



## CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**Meeting Date:** July 15, 2021

**From:** Director of Public Works/City Engineer

**Subject:** Stage 1 Drought Determination

**Community Goal/Result:** Ecological Sustainability

### **Purpose**

This action will facilitate compliance with requirements promulgated by a governing authority for voluntary reductions during a water shortage, will assure the maximum beneficial use of city water supplies, and will enable implementation of the city's water drought response measures.

### **Recommendation**

Acknowledge the Director of Public Works/City Engineer's (Director) determination that a Stage 1 Drought has been triggered, and the associated response measures should be implemented.

### **Background**

Brisbane Municipal Code Chapter 8.41 authorizes the Director to determine when a particular stage of drought response actions should be implemented.

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, who own and operate Brisbane's sole source of water supply, has requested that all of its wholesale customers voluntarily reduce their use of outside (irrigation) water by 10%.

The State Water Resources and Control Board has urged all water systems to encourage customers to conserve water.

California's Governor has issued a Proclamation of a State of Emergency, which notes the requirements to mitigate effects of the drought on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (amongst other counties and watersheds).

As of the end of June, the U.S. Drought Monitor's map indicated that San Mateo County is in a state of Extreme Drought.

### **Discussion**

**Drought Stage 1 response measures are required, and shall become effective July 20, 2021, and will remain in effect until the effective date of a different drought response stage or until the Director determines that no drought response stages are required.**

The drought response stage 1 measures listed below are found in the Water Shortage Contingency Plan approved by the Director, and are available on the City's website:

- Stop washing down paved surfaces, including but not limited to, sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts or patios, except when necessary to address an immediate health, safety or sanitation need.
- Stop the application of potable water to outdoor landscapes in a manner that causes excessive runoff such that water flows onto adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, roadways, parking lots, or other hardscapes and structures.
- Do not irrigate residential and commercial landscapes between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. or during rain events.
- Use a hand-held hose equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle or bucket to water landscaped areas that are not irrigated by a landscape irrigation system.
- Irrigate nursery and commercial grower's products before 10:00 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m. Watering is permitted at any time with a hand-held hose equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle, a bucket, or a drip/micro-irrigation system. Irrigation of nursery propagation beds is permitted at any time. Watering of livestock is permitted at any time.
- Use only re-circulated or recycled water to operate ornamental fountains.
- Wash vehicles using a bucket, a hand-held hose with an automatic shut-off nozzle, a mobile high pressure/low volume wash system, or at a commercial site that re-circulates (i.e., reclaims) water on-site.
- Serve and refill water in restaurants and other food service establishments only upon request.
- Offer guests in hotels, motels, and other commercial lodging establishments the option of not laundering towels and linens daily.
- Use recycled water for construction purposes, if available.

No new, non-residential water meters may be issued unless the Director determines that such issuance will not impede the City's compliance with the required water use reductions.

Based on this determination, the city's utilities division will send a letter to every hotel and to every customer with a separate irrigation meter that will advise these parties of the requirements applicable to them. At this stage of drought response, the city's enforcement will be reactive, that is, complaint based.

### **Fiscal Impact**

A reduction in the use of water will mean a reduction in the amount of charges assessed against water consumption as billed from water meter reading. The Council's 2/1/18 decision to implement a Drought Contingency Charge is expected to mitigate these reduced charges so as to not have a detrimental effect on the utility fund.

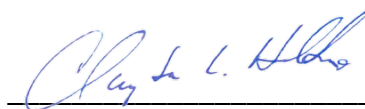
### **Measure of Success**

A reduction of non-essential water uses that will ensure sufficient water supplies to meet the basic needs of human consumption, sanitation and fire protection; and protect the health, safety, welfare and economic vitality of the city's customers.



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Randy Breault, Public Works Director



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Clay Holstine, City Manager