

**TO:** James L. App, City Manager  
**FROM:** Christopher Alakel, Water Resources Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to Rescind Level 2 Landscape Watering Restrictions  
**DATE:** June 21, 2011

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**NEEDS:** For City Council to consider downgrading the water supply shortage condition from a Level 2 to a Level 1.

**FACTS:**

1. In accordance with the City's Water Conservation and Water Shortage Contingency Plan (Ordinance No. 956 N.S.) a Level 2 Supply shortage condition was declared on 6/3/2009. This was done when the projected imbalance between supply and peak-season demand reached 20%.
2. Level 2 irrigation restrictions, cool wet weather, implementation conservation-incentive programs, and the community's commitment to conservation have resulted in a significant reduction in City-wide water demand. However, continued voluntary conservation is still necessary to ensure adequate supplies.
3. Under Ordinance 956, the Water Division is required to evaluate current and projected water supply and demand conditions and recommend changes as appropriate.

**ANALYSIS &  
CONCLUSION:**

This rainy season has been uncharacteristically long and temperatures have been mild. Total precipitation recorded at the Paso Robles Water Yard for the 2010/11 season is 21.97 inches, well above the long-term average of 14 inches.

Wet and mild weather, conservation incentives, mandatory watering restrictions, and the community's efforts have resulted in a significant reduction in City-wide water demand. In addition, total available production at City wells is slightly above levels seen in the last few years. Recent late-season precipitation and community conservation are projected to continue to depress demand. This will enable projected well production to meet demand without Level 2 mandatory irrigation restrictions.

Should the Council decide to rescind Level 2 restrictions and lower the shortage condition to Level 1, adherence to the watering schedule will become voluntary. Other water waste prohibitions included under a Level 1 condition will still be in effect. Conservation outreach programs will continue to encourage efficient irrigation, drought-tolerant landscaping and participation in incentive programs. Staff will continue to monitor daily water supply and demand conditions to assess the effectiveness of Level 1 voluntary measures and recommend changes to the shortage condition if needed.

**POLICY**

**REFERENCE:** City Municipal Code No. 956 N.S. Water Conservation and Water Shortage Contingency Plan.

**FISCAL**

**IMPACT:** No fiscal impact.

- OPTIONS:**
- a. Pass Resolution No. 11-xx downgrading the City's water-supply-shortage condition from Level II to Level I.
  - b. Amend, modify, or reject the above option.

Prepared by: Christopher Alakel, Water Resources Manager

Attachments: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 11-xxx

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASO ROBLES  
DECLARING AN END TO LEVEL 2 WATER SHORTAGE CONDITION

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WHEREAS, wet and cool weather conditions in 2010 and 2011, implementation of conservation programs, and the community's efforts have resulted in a significant reduction in City-wide water demand.

WHEREAS, current and projected city well production capacity is above the levels experienced in recent years.

WHEREAS, City-wide summer water demands are projected to exceed available water supply by less than 20 percent.

WHEREAS, a Level 1 Shortage Condition will remain in place following a declaration ending a Level 2 Water Shortage Condition.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council of the City of Paso Robles does hereby declare an end to Level 2 Water Shortage Condition.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Paso Robles this 21st day of June, 2011 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

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Duane Picanco, Mayor

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Caryn Jackson, Deputy City Clerk