



City of Santa Barbara
Public Works Department

Memorandum

ITEM 6A

DATE: April 13, 2016
TO: Kelley Dyer, Water Supply Manager
FROM: Dakota Corey, Water Supply Analyst
SUBJECT: 2015 Urban Water Management Plan Status Update

The California Urban Water Management Planning Act (Act), California Water Code (CWC) section 10610 et seq., mandates that every urban water supplier providing water for municipal purposes to more than 3,000 customers or supplying more than 3,000 acre-feet of water annually prepare and adopt an Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) at least once every five years. In addition, the Water Conservation Act of 2009 (SBX7-7), CWC section 10608 et seq., establishes requirements for urban, retail water suppliers to prepare water use targets to reduce statewide daily per capita water use 15 percent by the year 2015 and 20 percent by the year 2020. These targets must be reported in the UWMP. Section 10608.56 of the CWC makes eligibility for State grants or loans dependent upon having a current UWMP that has been determined by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to address the requirements of the CWC on file. Adopted 2015 UWMPs must be submitted to the DWR no later than July 1, 2016.

During the April 14, 2016 Water Commission meeting, the status update will review:

- Preliminary schedule for development and adoption of the 2015 UWMP
- California Water Act requirements (summarized above)
- Basis of planning effort
- Major changes/key findings found in the 2015 UWMP since the 2010 UWMP

Preliminary Schedule for Development/Adoption of the 2015 UWMP

Below is a preliminary schedule for the development and adoption of the 2015 UWMP. **All dates are in the year 2016.**

- December – April: Staff preparation of Draft Plan
- March 11: DWR releases final UWMP Guidebook and required UWMP Tables
- April 21: Status update to Water Commission
- April 29: Begin 60 notice of public hearing
- June 28: Council hearing and adoption of Plan
- July 1: Adopted UWMP due to DWR

The timeline for staff to prepare the UWMP Update is very tight given that the DWR final Guidebook and require Tables are released only one month before the draft report is due for public review. A draft of the 2015 UWMP will be available for Water Commission/Council review by April 29, 2016.

Basis of Planning Effort

City staff prepared and Council subsequently adopted its 2010 UWMP in June 2011. In response to comments from DWR upon review of the 2010 Plan, an addendum was prepared and adopted in June 2012. City staff is currently preparing a 2015 UWMP, which will serve as an update to the 2010 Plan. The City's primary water supply management tool is its Long Term Water Supply Plan (LTWSP), adopted in June 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. The 2015 UWMP uses the LTWSP as its reference point in order to meet the requirements of the Act.

Major Changes/Key Findings Found in the 2015 UWMP

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 the key findings are summarized below:

- **Projections to 2035:** The UWMP must provide water supply planning for a 20 year planning horizon. Thus, the 2015 Plan projects water demands and supplies out to the year 2035.
- **Updated 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 plan according to methodologies provided by DWR. The basis for the 2015 Plan 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.
- **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 Plan, 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 Plan Changes** 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. DWR tables will be added as necessary to conform to State requirements.