent to the driest five years on record (1987-1991). The UWMP also documents compliance with State mandated SB X7-7 conservation targets for 2020

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and provides detailed information about the City's ongoing efforts to reduce demand through its water conservation programs.

The City's 2020 Shortage Plan includes details about mild (up to 10 percent) to severe (over 50 percent) water shortage levels. It describes a wide range of water shortage response actions, such as outreach and education, prohibitions and restrictions, and City assistance to help customers reduce water use. The Shortage Plan provides a discussion of the financial impacts of water shortages and the water shortage rate structure. It also defines water allocations (rationing) for all water services during more severe shortages and describes the excess use penalty for exceeding allocations. The 2020 Shortage Plan includes communication protocols to keep customers, the public, and government officials informed during shortages, and it provides detailed procedures for compliance and enforcement, annual water supply and demand assessments, monthly monitoring and reporting to the State, and reevaluating and improving the plan as needed.

#### FISCAL IMPACT

The Study Session is for information only and no action is being taken. There is no fiscal impact from the Study Session.

#### 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 10653 of the UWMP Act states that Plans are exempt from CEQA.

#### BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not applicable

#### NOTIFICATION

Not applicable

#### ATTACHMENTS

None.

#### CONTACT

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