



Agenda Item No. _____

File Code No. _____

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

ITEM 6Ai

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: June 28, 2016

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Water Resources Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Adoption of 2015 Urban Water Management Plan

RECOMMENDATION: That Council:

- A. Hold a Public Hearing regarding adoption of the 2015 update of the City's Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP); and
- B. Acknowledge the City's 2011 Long Term Water Supply Plan (LTWSP) as the policy basis for management of the City's water supply and 2015 UWMP Update; any future updates to the City's LTWSP would be incorporated into the next 5-year cycle of UWMP reports; and
- C. Adopt a 2020 water use target of 117 gallons per capita per day (GPCD), per legislative requirements of the Water Conservation Act of 2009 (SBX7-7), determined in Section 5 of the UWMP; and
- D. Adopt and authorize the Public Works Director to transmit the City's updated UWMP to the California Department of Water Resources, such adoption to include modifications as may be approved by the Public Works Director to ensure compliance with State UWMP requirements, provided that any such modifications are not inconsistent with the City's LTWSP.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The City's 2015 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) has been prepared pursuant to the requirements of the California Water Code (CWC), Section 10631. An UWMP is a State-mandated report that generally summarizes the actions of water management agencies, with a planning horizon of 20 years. The City's primary water supply management tool is its Long Term Water Supply Plan (LTWSP); information in this UWMP primarily reflects the analyses completed for the 2011 LTWSP. The updated 2015 UWMP fulfills CWC requirements mandating certain reporting obligations, including specific water conservation targets. The 2015 UWMP adopts a 2020 target for water use of 117 gallons per capita per day (GPCD), which the City is on track to meet, and an interim 2015 target of 123.4 GPCD, which the City has met. The 2015 UWMP demonstrates the City's long-term water supply and demand balance through 2035 under normal, single-year, and multi-year drought conditions; and establishes a plan for responding to a catastrophic water supply emergency.

It is important to understand that the UWMP reflects a snapshot in time of the City's water supply planning. At the time of developing the 2015 UWMP, staff were consumed with responding to the current drought emergency. It is anticipated that the City will update its LTWSP after the current drought emergency has ended, and as new information regarding operational yield of existing supply becomes available, with a goal to update the City's LTWSP before the next required 2020 UWMP Update.

DISCUSSION:

An Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) is a State-mandated report that generally summarizes the actions of water management agencies. It provides managers and the public with a broad perspective on a number of water supply issues. The California Urban Water Management Planning Act requires preparation of a plan that:

- Accomplishes water supply planning over a 20-year period in five-year increments.
- Identifies and quantifies water supplies, including recycled water, for existing and future demands, in normal, single-dry, and multiple-dry years.
- Describes conservation program implementation and efficient use of urban water supplies.
- Is required to be updated and re-adopted every 5 years, but can be updated or amended any time as necessary.

The City's primary water supply management tool is its Long Term Water Supply Plan (LTWSP). On June 14, 2011 the City adopted an update to its LTWSP in order to analyze water supply for the City's 2011 General Plan Update (City of Santa Barbara, 2011). The goal of the LTWSP was to evaluate the adequacy and reliability of the City's water supply and provide a long-term view of how the City's water supplies would be managed. For the most part, information in this UWMP reflects the analyses completed for the 2011 LTWSP. An update of the LTWSP is anticipated upon the conclusion of the current severe drought and would be used in the preparation of the City's 2020 UWMP update. Future updates will include any new information regarding operational yield of existing supply and any long-term strategy changes resulting from the current drought or other factors.

The updated 2015 UWMP fulfills California Water Code requirements mandating certain reporting obligations, including specific water conservation targets. As stated above, the 2015 UWMP updates the 2010 UWMP and uses the 2011 LTWSP as the basis for water supply projections. For this reason, there are not many significant changes between the two plans. Some of the changes and key findings are summarized below:

Water Supply and Demand Projections to 2035: The UWMP must provide water supply planning for a 20 year planning horizon. Thus, the 2015 UWMP projects water demands and supplies out to the year 2035.

Upgraded Population Numbers: SBX7-7 requires urban water suppliers to prepare water use targets to drive conservation efforts, measured in gallons per capita per day (GPCD). A significant input to these targets is population. For 2015, DWR required that all population projections be based upon 2010 U.S. Census data. 2010 Census data was

not yet available at the time the 2010 UWMP was prepared, so staff updated population projections for the 2015 UWMP according to methodologies provided by DWR. The basis for the 2015 UWMP population projections are California Department of Finance data (which is based on 2010 Census data) for the City of Santa Barbara and the Mission Canyon areas. City staff has confirmed with DWR that the new population projections are appropriate and meet the requirements of the CWC. In general, the new population projections are higher than those in the 2010 Plan by approximately 500 people per year throughout the planning horizon.

Water Use Targets and Water Conservation: As described in SBX7-7, also known as the Water Conservation Act of 2009, it is the intent of the California legislature to increase water use efficiency. The legislature has set a goal of a 20 percent per capita reduction in urban water use statewide by 2020. Consistent with SBX7-7, the 2015 UWMP provides an estimate of Base Daily Per Capita Water Use and establishes water use targets for the years 2015 and 2020 using State-mandated methodologies. The City's Base Daily Per Capita Water Use is updated in the 2015 UWMP to reflect the updated population numbers described above. Council adoption of the 2015 UWMP confirms the City's calculations of its State-mandated water use targets. There is no change in the targets from the 2010 UWMP to the 2015 UWMP.

Compliance GPCD: SBX7-7 also requires water suppliers to calculate and report their actual 2015 water use and determine whether or not they have met their per capita 2015 target water use. Suppliers are also required to assess their progress toward meeting their 2020 target water use. The City's 2015 target water use was 123 GPCD. Actual water use in 2015 was 102 GPCD; thus, the City has reached its 2015 target. Water use in the City was significantly decreased in 2015 compared to the "normal" conditions that the target was based upon as a result of the multi-year Statewide drought. In the 2015 UWMP, the City intends to demonstrate that it was on track to meet its target regardless of the extraordinary conservation seen in response to the drought. Similarly, the City intends to demonstrate that it will stay on track to meet its 2020 target of 117 GPCD, regardless of drought or non-drought conditions in the future based upon the water conservation programs developed using the Maddaus Water Management Decision Support System water conservation model.

Water Supply During Normal and Drought Conditions: The UWMP requires that water supply availability is analyzed under normal hydrology, single dry year, and multi-year drought periods. Based on the historical data used in the 2011 LTWSP, the critical drought period had a duration of five years, with the worst local drought occurring during 1947-1952. At the time of developing the 2015 UWMP, the City was experiencing extreme drought conditions. City staff resources are focused on responding to the current drought emergency with planning policies adopted in the 2011 LTWSP. After the current drought emergency is over, the City will incorporate the current drought into its modeling analyses, and revisit its long-term planning policies for future droughts. Other factors such as new environmental requirements or operational factors that could further reduce water supply availability will also be incorporated. It is anticipated that the City will update its LTWSP

prior to the next round of UWMP updates, and the potential new drought of record will be incorporated into the City's 2020 UWMP.

Water Shortage Contingency Planning: The Water Shortage Contingency Planning section is expected to continue a three-stage drought response approach that maintains flexibility for the City Council to approve measures that best respond to current conditions at any particular point in a drought or other water shortage condition. It will reflect the importance of the public's role in providing extraordinary conservation during droughts, in addition to ongoing efficiency efforts. Potential response measures will include a comprehensive public information campaign, rate adjustments to reflect revenue requirements and available water supply, water use regulations, development restrictions, and rationing for severe conditions or catastrophic interruption.

Staff provided an update to Water Commission on the Draft 2015 UWMP at the regular Water Commission meeting on April 21, 2016 and May 19, 2016.

The Draft Plan was posted on the City's Internet site at www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/water on April 29, 2016 for the State-required 60-day public review period, and key agencies were notified to give the opportunity to provide comments for consideration prior to preparation of the final drafts.

The Final Draft 2015 Urban Water Management Plan has been provided to Mayor and Council under separate cover and is available for review at the City Clerk's Office. Copies are also available at the Water Resources Division, Public Works Department, 630 Garden Street.

The City Environmental Analyst has determined that the adoption of the 2015 UWMP qualifies for a Statutory Exemption from environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as established by the State Legislature and specified in the California Water Code (Urban Water Management Planning Act, Section 10652), and the CEQA Guidelines (Section 15282(v)).

ATTACHMENT(S): 2015 Urban Water Management Plan

PREPARED BY: Joshua Haggmark, Water Resources Manager/KD/DC

SUBMITTED BY: Rebecca J. Bjork, Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office