



CITY OF POMONA

COUNCIL REPORT

June 21, 2021

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: James Makshanoff, City Manager

Submitted By: Chris Diggs, Water Resources Director

SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARING – ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY OF POMONA’S 2020 URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN (UWMP) AND WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council take the following actions:

- 1) Conduct a Public Hearing; and
- 2) Adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-80 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POMONA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE UPDATED 2020 UWMP AND THE WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The 2020 Urban Water Management Plan and Water Shortage Contingency Plan were prepared pursuant to the Urban Water Management Planning (“Act”) and the California Water Code. The California Department of Water Resources requires every urban water supplier to prepare and adopt an Urban Water Management Plan, including the Water Shortage Contingency Plan, and periodically update the Urban Water Management Plan at least once every five years, in years ending in six and one. To complete the adoption of this plan a public hearing is required prior to consideration and approval of the 2020 UWMP update.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact with the proposed action. All programs contained within the 2020 UWMP have been implemented or are currently being implemented and are currently funded through the Water Fund. However, a current UWMP must be filed with the State of California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to remain eligible for any future DWR funding, including any drought assistance which may become available.

PUBLIC NOTICING REQUIREMENTS:

Notice was sent to cities, counties, and water agencies on January 27, 2021, that the City is drafting its 2020 UWMP and notifying them of the public hearing date and time. Per California Water Code, Section 10642, a Notice of Public Hearing was published in the Inland Valley Daily Bulletin on June 4, 2021, and June 11, 2021.

PREVIOUS RELATED ACTION:

There are no previous related actions associated with the City's 2020 UWMP.

DISCUSSION:

The City's 2020 UWMP update incorporates changes enacted by legislation since the 2015 UWMP was approved. The current requirements for preparing the UWMP are included in California Water Code (CWC) Sections 10608 through 10657. The City's 2020 UWMP (or 2020 Plan) was prepared consistent with the CWC and provided in DWR's Final "Urban Water Management Plan Guidebook 2020" (Final 2020 UWMP Guidebook), dated March 2021.

An UWMP provides urban water suppliers (including the City) with a management action plan for long-term resource planning to ensure adequate water supplies are available to meet existing and future water supply needs. In addition, the 2020 Plan incorporates water supply reliability determinations resulting from potentially prolonged drought, regulatory revisions, and/or changing climatic conditions. Approval and filing of the 2020 Plan ensures the City remains eligible for grant and loan funding, as well as drought assistance, from the DWR.

Since 2015, several amendments were added to the Act. The significant changes to the Act impacting preparation of the 2020 UWMP include the following:

- The Legislature modified the dry year water reliability planning from a "multi-year" time period to a "drought lasting five consecutive water years." This statutory change requires a supplier to analyze its water supplies and water use resiliency over an extended drought period.
- Groundwater Supplies Coordination – In 2014, the Legislature enacted the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act to address groundwater conditions throughout California. The Water Code requires 2020 UWMP's to be consistent with Groundwater Sustainability Plans. Those plans have been completed by Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSA). Moreover, suppliers are required to coordinate with GSA's to best represent the groundwater conditions.
- Drought Risk Assessment – Because of the significant duration of recent California droughts and the projections relating to hydrological variability attributable to climate change, the Legislature created a new urban water management plan requirement for drought planning. The Drought Risk Assessment (DRA) requires a supplier to assess water supply reliability over a five-year period from 2021 through 2025. DRA requires a supplier

to examine water supplies, water uses, and the resulting water supply reliability under a reasonable prediction for five consecutive dry years.

- **Water Shortage Contingency Plan** – In 2018, the Legislature modified the Urban Water Management Planning laws to revise the Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) requirements. The WSCP is a document that provides a supplier with an action plan for various drought stages and a catastrophic water supply outage. Many of these actions were implemented by suppliers during the last drought to meet changing local water supply challenges successfully.
- **Reliability Lay Description** – The Legislature included a new statutory requirement for suppliers to maintain a lay description of the fundamental determinations of the UWMP, especially regarding water service reliability, challenges ahead, and strategies for managing reliability risks.

A significant change to the 2020 UWMP is the Water Code now requires suppliers to develop urban water use objectives for specific sectors (i.e., industrial and commercial customers) to meet their target water use. These water use objectives will be developed in 2023. They will require information on what demand measures suppliers will implement to meet these goals. In addition, changes in water use patterns, like commercial cannabis cultivation and how stay-at-home COVID 19-related orders, may increase urban water use and impact current and future water conservation accounting. As such, each supplier is encouraged to consider aligning conservation management actions and the changing urban use patterns to meet short-term and long-term obligations.

Based on the calculations and stress test completed within the City's 2020 UWMP, Pomona's water supply is sufficient to meet the customer demands during a normal year, a single dry year, and the upcoming potential dry years. The City's projected water demands are provided in five-year increments over the next 25 years (through CY 2045). The City's Drought Mitigation Plan outlines actions that might be taken to ensure that customer water demands are always met. Finally, City staff remain vigilant in its efforts in protecting its water rights. As an active member of the Chino Basin Watermaster Appropriative Pool and Advisory Committee, the Six Basins Watermaster Board, and as a member of the Spadra Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, City staff works hard to ensure Pomona is receiving full benefit of its rights and access to all the water needed to meet our customer demands now and well into the future.

Prepared by:

Chris Diggs
Water Resources Director

ATTACHMENT:

Attachment No.1 – Resolution (2020 UWMP is available for review in the City Clerk's office)
Attachment No.2 – Public Notice