



Folsom City Council Staff Report

MEETING DATE:	7/27/2021
AGENDA SECTION:	Old Business
SUBJECT:	Resolution No. 10669 – A Resolution of the Folsom City Council Supporting the Regional Water Authority’s Resolution 2021-03 Regarding Extreme Drought Conditions in 2021 and Authorizing the City Manager to Implement Any Future Reduction Requirements
FROM:	Environmental and Water Resources Department

RECOMMENDATION / CITY COUNCIL ACTION

The Environmental and Water Resources Department recommends the City Council pass and adopt Resolution No. 10669 – A Resolution of the Folsom City Council Supporting the Regional Water Authority’s Resolution 2021-03 Regarding Extreme Drought Conditions in 2021 and Authorizing the City Manager to Implement Any Future Reduction Requirements.

BACKGROUND / ISSUE

The City of Folsom receives its water supply from the American River at Folsom Reservoir. On May 10, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom issued a proclamation of a State of Emergency to mitigate the effects of drought conditions in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Watershed counties including El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter and Yolo. Hydrologic conditions in 2021 are currently the second driest year since 1977. Folsom Reservoir storage is projected to remain above the lake level that would require emergency operations from Reclamation, but there is regional concern that if dry conditions persist into the fall and winter months, emergency operations to deliver water to the cities of Folsom and Roseville, San Juan Water District, and Folsom State Prison, may be necessary.

On May 13, 2021, the Regional Water Authority (RWA) Board of Directors approved Resolution 2021-01, a Resolution of the Regional Water Authority Regarding Response to Dry Conditions in 2021. One of the key components of the resolution is a request from RWA to its

member agencies asking for a reduction in surface water diversions from the American River watershed. The RWA resolution also asked water agencies to shift from surface water supplies to groundwater supplies to keep more surface water in Folsom Reservoir. While there are water agencies within the region that can shift to groundwater supplies, the City does not have access to groundwater supplies.

On July 15, 2021, the Regional Water Authority (RWA) Board of Directors approved Resolution 2021-03, a Resolution of the Regional Water Authority Regarding Extreme Drought Conditions in 2021. Included in the Resolution is a request from RWA to its member agencies asking for a reduction in surface water diversions from the American River watershed by a minimum of 15 percent and/or additional shifting from using surface water to groundwater, where feasible.

ANALYSIS

On July 8, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Executive Order N-10-21 adding nine more counties to the drought proclamation state of emergency, bringing the total number of counties to 50 out of the 58 counties in California. The order requested that all Californians voluntarily reduce water use by 15 percent from their 2020 levels. The Executive Order suggested the following actions:

1. Irrigate landscape more efficiently, including during cooler times of the days, using a weather-based irrigation controller or by watering one day less per week.
2. Run dishwashers and washing machines only when full.
3. Find and fix leaks.
4. Install water-efficient shower heads and taking shorter showers.
5. Take cars to commercial car washes that use recycled water.

The Executive Order also encouraged California water customers to visit www.saveourwater.com to find simple ways to reduce water use. Building from this webpage and information developed by the Regional Water Authority, the City prepared a Folsom Saves campaign to help City water customers reduce water usage. This campaign includes a road map to water savings with specific actions that water customers can take indoors and outdoors to conserve water and is scheduled to land in mailboxes this week. Some examples from the campaign include:

1. Reducing irrigation days to 2-3 times per week
2. Reducing sprinkler run times by 2-3 minutes
3. Installing high-efficiency WaterSense toilets

4. Take showers of 5 minutes or less

In addition to the water savings tips, the City offers several water rebates and services to help our customers reduce water usage. These are described below:

1. Water Wise House Calls – Receive a visit from one of the City’s water conservation specialists and learn how to reduce water use indoors and outdoors.
2. Commercial Water and Large Landscape Irrigation Surveys – These surveys identify potential water savings and rebates available to our business and commercial customers and provide a review of outdoor irrigation systems and recommend ways to be more water efficient.
3. Rachio Smart Controller Rebate – The City is offering residents a rebate to purchase this smart controller for a reduced rate of \$75 plus tax (nearly a 65 percent savings).
4. Irrigation Efficiency Upgrades – Upgrade your current outdoor irrigation systems with efficient equipment (up to \$500), including irrigation controllers, sprinkler nozzles or drip system retrofits.
5. High Efficiency Toilets – Replace toilets with high efficiency toilets (up to \$175).

The Environmental and Water Resources Department recommends the City Council pass and adopt Resolution No. 10669 – A Resolution of the Folsom City Council Supporting the Regional Water Authority’s Resolution 2021-03 Regarding Extreme Drought Conditions in 2021 and Authorizing the City Manager to Implement Any Future Reduction Requirements.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution No. 10669 - A Resolution of the Folsom City Council Supporting the Regional Water Authority’s Resolution 2021-03 Regarding Extreme Drought Conditions in 2021 and Authorizing the City Manager to Implement Any Future Reduction Requirements
2. Regional Water Authority Resolution 2021-03
3. Executive Order N-10-21

Submitted,



Marcus Yasutake, Director

ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

ATTACHMENT 1

RESOLUTION NO. 10669

A RESOLUTION OF THE FOLSOM CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTING THE REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY'S RESOLUTION 2021-03 REGARDING EXTREME DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN 2021 AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO IMPLEMENT ANY FUTURE REDUCTION REQUIREMENTS

WHEREAS, on May 10, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom issued a proclamation of a State of Emergency to mitigate effects of drought conditions in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delate Watershed; and

WHEREAS, on July 8, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Executive Order N-10-21 issuing a further proclamation of a state of emergency due to drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, on May 23, 2021, the Regional Water Authority adopted Resolution 2021-01 calling on actions in response to dry conditions to decrease surface water diversion from the American River Watershed; and

WHEREAS, on July 15, 2021, the Regional Water Authority adopted Resolution 2021-03 to further drought response efforts due to extreme dry conditions; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Folsom supports the Reginal Water Authority's Resolution 2021-03 regarding extreme drought conditions in 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Folsom authorizes the City Manager to implement any future reduction requirements as described in Folsom Municipal Code Section 13.26 to align with any state requirements.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 27th day of July 2021, by the following roll-call vote:

AYES: Councilmember(s):
NOES: Councilmember(s):
ABSENT: Councilmember(s):
ABSTAIN: Councilmember(s):

Michael D. Kozlowski, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Christa Freemantle, CITY CLERK

ATTACHMENT 2

RESOLUTION 2021-03
A Resolution of the Regional Water Authority
Regarding Extreme Drought Conditions in 2021

WHEREAS, the Regional Water Authority's (RWA) mission includes protecting and enhancing the reliability, availability, affordability, and quality of water resources; and

WHEREAS, on May 10, 2021, the Governor issued a proclamation of a State of Emergency to mitigate the effects of drought conditions in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Watershed counties including El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, and Yolo counties; and

WHEREAS, on May 13, 2021, the RWA Board adopted Resolution 2021-01, which called for the consideration of actions that would result in reduction of surface water diversions from the American River watershed to protect the environment of the lower American River and to preserve local water supplies should dry conditions persist; and

WHEREAS, the actions of RWA Resolution 2021-01 called for voluntary reductions of water use by 10 percent, shifting diversions from the lower American River to the Sacramento River, and/or shifting from using surface water to groundwater as a supply source as part of the region's plan for sustainability; and

WHEREAS, the projected inflow from upstream sources into waterways and surface storage has been less than projected and has resulted in less water in reservoirs than anticipated; and

WHEREAS, high air temperatures and dry conditions have further created additional water temperature stress on lower American River ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, Folsom Reservoir, being a primary source of water for several RWA member agencies in the region, is vulnerable to worsening drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, hydrologic conditions leading into water year 2022 are uncertain, in which continued dry conditions may lead to water shortages and extreme stress to fisheries; and

WHEREAS, shifting to groundwater during this year's drought, while encouraged, should also be managed carefully to ensure adequate water supplies for our communities in the event that water year 2022 is also dry; and

WHEREAS, RWA member agencies have taken steps since RWA Resolution 2021-01 to voluntarily conserve between 10 and 20 percent, shift to alternate water sources, share water resources throughout the region, and make releases to support the fishery of the lower American River; and

WHEREAS, on July 8, 2021, the Governor issued an Executive Order calling for voluntary conservation efforts of 15 percent by all Californians by taking commonsense measures with both indoor and outdoor water use; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, RWA immediately calls upon on its member agencies to consider actions that will result in further reductions in surface water diversions from the American River watershed to protect the environment of the lower American River and to preserve local water supplies should dry conditions persist. These actions include asking customers to voluntarily reduce their water use by a minimum of 15 percent, and may consider additional shifting from using surface water to groundwater, where feasible, as a supply source as part of the region's plan for sustainability; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, RWA acknowledges that individual member agencies may encourage additional conservation and RWA will support those agencies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, all other prior actions from RWA Resolution 2021-01 shall remain in full effect.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a meeting of the Authority held on July 15, 2021.

ATTACHMENT 3

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER N-10-21

WHEREAS communities across California are experiencing more frequent, prolonged, and severe impacts of climate change including catastrophic wildfires, extreme heat and unprecedentedly dry conditions that threaten the health of our people, habitat for species and our economy; and

WHEREAS severe drought afflicts the American West and increasingly warming temperatures driven by climate change exacerbate harmful drought effects including disruption of drinking water and irrigation supplies, degradation of fish and wildlife habitat, and heightened flammability of wildland vegetation; and

WHEREAS on April 21 and May 10, 2021, I issued proclamations that a state of emergency exists in a total of 41 counties due to severe drought conditions and directed state agencies to take immediate action to preserve critical water supplies and mitigate the effects of drought and ensure the protection of health, safety, and the environment; and

WHEREAS today, I issued a further proclamation of a state of emergency due to drought conditions in nine additional counties (Inyo, Marin, Mono, Monterey, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, and Santa Cruz), and directed state agencies to take further actions to bolster drought resilience and prepare for impacts on communities, businesses, and ecosystems; and

WHEREAS drought conditions present urgent challenges, including the risk of drinking water shortages in communities, greatly increased wildfire activity, diminished water for agricultural production, adverse impacts on fisheries, and additional water scarcity if drought conditions continue into next year; and

WHEREAS agriculture is an important economic driver in California that has made significant investments in irrigation efficiencies such that nearly 70 percent of the nation's farmland using drip and micro-irrigation is located in California, and despite that investment, many agricultural producers are experiencing severe reductions in water supplies and are fallowing land in response to current dry conditions; and

WHEREAS action by Californians now to conserve water and to extend local groundwater and surface water supplies will provide greater resilience if the drought continues in future years; and

WHEREAS during the 2012-2016 drought, Californians did their part to conserve water, with many taking permanent actions that continue to yield benefits; per capita residential water use statewide declined 21 percent between the years 2013 and 2016, and has remained on average 16 percent below 2013 levels as of 2020; and

WHEREAS local water suppliers and communities have made strategic and forward-looking investments in water recycling, stormwater capture and reuse, groundwater storage and other strategies to improve drought resilience; and

WHEREAS there is now a need to augment ongoing water conservation and drought resilience investments with additional action to extend available supplies, protect water reserves in case drought conditions extend to a third year and maintain critical flows for fish and wildlife.

NOW THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes, do hereby issue the following order to become effective immediately.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1) To preserve the State's surface and groundwater supplies and better prepare for the potential for continued dry conditions next year, and to join existing efforts by agricultural water users, public water systems, and governmental agencies to respond to water shortages, I call on all Californians to voluntarily reduce their water use by 15 percent from their 2020 levels. Commonsense measures Californians can undertake to save water and money include:
 - a. Irrigating landscapes more efficiently. As much as 50 percent of residential water use goes to outdoor irrigation, and much of that is wasted due to evaporation, wind, or runoff caused by inefficient irrigation methods and systems. Watering one day less per week, not watering during or immediately after rainfall, watering during the cooler parts of the day and using a weather-based irrigation controller can reduce irrigation water use, saving nearly 8,800 gallons of water per year.
 - b. Running dishwashers and washing machines only when full. Full laundry loads can save 15–45 gallons per load. Full dishwasher cycles can save 5–15 gallons per load.
 - c. Finding and fixing leaks. A leaky faucet that drips at the rate of one drip per second can waste nearly 3,200 gallons per year.
 - d. Installing water-efficient showerheads and taking shorter showers. Keeping showers under five minutes can save 12.5 gallons per shower when using a water-efficient showerhead.
 - e. Using a shut-off nozzle on hoses and taking cars to commercial car washes that use recycled water.

The State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) shall track and report monthly on the State's progress toward achieving a 15-percent reduction in statewide urban water use as compared to 2020 use.

- 2) State agencies, led by the Department of Water Resources and in coordination with local agencies, shall encourage actions by all Californians, whether in their residential, industrial, commercial, agricultural, or institutional use, to reduce water usage, including through the statewide Save Our Water conservation campaign at SaveOurWater.com, which provides simple ways for Californians to reduce water use in their everyday lives.
- 3) The Department of Water Resources shall monitor hydrologic conditions such as cumulative precipitation, reservoir storage levels, soil moisture and other metrics, and the Water Board shall monitor progress on voluntary

conservation as ongoing indicators of water supply risk that may inform future drought response actions.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that as soon as hereafter possible, this Order be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Order.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 8th day of July 2021.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:



SHIRLEY N. WEBER, PH.D.
Secretary of State

