



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: March 28, 2023

SUMMARY OF ACTION:

The update reports the City's total water supply and demand for February 2023. 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 State 1 Water Shortage Emergency; and implementing emergency water conservation measures and restrictions because of the extreme drought conditions.

In February 2023, the City's water use was 111.0 Acre Feet with a per capita use of 72 gallons per day/per person. The residential per capita use was 57 gallons per day/per person. There was a total of 4.25 inches of rainfall in the City in February 2023.

ANALYSIS OF ISSUES:

The United States Drought Monitor, as of March 10, 2023, shows San Luis Obispo County not in a drought. Rainfall to date for the period of July 1, 2022, through February 28, 2023, is 20.65 inches at the Corporation Yard rain gauge. Lopez Lake, as of March 22, 2023, is at 98% capacity (48,500,500) AF.

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

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approved the Technical Advisory Committee's recommendation to reduce contracts deliveries by 20% prior to Lopez 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. On January 19, 2023, the Advisory Board took action, ending the Low Reservoir Response Plan (LRRP). Current deliveries are at 1.3 million gallons per day from the Water Treatment Plant. The contract water supply has returned to the normal supply of 2,290 acre-feet per year.

The deep well index for the First Quarter of 2023 was completed on February 7, 2023, and is 10.58 feet above sea level, which is 3.08 feet above the 7.5 threshold value. The current deep well index is 4.70 feet higher than October 2022 and 1.22 feet higher than January 2022.

The predicted use for water year 2022/23 is 2,213 acre-feet based on average rainfall.

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 our 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 February 2023
2. Lopez Reservoir Storage Projection
3. Yearly Water Use Comparison
4. Monthly Monitoring Report for February 2023