



**STAFF REPORT**  
**6/23/2021**

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

**FROM:** Cástulo R. Estrada, Utilities Manager

**SUBJECT:** Public Hearing and Adoption of the 2020 Regional Urban Water Management, Water Shortage Contingency Plan, and Appendix L to the 2015 Urban Water Management Plan

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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

The 2020 Regional Urban Water Management Plan and Water Shortage Contingency Plan must be submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) by July 1, 2021. Staff recommends that the Council (Board):

- Adopt the 2020 Coachella Valley Regional Urban Water Management Plan (RUWMP).
- Adopt the Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP).
- Adopt Appendix L as an addendum to the 2015 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP)

**DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:**

The Coachella Water Authority is required to prepare an Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) every five years. The UWMPs for the 2020 reporting cycle are due to be submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) by July 1, 2021. The UWMP describes the anticipated water supplies and demands for the next 25 years. It also describes the programs that are in place to encourage efficient water use.

Six agencies in the Coachella Valley worked together to develop a Regional Urban Water Management Plan (RUWMP). The agencies include:

- Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD)
- Coachella Water Authority (CWA)
- Desert Water Agency (DWA)
- Indio Water Authority (IWA)
- Mission Springs Water District (MSWD)
- Myoma Dunes Mutual Water Company (MDMWC)

By collaborating on a RUWMP, the agencies were able to coordinate their assessment of regional water supplies. The report has two main parts. Chapters 1 through 3 are regional chapters which provide an overall introduction, descriptions of the six participating agencies, and an overview of the water supplies used in the Coachella Valley. Chapters 4 through 9 are individual agency chapters. Each agency chapter

addresses how that participating agency meets its reporting requirements under the Urban Water Management Planning Act.

Each agency's chapter includes a discussion of compliance with SB X7-7, the required 20-percent reduction in per-capita water use by 2020. Each agency has met its compliance target for reducing water use in gallons per capita per day (GPCD) from the baseline.

In addition to the RUWMP, each agency has prepared a Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP). The WSCP is a document to describe how each agency would respond to a water shortage. If an extended drought or sudden event (like an earthquake) impacted the region's ability to replenish the groundwater basin or the Coachella Water Authority's ability to provide enough water to meet all customer needs, the WSCP may need to be implemented. Each agency's WSCP defines six levels of shortage and outlines the actions that will be required of customers during each level. The six agencies aligned the actions in their plans as much as possible to maintain consistent requirements and messaging for customers throughout the Valley. These WSCPs are attachments to the RUWMP.

The agencies received feedback from the community in developing the RUWMP and the WSCPs. The agencies hosted two public workshops and used an on-line collaboration portal to gather additional feedback. If the WSCPs need to be implemented during a water shortage, the agencies will evaluate how well they are working and consider making changes if needed.

Beginning in 2022, each agency will need to prepare an Annual Assessment (AA) that looks at expected demands and supplies for the coming year. The RUWMP participating agencies will collaborate with each other, DWR, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, and others in preparing the assessments. Each agency will need to submit the AA to DWR by July 1, 2022.

The agencies have also prepared an appendix to describe how the region is increasing the use of local water supplies and reducing reliance on supplies from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009 requires agencies who might propose a new conveyance facility or other covered action that involves Delta water to demonstrate consistency with the Delta Plan's policy to reduce reliance on the Delta. By adopting Appendix L as an addendum to the 2015 Urban Water Management Plan, the Coachella Water Authority will be able to demonstrate consistency with this policy.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

No Fiscal Impact