



MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: Bill Robeson, Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director

BY: Shane Taylor, Utilities Manager

SUBJECT: Monthly Water Supply and Demand Update

DATE: November 22, 2022

SUMMARY OF ACTION:

The update reports the City's total water supply and demand for October, 2022. Current Lopez Reservoir level and projected levels are provided in the attachments.

IMPACT ON FINANCIAL AND PERSONNEL RESOURCES:

Approximately two (2) hours of staff time is required to prepare the report.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file the monthly Water Supply and Demand Update.

BACKGROUND:

On October 12, 2021, the City Council adopted a Resolution declaring a Stage 1 Water Shortage Emergency, and implementing emergency water conservation measures and restrictions as a result of the extreme drought conditions.

In October, the City's water use was 162.4 acre-feet with a per capita use of 95 gallons per day/per person for all customers. There was a total of 0 inches of rainfall in the City in October, 2022.

ANALYSIS OF ISSUES:

The United States Drought Monitor, as of November 10, 2022, shows Coastal San Luis Obispo County in a severe drought. Rainfall to date for the period of July 1, 2022 through October 31, 2022 is 1.8 inches at the Corporation Yard rain gauge. Lopez Lake, as of November 14, 2022 is at 22.6% capacity (11,156).

The new water year began on April 1, 2022, and the City's annual Lopez Lake contract supply had been reduced to 10% on August 24, 2021, by the enactment of the Low Reservoir Response Plan (LRRP). On July 21, 2022, the Zone 3 Advisory Board

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approved the Technical Advisory Committee's recommendations to reduce contract deliveries by 20% prior to the lake reaching 10,000 acre-feet. As a result, the City began reducing the flow of deliveries on July 26, 2022, to 1.7 million gallons per day compared to the normal flow of 2.2 million gallons per day.

In addition to Lopez Lake deliveries, the City has 1323 acre-feet of groundwater entitlement from the Santa Maria basin and wells within the Pismo formation that can produce 160 acre-feet per year. The fourth quarter monitoring for the Santa Maria Basin sentry wells was completed on October 4th. The deep well index was 5.88 feet above sea level, which is 1.62 feet below the deep well index threshold value of 7.5 feet and 0.77 feet lower than the index value one year ago. This is the second quarter that the level has been below the 7.5 threshold value. If the index level stays below the 7.5 level for six consecutive quarters, or if indication of sea water intrusion occurs, this could trigger additional water restrictions for Arroyo Grande.

The predicted use for water year 2022/23 is 2,213 acre-feet based on average rainfall. The October 2022 water use was 28% lower than the September 2020 water use. This reduction exceeded the City's goal of an overall 10% reduction from the same month in 2020.

ALTERNATIVES:

The following alternatives are provided for the Council's consideration:

1. Receive and file the report; or
2. Provide other direction to staff.

ADVANTAGES:

This report provides the City Council and the public with the current and projected conditions of the City's water supply and demand.

DISADVANTAGES:

No disadvantages noted at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

No environmental review is required for this item.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION AND COMMENTS:

The Agenda was posted at City Hall and on the City's website in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2.

Attachments:

1. Lopez Monthly Operations Report for October, 2022
2. Lopez Reservoir Storage Projection
3. Monthly Water Use Comparison
4. Monthly Monitoring report for October 2022