

# Council Business Meeting

September 15, 2020

<b>Agenda Item</b>	Ratification of Water Curtailment Stage 1	
<b>From</b>	Adam Hanks Scott Fleury PE	Interim City Administrator Interim Public Works Director
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## **SUMMARY**

Before the Council is a request ratify the City Administrators decision of September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 to enter into water curtailment stage 1.

## **POLICIES, PLANS & GOALS SUPPORTED**

City Council Goals:

Essential Service-Drinking Water System  
Emergency Preparedness  
Address Climate Change

Climate Energy Action Plan

**Natural Systems:** Air, water, and ecosystem health, including opportunities to reduce emissions and prepare for climate change through improved resource conservation and ecosystem management.

**Strategy NS-2: Manage and conserve community water resources**

## **PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION**

The Council at the August 25, 2009 Business Meeting ratified the City Administrators decision to enter into water curtailment stage 1 as outlined in AMC 14.06.

At the May 4, 2020 Study Session, staff provided an update on the 2020 Water Supply and Drought Management Plan ([Minutes](#), [Staff Report](#)).

## **BACKGROUND AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

The City of Ashland watershed has had a well below average water year (October 1, 2019-September 30, 2020). The measured rainfall to date has been 13.47 inches and the average water year is 18.35 inches. There was no measurable precipitation in July or August and none to date in September.

Reeder Reservoir started the drawdown on July 11, 2020 and the Public Works started pumping Talent Irrigation District water on July 21, 2020. To date 12.82 MGD was pumped in July and 33.96 MGD was pumped in August. Public Works shut off the TID supply on August 31, 2020 due to water quality concerns and shortly thereafter TID shut off the supply to Ashland canal due to issues at the Green Springs power plant created by the wind storm on September 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>. TID had maintained an initial shutoff date of September 15<sup>th</sup>, but with the water quality concern and intermittent service availability leading up to the 15<sup>th</sup>, staff decided it best not to utilize the TID source and focus on supplementing with TAP water.

Public Works staff intended to begin pumping TAP water the week of September 8<sup>th</sup>, but the catastrophic fires have paused the ability to utilize the TAP source. The lack of additional supply, unseasonable temperatures for September, the early shutoff of the TID source and associated demand for firefighting

activities required Public Works staff to recommend the City Administrator initiate water curtailment stage 1 on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

Staff posted a voluntary curtailment notice on the City of Ashland's website on September 11<sup>th</sup> and we have seen a slight decrease in overall water usage, but more is needed until such time as we receive adequate rainfall and have reliable access to the TAP system.

**FISCAL IMPACTS**

There are no direct fiscal impacts for the water fund associated with continuation of water curtailment stage 1.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that Council ratify the City Administrators decision the implement a Stage 1 Water Curtailment as outlined in the Ashland Municipal Code (AMC) 14.06.

**ACTIONS, OPTIONS & POTENTIAL MOTIONS**

I move to ratify the City Administrators decision to enter into water curtailment stage 1 as outlined in AMC 14.06.

I move to invalidate the City Administrators decision to enter into water curtailment stage 1 as outlined in AMC 14.06.

**REFERENCES & ATTACHMENTS**

None.