



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Type: Planning Committee/Board of Directors
Title: Update on Near Term Drought Contingency Actions
From: Paul Sellier, Water Resources Director
Through: Ben Horenstein, General Manager
Meeting Date: February 13, 2025

PS *BH*

TYPE OF ACTION: Action X Information Review and Refer

RECOMMENDATION: Receive an update on near term drought actions available to the District

SUMMARY: On February 2023, the Board selected the Integrated Roadmap for improved water supply resiliency (Roadmap). Since that time, staff has been striving to implement the early action projects while in parallel working to advance evaluation of the longer term, more complex projects. While the District is actively pursuing water supply projects identified in the Water Supply Roadmap, many of the Roadmap projects are going to take time to implement and drought conditions may return before the a project is completed. In the absence of a water supply project staff will review the options available to respond to a near term drought.

DISCUSSION: The first response to drought is to take actions towards increased water conservation through various measures available to the District. These actions can be implemented relatively quickly compared to developing a new water supply. The District has adopted a Water Shortage Contingency Plan that is designed to reduce demand by implementing dry year restrictions on water use by District customers. There are increasing levels of restriction on water use, which correspond to the severity and duration of the drought. The goal of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan is to stretch the District's available water supply in response to water shortage conditions. Staff will review the Water Shortage Contingency Plan along with options to potentially increase supply during a drought.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: Not applicable.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

ATTACHMENT(S): None.