

Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361 members of the Water Commission and staff will participate in this meeting via teleconference or other electronic means.

PARTICIPATE BEFORE THE MEETING by emailing WaterCommission@TorranceCA.Gov and write "Public Comment" in the subject line. In the body of the email include the item number and/or title of the item with your comments.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY VIEW AND PARTICIPATE IN THE HEARING VIA ZOOM

Online: <https://bit.ly/3J8b1Kk>

Phone: (253) 215-8782

Meeting ID: 934 2767 1342

Passcode: 994718

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk's office at (310) 618-2780. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. [28CFR35.102-35.104 ADA Title II]

Direct questions or concerns to the Commission Liaison at (310) 618-2967 or individual department head prior to submission to the Commission. Parties will be notified if the complaint will be included on a subsequent agenda.

The Water Commission is an advisory body to the City Council that meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. All meetings are open to the public.

Staff reports are attached to the agenda and available for review online. Questions or concerns may be directed to Chuck Schaich at (310) 781-6900. Agendas and Minutes are posted on the City of Torrance Home Page www.TorranceCA.Gov.

**TORRANCE WATER COMMISSION AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2022
REGULAR MEETING
6:30 P.M. VIA TELECONFERENCE OR OTHER ELECTRONIC MEANS**

**WATER COMMISSION MAY TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM
LISTED ON THE AGENDA**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Commission members Craft, Glass, Kawai, Masnek, Mattie, Siani, Chair Jay

2. FLAG SALUTE

3. REPORT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Bl. and on the City's Website on May 19, 2022

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Limited to a 30-minute period)

This portion of the meeting is reserved for public comment on items on the agenda or on topics of interest to the general public. Under the Ralph M. Brown Act, Commissioners cannot act on items raised during public comment but may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed; request clarification; or refer the item to staff. Speakers under this Public Comment period will have no longer than 3 minutes per speaker.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed by a Commissioner from the Consent Calendar and considered separately.

6A. Approval of Minutes

- I. Regular Meeting April 27, 2022

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Matters listed under Administrative Matters are considered separately. Comment by members of public on each is limited to a maximum of 2 minutes per item. Speakers must stay on topic and confine their comments to the item under consideration.

7A. Discussion - Status of Drought Conditions and the Water

Supply Situation - Recommendation of the Deputy Public Works Director - Operations that the Water Commission accept and file this report.

7B. Consideration and Discussion - Activation of Higher Level of City's Water

Conservation Ordinance - Recommendation of the Deputy Public Works Director - Operations that the Water Commission provide conceptual approval for the activation of a higher level of the City's Water Conservation Ordinance and Conservation Program

7C. Discussion - Monthly Water Operations Report

Recommendation of the Deputy Public Works Director - Operations that the Water Commission accept and file this report.

8. METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT MATTERS

8A. Metropolitan Water District Director's Report.

9. COMMISSION AND STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

10. ADJOURNMENT

10A. Adjournment of the Water Commission Meeting to Wednesday, June 22, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE WATER COMMISSION AGENDA**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Torrance Water Commission convened in a regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 27, 2022, via teleconference.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Craft, Glass, Kawai, Masnek, Mattie, Siani, and Chairperson Jay.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Water Operations Manager Andrew Darlak, Deputy Public Works Director Matthew Knapp, Metropolitan Water District Director Russell Lefevre, Administrative Analyst Leah Portman, Policy and Resources Specialist Chuck Schaich, and Environmental Quality Office Nora Duncan

2. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Siani led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. REPORT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

Policy and Resources Specialist Chuck Schaich reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Bl. and on the City's Website.

MOTION: Commissioner Masnek moved to accept and file the agenda. Commissioner Kawai seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 5-0 approval (Commissioners Craft and Mattie absent).

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

– None.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Members of the public spoke.

- Commissioner Mattie joined the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MARCH 23, 2022

MOTION: Commissioner Siani moved to approve the March 23, 2022, minutes as presented. Commissioner Glass seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 (Commissioner Craft absent).

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. DISCUSSION – ORAL PRESENTATION BY TORRANCE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND ENERGY CONSERVATION COMMISSION REGARDING TORRANCE CLIMATE SMART AWARDS PROGRAM

Commissioners Seferian, Montgomery, and Chair Wright of the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission presented the Climate Smart Awards Program.

Commissioner Seferian of the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission stated that the Climate Smart Awards recognizes environmental stewardship throughout the community.

Commissioner Montgomery of the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission stated that the Climate Smart Award will recognize individuals, schools, businesses, and organizations throughout the community through various categories.

Chair Wright of the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission stated that he's looking for collaboration with the Water Commission regarding promoting and recognizing programs and activities showing environmental stewardship. Chair Wright welcomed the Water Commission to view the nomination form and share ideas with the Community Development Staff at, cddinfo@torranceca.gov.

Commissioner Siani inquired what an individual gets when they win the Climate Smart Award. Chair Wright of the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission replied that a certificate will be presented. Commissioner Siani inquired if the award could be displayed and advertised. Chair Wright replied that it would be encouraged that the certificate be displayed and advertised.

Commissioner Siani inquired about the compost bins provided by the City of Torrance. Policy and Resources Specialist Chuck Schaich replied that the compost bins would not be in the Water Division's purview, but Staff could reach out the Sanitation Division to get information.

Chair Jay inquired about sponsorships. Chair Wright replied that this is the first year the award will be given and stated that currently the Award is just for recognition and encouragement for environmental stewardship.

Commissioner Masnek stated that the Climate Smart Awards Program is a great idea and mentioned the MWD program, "Be Water Wise," that pay individuals to replace turf grass with drought tolerant plants.

Commissioner Siani stated that there could potentially be a link with MET programs who currently recognize and promote individuals.

- Commissioner Craft joined the meeting at 6:56 p.m.

Commissioner Mattie inquired if the Climate Smart Awards were advertised to the youth and teachers. Commissioner Montgomery of the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission replied that the Youth Council had been informed.

Chair Jay inquired about deadlines and expansions in future years. Chair Jay replied that the award is still in the preliminary stages and that no deadlines have been made; the Climate Smart Award may not be presented in 2022. Chair Jay replied that he would like to follow up with the water portion of the award.

MOTION: Commissioner Kawai moved to accept and file the report. Commissioner Siani seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

7B. DISCUSSION – STATUS OF DROUGHT CONDITIONS, THE WATER SUPPLY SITUATION AND TRANSITION TO HIGHER CONSERVATION STAGE

Policy and Resources Specialist Chuck Schaich presented a PowerPoint presentation on the water supply situation and transition to higher conservation:

- The Colorado River Basin was 85%-88%, but the runoff was around 40%; less than half of the snowpack made it to the Colorado River Distributaries.
- Lake Mead and Lake Powell are at all-time lows.
- As of April 1st, 2022, snowpack is at 61% with 56% runoff.
- 95% of the state is in severe or extreme drought conditions.
- Department of Water Resources reduced an allocation in terms of water supply from 15% to 5%.
- 1/3 of the Metropolitan service area is part of the State Project Water Dependent Area; these areas in the Northern part of the Metropolitan service area cannot get water from the Colorado River Project.
- The State Board relaxed some of the Delta Standards for the State Water Project and the Central Valley Water Project.
- The Department of Water has reinstalled a rock barrier in the Delta to block saline intrusion.
- The Governor issued an executive order requiring all water suppliers implement the Water Shortage Contingency Plan Level II Response Actions. This will be discussed in a future meeting.
- Metropolitan's State Water Project is 100,000 acre-feet, but demand is an additional 200,000 acre-feet. The State has agreed to loan Metropolitan Water District the Health and Safety Water for the State Project Water Dependent Areas. The water will be set at the indoor water use standard for California which amounts to 5,500 gallons per day, per capita. Water received by the Metropolitan Water District must be returned to Department of Water Resources at a later date.

Commissioner Siani inquired about the restriction of 55 gallons per person, per day. Policy and Resources Specialist Chuck Schaich replied that this is a guideline; the Water District will observe the aggregate demands.

Metropolitan Water District Director Russell Lefevre stated that the Metropolitan Water District recognized three elements: 1) declaring a water shortage emergency condition exists in the State Water Dependent Areas, 2) adopting the framework of an emergency water conservation program and authorizing a general manager to finalize the program, and 3) expressed support for the Governor's executive order.

Commissioner Siani inquired about water use measurements. Metropolitan Water District Director Russell Lefevre replied that the MET is going to supply a large amount of water and each organization will have to manage the water accordingly.

Chair Jay inquired if the City of Torrance will introduce additional items to encourage individuals to conserve water. Policy and Resources Specialist Chuck Schaich stated that promoting rebate programs and water conservation classes will be heavily promoted.

Commissioner Montgomery of the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission inquired if the City website was available to breakdown indoor and outdoor water usage. Policy and Resources Specialist Chuck Schaich replied that those numbers aren't displayed on a website, but those numbers are broken down by those categories.

MOTION: Commissioner Craft moved to accept and file the report. Commissioner Masnek seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

7C. DISCUSSION – WATER CONSERVATION COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

Administrative Analyst Leah Portman presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Water Conservation Community Outreach Program.

- Metropolitan, in collaboration with the state, is currently running the Save Our Water campaign which is running on digital and social media platforms.
- The Save Our Water campaign will commence early May 2022 and will run until the end of the year.
- The Save Our Water campaign has a targeted media strategy and will be featured on television ads through weather and news reports, radio spots, billboards, social media platforms, and through a partnership with Lowe's where water-saving tips will be available in the Garden Centers.
- Metropolitan partnered with G3 Green Gardens Group to offer several virtual landscaping classes.
- The conservation website features a video that covers water saving tips. The video was played for the Commission.

Commissioner Siani inquired how one would know to go to the website to obtain water conserving tips. Administrative Analyst Leah Portman replied that the video will be running on Facebook, City cable, and various City of Torrance platforms. Water Operations Manager Andrew Darlak replied that staff can coordinate with the billing company to place information in the notes section. Policy and Resources Specialist Chuck replied that brochures will be mailed out to drive people to the website.

Commissioner Mattie inquired if classes were available to individuals that live in Cal Water service areas. Administrative Analyst Leah Portman replied that classes are available to anyone. Commissioner Mattie inquired if rebates and programs would be limited to Cal Water service areas. Policy and Resources Specialist Chuck replied that the conservation programs are available to anyone in the City of Torrance.

Members of the public spoke.

MOTION: Commissioner Glass moved to accept and file the report. Commissioner Kawai seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

7D. DISCUSSION – MONTHLY WATER OPERATIONS REPORT

Water Operations Manager Andrew Darlak presented the monthly water operations report.

- Well Nine did 174 acre-feet and the Desalter did 313 acre-feet.
- There were (2) water main breaks in the South during March 2022.
- The project on Sepulveda and Cabrillo is coming to an end; paving will be the final step.
- The electrical panel for the North Torrance Well Field has been delivered and installed. SoCal Edison will need to run wiring and start testing. Documentation is being provided to the State to review for permitting. Timeline for this project will be late summer.
- Staff has been hired for general maintenance.

Members of the Commission spoke.

MOTION: Commissioner Jay moved to accept and file the report. Commissioner Siani seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

8. METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT MATTERS

8A. METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Metropolitan Water District Director Lefevre presented the Metropolitan Water District Director's Report.

- The Metropolitan Water District voted to base their budget on a 5% increase in water costs to their agencies in the coming 2-year water cycle.
- Metropolitan Water District Director Lefevre reported that Metropolitan Manager Adel Hagekhalil stated that he would find a 10-million-dollar grant to fill in costs needed. Metropolitan Water District Director Lefevre will keep the Commission informed on the process.
- The San Joaquin River has not signed on, Metropolitan Water District Director Lefevre will keep the Commission informed on the process.
- 20-million-dollars has been put up for the Sites Reservoir, an off-stream reservoir in Northern California.
- Metropolitan Water District Director Lefevre acknowledged the State's audit of the Metropolitan Water District; a new EEI Officer has been hired and will start in May and a new DEI Officer has been hired and has started.

Commissioner Siani inquired about the 10-million-dollar grant and what would happen if it wasn't obtained. Metropolitan Water District Director Lefevre replied that he has no answer at this time.

Members of the Commission spoke.

Members of the public spoke.

9. COMMISSION AND STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Members of the Commission spoke.

Commissioner Craft inquired about the Clear Water Project and requested that Staff reach out to have a representative do a presentation. Policy and Resources Specialist Chuck Schaich replied and requested that Commissioner Craft provide information so that he can review.

Chair Jay requested Staff present additional information and updates on the WRD project in a future meeting.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: At 8:42 p.m., Commissioner Craft moved to adjourn the meeting to Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. via teleconference. Commissioner Siani seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

###

Subject to Approval

TO: WATER COMMISSION
FROM: MATTHEW KNAPP, DEPUTY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR - OPERATIONS
SUBJECT: STATUS OF DROUGHT CONDITIONS AND WATER SUPPLY SITUATION

The months of January, February and March, which are normally our wettest season, have been the driest three consecutive months on record for this period. Although the state received some significant precipitation at the end of April, over 90% of California remains in an extreme drought condition. This coupled with a historically low allocation of 5% from the State Water Project (SWP) in Northern California, necessitated that certain northern and eastern portions of the Metropolitan Water District's (MWD) wholesale service area, that are exclusively dependent on SWP supplies, drastically curtail water use to a minimum and reduce outdoor watering to one day per week. Although Torrance is not in this area and is not directly impacted by these restrictions, this situation underscores the seriousness of the current drought.

The major reservoirs in the state are significantly below their normal levels for this period. Lake Oroville, the largest and principal reservoir of the State Water Project (SWP), is currently at 55% of its 3.5 million acre foot (AF) capacity. To put this in perspective, the reservoir was nearly at full capacity three years ago. MWD's other source of imported water is the Colorado River Basin. Although the area received approximately 91% of its normal precipitation, the actual runoff reaching the watershed is less than 70%. Consequently, levels in Lake Mead are at historic lows and are continuing to decline. If the level of Lake Mead drops to an elevation of 1,045, MWD could be required to reduce deliveries to the Colorado River Aqueduct in the future, which provides 50% of its imported water supply in a normal year.

Staff will provide a brief overview presentation on this matter.

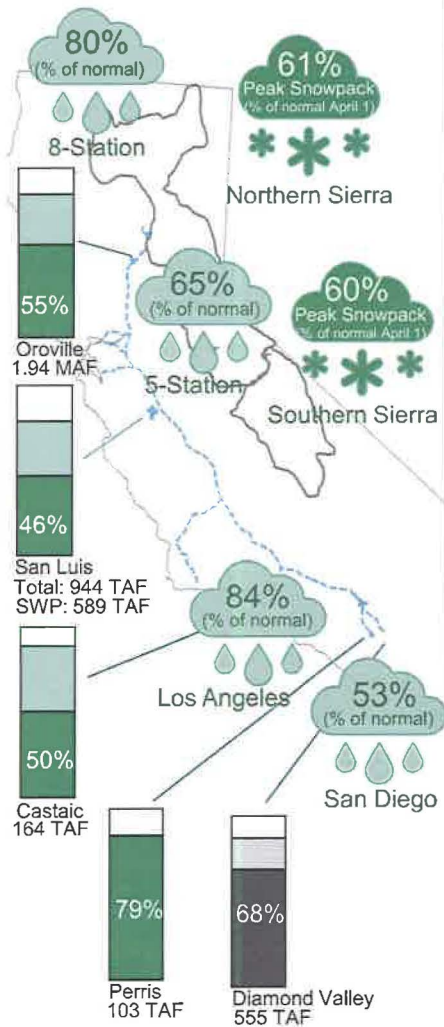


Matthew Knapp
Deputy Public Works Director - Operations

Roll Call: _____ Craft _____ Glass _____ Kawai _____ Masnek
_____ Mattie _____ Siani _____ Chairperson Jay

State Water Project Resources

SWP Table A – 5% - 95,575 AF



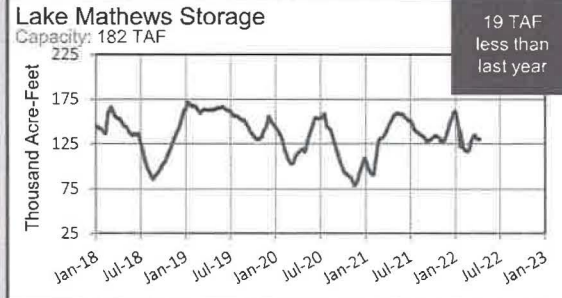
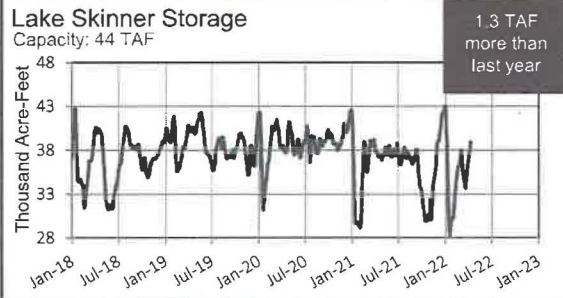
WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS REPORT

Water Year 2021-2022
As of: May 10, 2022

Colorado River Resources

Projected CRA Diversions – 1,135,000 AF

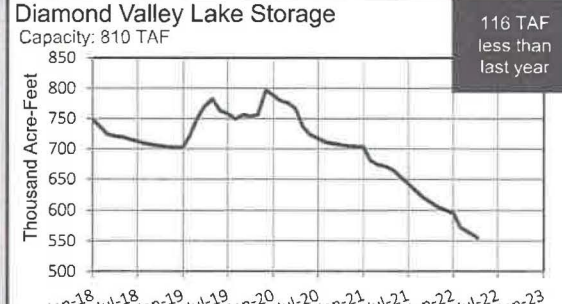
Metropolitan Resources



MWD WSDM Storage

Calendar Year 2022

	Take Capacity
Colorado River Aqueduct Delivery System	351 TAF
State Water Project System	185 TAF
In-Region Supplies and WSDM Actions	426 TAF
Other Programs	10 TAF
Total WSDM Storage Take Capacity	972 TAF



Highlights

- Sacramento river runoff forecast increased to 60% of normal
- Powell unregulated inflow forecast decreased to 62% due to below normal precipitation in April
- For more information on the current drought:
 - <https://www.mwdh2o.com/planning-for-tomorrow/how-we-plan/drought/>



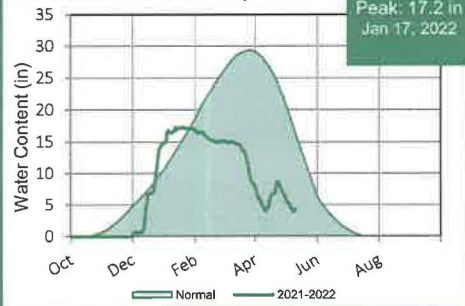
This report is produced by the Water Resource Management Group and contains information from various federal, state, and local agencies. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California cannot guarantee the accuracy or completeness of this information. Readers should refer to the relevant state, federal, and local agencies for additional or for the most up to date water supply information. Reservoirs, lakes, aqueducts, maps, watersheds, and all other visual representations on this report are not drawn to scale. Questions? Email mfarrelra@mwdh2o.com

<http://www.mwdh2o.com/WSCR>

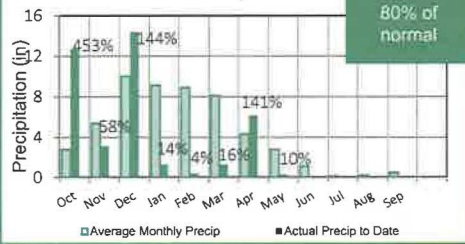
State Water Project Resources

As of: 05/10/2022

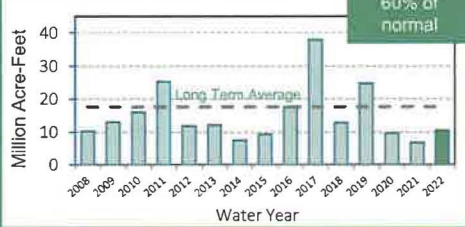
Northern Sierra Snowpack



8 Station Index Precipitation



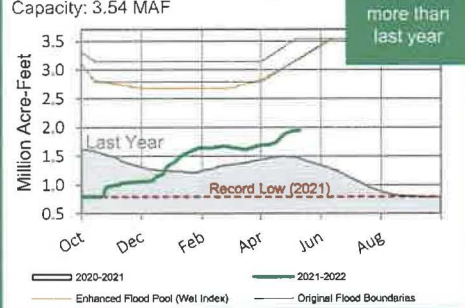
Sacramento River Runoff



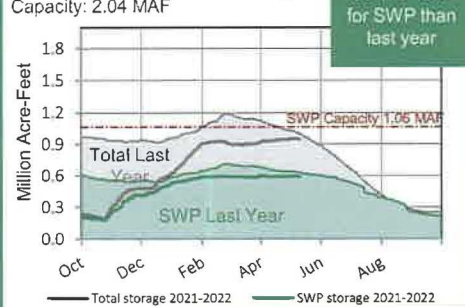
Other SWP Supplies

Calendar Year 2022
Carryover 38,000 AF (Est.)

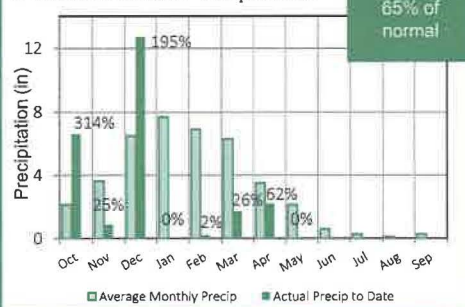
Oroville Reservoir Storage



San Luis Reservoir Storage



5 Station Index Precipitation

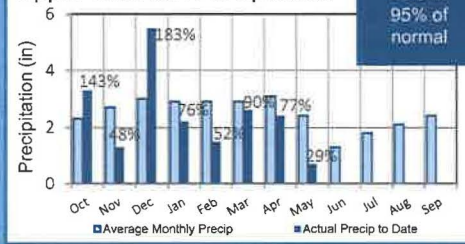


[http://www.southcoastwater.com/WGCR](http://www.southcoastwater.com)

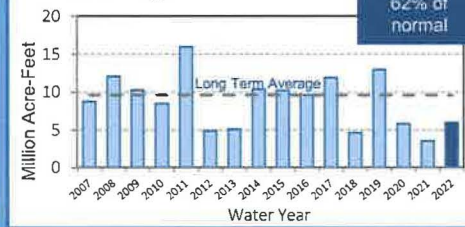
Colorado River Resources

As of: 05/10/2022

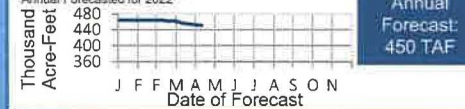
Upper Colorado Precipitation



Powell Unregulated Inflow



PVID/Yuma Agricultural Use



Projected Lake Mead ICS

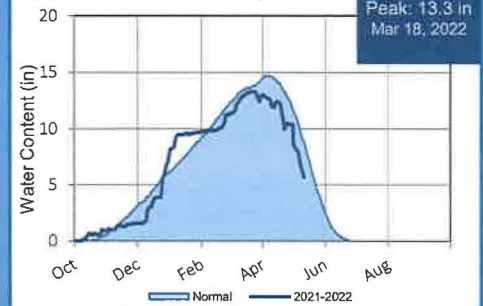
Calendar Year 2022
Put (+) / Take (-)
-120,000 AF

Lake Mead Surplus/Shortage Outlook

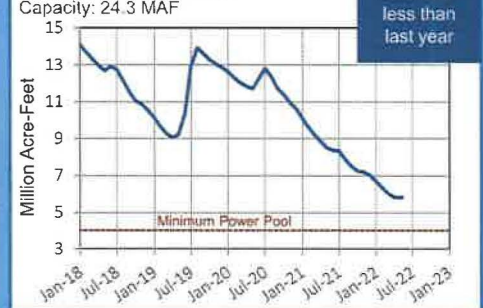
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Surplus	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Shortage	100%	100%	93%	93%	93%
Metropolitan DCP*			245 TAF	287 TAF	295 TAF

likelihood based on results from the corrected February 2022 CRWMS in Ensemble Meds CRSS model run. Includes DCP Contributions. Only includes 600+ Plan items implemented to date.
* Chance of required DCP contribution by Metropolitan. Volume is average contribution when needed.

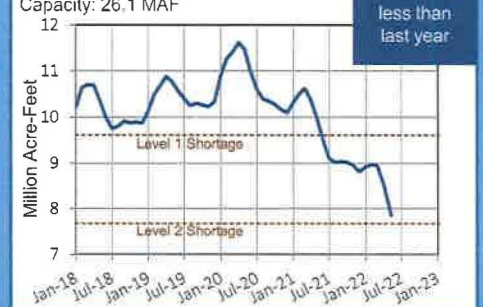
Upper Colorado Snowpack



Lake Powell Storage



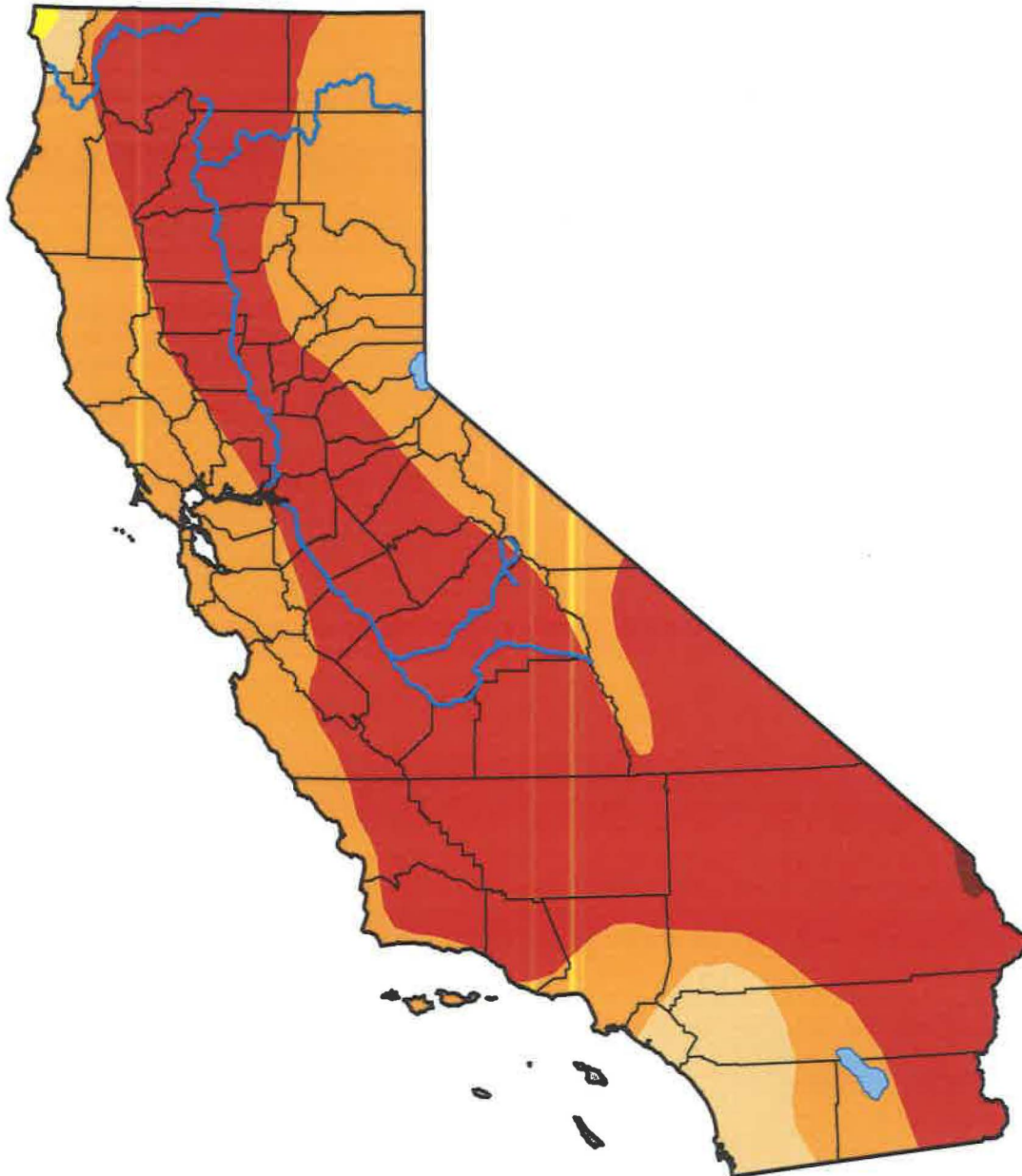
Lake Mead Storage



<http://www.southcoastwater.com/WGCR>

U.S. Drought Monitor California

May 17, 2022
(Released Thursday, May. 19, 2022)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	99.86	95.14	59.81	0.18
Last Week <i>05-10-2022</i>	0.00	100.00	99.86	95.14	59.81	0.00
3 Months Ago <i>02-15-2022</i>	0.00	100.00	99.57	66.39	1.39	0.00
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-04-2022</i>	0.00	100.00	99.30	67.62	16.60	0.84
Start of Water Year <i>09-28-2021</i>	0.00	100.00	100.00	93.93	87.88	45.66
One Year Ago <i>05-18-2021</i>	0.00	100.00	100.00	94.31	73.33	15.91

Intensity:



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

Richard Heim
NCEI/NOAA



TO: WATER COMMISSION
FROM: MATTHEW KNAPP, DEPUTY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR - OPERATIONS
SUBJECT: ACTIVATION OF HIGHER LEVEL OF CITY'S WATER CONSERVATION ORDINANCE

BACKGROUND

Although California experienced a very wet December, there was very little precipitation in the three winter months of January through March, which is normally the wettest period of the year. The State is in the midst of a third consecutive drought year (2020 to 2022), which are among the driest years in California's history. Snowpack in the Sierra range watersheds, which normally furnishes approximately 30% of the state's entire annual fresh water supply was slightly more than half of normal. The current drought event is the third major drought cycle to impact the State over the last 13 years. Although droughts are endemic in California, they are occurring on a more frequent basis, have deeper impacts and last for a longer duration than prior events.

Almost the entire state is experiencing the rippling impacts associated with the current drought, and a number of communities could be facing potential water shortages. The portion of Southern California within the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's (MWD) 5,200 square mile service area has largely been buffered from water shortages. This has been due to a concerted 25 year program of regional and local investment of billions of dollars in water resource reliability projects and programs including: surface and underground water storage, water transfer and storage agreements, water recycling, local water supply augmentation projects, and the implementation of comprehensive water conservation programs. The region uses less water today than in 1990 despite a population increase of approximately five million residents. In Torrance, our per capita water use has been reduced by approximately 30% over the last 15 years, due to ongoing conservation efforts of our customers.

Although the Metropolitan Water District service area as a whole has largely been protected against potential water shortages, a number of agencies in the northern and eastern reaches of MWD's service area are exclusively or partially reliant on imported supplies from the State Water Project (SWP). These agencies face serious water use restrictions this year, including limiting outdoor watering to one day per week. This situation is due to the lack of infrastructure to transport water from MWD's other supply source, the Colorado River Aqueduct, to these areas, which are located in the far northern and eastern portions of MWD's wholesale service area. This year MWD and other contractors to the State Water Project received a record low 5 per cent allocation from the SWP, due to very low precipitation in the key Sierra watershed. Consequently, MWD does not have adequate water supplies to meet the normal water demands of these State Water Project

Roll Call: _____ **Craft** _____ **Glass** _____ **Kawai** _____ **Masnek**
_____ **Mattie** _____ **Siani** _____ **Chairperson Jay**

dependent areas and is “borrowing” water from the SWP to meet their minimum water requirements. Although Torrance is not in the affected region and not directly impacted, this situation underscores the severity of current drought conditions.

Beginning in mid-2021, Governor Newsom issued a series of drought proclamations and declarations urging all Californians to reduce their water usage and conserve limited water supplies. On March 28th, Governor Newsom issued an executive order which requires that all water suppliers activate a higher level of their respective conservation ordinances and take active measures to reduce water consumption.

ANALYSIS

The City’s current Water Conservation Ordinance (No. 3717) was originally adopted in 2009 and replaced an older version that had been in place since the early 1990’s. The Ordinance was subsequently updated during the 2015 drought period. The Ordinance has four stages ranging from the current Baseline Stage (stage 1) to a stage four condition, which is known as a Level 3 (stage 4) of the Water Supply Shortage condition. The Ordinance applies to the entire City of Torrance, including those areas served by the California Water Service Company. The City’s Conservation Ordinance focuses on elimination of wasteful water practices at all times, efficient uses of potable water (recycled water is currently exempt) and targeted potable water reduction for all customer sectors.

The Water Conservation Ordinance has ascending levels of water supply shortage reductions ranging from a stage 2 condition, known as a Level 1 Water Supply Shortage, calling for 15% reduction to a Level 3 (stage 4) condition requiring reductions exceeding 30%. Each Level has more stringent water use requirements attached to it. Other provisions require more water efficient practices in the future, provide penalty provisions for repeated violators and provide for hardship waivers.

Given the current drought situation and the Governor’s latest Executive Order, it is necessary to transition from the current baseline stage to Level 1 (stage 2) of the Conservation Ordinance. In addition to the permanent measures already in place under the Baseline Stage (stage 1), other measures/restrictions imposed by activation of the Level 1 Water Supply Shortage include:

- Prohibiting outdoor watering between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (currently 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.)
- Limiting outdoor watering to three days per week (currently no limit)
- Limiting the duration of watering time to no more than 15 minutes per station or area (currently no limit)
- Requirement to fix all leaks within 7 days (currently 15 days)
- The City may adopt other prohibited water uses, after notice to customers

In concert with the activation of Level 1 (stage 2) of the Water Conservation Ordinance, the Public Works Department, in conjunction with other departments and agencies, will accelerate public outreach efforts and conservation program information dissemination. The immediate priorities will be the distribution of a customer notification brochure and fact sheets, email notifications to

Roll Call: _____ **Craft** _____ **Glass** _____ **Kawai** _____ **Masnek**
 _____ **Mattie** _____ **Siani** _____ **Chairperson Jay**

customers throughout the entire City, Citi-Cable public service announcements (PSA), additional videos on water conservation, utility bill stuffers and notifications and an ongoing upgrade of the website.

Although the current recommendation is to transition to the second stage of the Conservation Ordinance, it is recognized that further deterioration in the drought situation and water shortage conditions may necessitate that the third stage of the Ordinance be implemented later this year. This could be triggered by a number of conditions or circumstances including: the Governor declaring mandatory conservation and/or agency reduction targets; a declaration by the Metropolitan Water District of an extreme water emergency for its entire service area; activation of Metropolitan's mandatory Water Allocation Shortage Plan (WASP) for rationing MWD imported water; a general depletion in regional water supply reserves; and other contingent factors. The status of the drought in the immediate future is highly uncertain. Any of the aforementioned situations could necessitate that the City implement the next stage of the Conservation Ordinance in a very short time frame without adequate time to bring the matter for consideration by the Commission. In view of these contingent factors, it is staff's recommendation the Water Commission support the following:

- A. Recommend that City Council approve activation of Level 1 (stage 2) of the City's Conservation Ordinance as the immediate response to current drought conditions, and
- B. Recommend that City Council approve activation to Level 2 (stage 3) of the Ordinance if the drought or water supply conditions significantly deteriorate, or if the State or the Metropolitan Water District takes action to declare an extreme water emergency and/or impose mandatory water use restrictions.

Staff will provide a brief presentation on this matter.



Matthew Khapp
Deputy Public Works Director - Operations

Roll Call: _____ **Craft** _____ **Glass** _____ **Kawai** _____ **Masnek**
 _____ **Mattie** _____ **Siani** _____ **Chairperson Jay**

ORDINANCE NO. 3717

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING A WATER
CONSERVATION AND WATER SUPPLY SHORTAGE
AND SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM AND REGULATIONS

The City Council of the City of Torrance ordains as follows:

SECTION 1

Article 4 of Chapter 6 of Division 7 of the Torrance Municipal Code is repealed.

SECTION 2

A new Article 4 of Chapter 6 of Division 7 of the Torrance Municipal Code is added to read in its entirety as follows:

"Section 76.4.010 Title.

This Article will be known as the City of Torrance Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage and Sustainability Program.

Section 76.4.020 Findings.

- a) A reliable minimum and sustainable supply of Potable Water is essential to the public health, safety and welfare of the people and economy of the City of Torrance and the southern California region.
- b) Southern California is a semi-arid region and is largely dependent upon imported water supplies. A growing population, climate change, environmental concerns, and other factors in other parts of the State and western United States, make the region highly susceptible to water supply reliability issues.
- c) Careful water management that includes active water Conservation measures not only in times of drought, but at all times, is essential to ensure a reliable minimum supply of water to meet current and future water supply needs.
- d) Article XI, Section 7 of the California Constitution declares that a city or county may make and enforce within its limits all local, police, sanitary and other ordinances and regulations not in conflict with general laws.
- e) Article X, Section 2 of the California Constitution declares that the general welfare requires that water resources be put to beneficial use, waste or unreasonable use or unreasonable method of use of water be prevented, and Conservation of water be fully exercised with a view to the reasonable and beneficial use thereof.
- f) California Water Code section 375 authorizes water suppliers to adopt and enforce a comprehensive water Conservation program to reduce water consumption and conserve supplies.
- g) The adoption and enforcement of a Water Conservation and Supply Shortage and Sustainability program is necessary to manage the City's Potable Water supply in the short and long-term and to avoid or minimize the effects of drought and shortage within the City. Such program is essential to ensure a reliable and sustainable minimum supply of water for the public health, safety and welfare for current and future generations.

Section 76.4.030. Declaration of Purpose and Intent.

- a) The purpose of this Article is to establish a Water Conservation and Supply Shortage and Sustainability program that will reduce water consumption within the City through Conservation, enable effective water supply planning, assure reasonable and beneficial use of water, prevent waste of water, and maximize the efficient use of water within the City to avoid and minimize the effect and hardship of water shortage to the greatest extent possible.
- b) This Article establishes permanent water Conservation standards intended to alter behavior related to water use efficiency for non-shortage conditions and further establishes three levels of water supply shortage response actions to be implemented during times of declared water shortage or declared water shortage emergency, with increasing restrictions on water use in response to worsening drought or emergency conditions and decreasing supplies

Section 76.4.040. Definitions.

- a) The following words and phrases whenever used in this Article have the meaning defined in this section:
 - 1) **"Allocation"** means a form of water rationing that uses penalty pricing to achieve target reductions in water use.
 - 2) **"Billing Unit"** means the unit of water used to apply water rates for purposes of calculating water charges for a Person's water usage and equals 100 cubic feet or 748 gallons of water.
 - 3) **"City"** means the City of Torrance.
 - 4) **"Conservation"** means the practice of protecting against the loss or waste of natural resources.
 - 5) **"Customer" or "Water User"** means a Person that uses Potable Water through a metered service connection.
 - 6) **"Landscape Irrigation System"** means an irrigation system with pipes, hoses, spray heads, or sprinkling devices that are operated by hand or through an automated system.
 - 7) **"Large Landscape Areas"** means a lawn, landscape, or other vegetated area, or combination thereof, equal to more than one (1) acre of irrigable land.
 - 8) **"Person"** means any natural person or persons, corporation, public or private entity, governmental agency or institution, or any other user of water within the City.
 - 9) **"Potable Water"** means water which is suitable for drinking.
 - 10) **"Recycled Water"** means the reclamation and reuse of non-Potable Water for beneficial use.
 - 11) **"Single Pass Cooling Systems"** means equipment where water is circulated only once to cool equipment before being disposed.
 - 12) **"Sustainability"** means a decision making concept describing water use that meets present needs without compromising the ability to meet future requirements.

Section 76.4.050. Application

- a) The provisions of this Article apply to any Person in the use of any Potable Water provided by the City.
- b) The provisions of this Article do not apply to uses of water necessary to protect public health and safety or for essential government services, such as police, fire and other similar emergency services.

- c) The provisions of this Article do not apply to the use of Recycled Water.
- d) The provisions of this Article do not apply to the use of water by commercial nurseries and commercial growers to sustain plants, trees, shrubs, crops or other vegetation intended for commercial sale.
- e) This Article is intended solely to further the Conservation of water. It is not intended to implement any provision of federal, State, or local statutes, ordinances, or regulations relating to protection of water quality or control of drainage or runoff.

Section 76.4.060 Permanent Water Conservation Requirements – Prohibition Against Waste

The following water Conservation requirements are effective at all times and are permanent, unless rescinded by the action of the City Council. Violations of this section will be considered waste and an unreasonable use of water.

- a) **Limits on Watering Hours:** Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with Potable Water is prohibited between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. on any day, except by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device, or for very short periods of time for the express purpose of adjusting or repairing an irrigation system.
- b) **Limit on Watering Duration:** Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with Potable Water using a Landscape Irrigation System or a watering device that is not continuously attended is limited to no more than 15 minutes watering per day per station. This subsection does not apply to Landscape Irrigation Systems that exclusively use very low-flow drip type irrigation systems when no emitter produces more than 2 gallons of water per hour and weather based controllers or stream rotor sprinklers that meet a 70% efficiency standard.
- c) **No Excessive Water Flow or Runoff:** Watering or irrigating of any lawn, landscape or other vegetated area in a manner that causes or allows excessive water flow or runoff onto an adjoining sidewalk, driveway, street, alley, gutter or ditch is prohibited.
- d) **No Washing Down Hard or Paved Surfaces:** Washing down hard or paved surfaces, including but not limited to sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking areas, tennis courts, patios or alleys, is prohibited except when necessary to alleviate safety or sanitary hazards, and then only by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off device or a low-volume, high-pressure water efficient water broom (Watermiser or equivalent brand) type or cleaning machine equipped to recycle any water used.
- e) **Obligation to Fix Leaks, Breaks or Malfunctions:** Excessive use, loss or escape of water through breaks, leaks or other malfunctions in the Water User's plumbing or distribution system for any period of time after such escape of water should have reasonably been discovered and corrected and in no event more than 15 days of receiving notice from the City, is prohibited.
- f) **Re-circulating Water Required for Water Fountains and Decorative Water Features:** Operating a water fountain or other decorative water feature that does not use re-circulated water is prohibited. This provision will be effective 90 days after adoption of this Ordinance.
- g) **Limits on Washing Vehicles:** Using water to wash or clean a vehicle, including but not limited to any automobile, truck, van, bus, motorcycle, boat or trailer, whether motorized or not is prohibited, except by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device. This subsection does not apply to any commercial car washing facility.

- h) **Drinking Water Served Upon Request Only:** Eating or drinking establishments, including but not limited to a restaurant, hotel, cafe, cafeteria, bar, club or other public place where food or drinks are sold, served, or offered for sale, are prohibited from providing drinking water to any Person unless expressly requested.
- i) **Commercial Lodging Establishments Must Provide Option to Not Launder Linen Daily:** Hotels, motels and other commercial lodging establishments must provide Customers the option of not having towels and linen laundered daily. Commercial lodging establishments must prominently display notice of this option in each bathroom using clear and easily understood language.
- j) **No Installation of Single Pass Cooling Systems:** Installation of Single Pass Cooling Systems is prohibited in buildings requesting new water service.
- k) **No Installation of Non-re-circulating in Commercial Car Wash and Laundry Systems:** Installation of non-re-circulating water systems is prohibited in new commercial conveyor car wash and new commercial laundry systems.
- l) **Restaurants Required to Use Water Conserving Dish Wash Spray Valves:** Food preparation establishments, such as restaurants or cafes, are prohibited from using non-water conserving dish wash spray valves.

Section 76.4.070 Level 1 Water Supply Shortage

- a) A Level 1 Water Supply Shortage exists when the City determines, in its sole discretion, that due to drought or other water supply reductions, a water supply shortage exists and a consumer demand reduction is necessary to make more efficient use of water and appropriately respond to existing water conditions. Upon the declaration by the City of a Level 1 Water Supply Shortage condition, the City will implement the mandatory Level 1 Conservation measures identified in this section. The type of event that may prompt the City to declare a Level 1 Water Supply Shortage may include, among other factors, a finding that the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California ("MWD") calls for extraordinary water Conservation and declares up to a 15% mandatory Allocation (rationing) within the MWD service area.

A Level 1 Water Supply Shortage condition exists when the City notifies its Water Users that due to drought or other supply reductions, a Customer demand reduction of up to 15% is necessary to make more efficient use of water and respond to existing water shortage conditions. Upon the declaration of a Level 1 Water Supply Shortage condition, the City shall implement the mandatory Level 1 Conservation measures identified in this ordinance.

- b) **Additional Water Conservation Measures:** In addition to the prohibited uses of water identified in Section 76.4.060, the following water Conservation requirements apply during a declared Level 1 Water Supply Shortage:
 - 1) **Limits on Watering Hours and Watering Duration:** Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with Potable Water is prohibited between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on any day, except by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device, or for very short periods of time for the express purpose of adjusting or repairing an irrigation system. Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with Potable Water using a Landscape Irrigation System is limited to no more than 15 minutes watering per day.

- 2) **Limits on Watering Days:** Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with Potable Water is limited to 3 days per week on a schedule established and posted by the City. This provision does not apply to landscape irrigation zones that exclusively use very low flow drip type irrigation systems when no emitter produces more than 2 gallons of water per hour. This provision also does not apply to watering or irrigating by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device, or for very short periods of time for the express purpose of adjusting or repairing an irrigation system.
- 3) **Obligation to Fix Leaks, Breaks or Malfunctions:** All leaks, breaks, or other malfunctions in the Water User's plumbing or distribution system must be repaired within 7 days of notification by the City unless other arrangements are made with the City.
- 4) **Other Prohibited Uses:** The City may implement other prohibited water uses as determined by the City, after notice to Customers.

Section 76.4.080 Level 2 Water Supply Shortage

- a) A Level 2 Water Supply Shortage exists when the City determines, in its sole discretion, that due to drought or other supply reductions, a water supply shortage exists and a consumer demand reduction is necessary to make more efficient use of water and respond to existing water conditions. Upon the declaration by the City of a Level 2 Water Supply Shortage condition, the City will implement the mandatory Level 2 Conservation measures identified in this section.

A Level 2 Water Supply Shortage condition exists when the City notifies its Water Users that due to drought or other supply reductions, a Customer demand reduction exceeding 15 % to up to 30% is necessary to make more efficient use of water and respond to existing water shortage conditions. Upon the declaration of a Level 2 Water Supply Shortage condition, the City shall implement the mandatory Level 2 Conservation measures identified in this ordinance.

- b) **Additional Conservation Measures:** In addition to the prohibited uses of water identified in Section 76.4.060 and 76.4.070, the following additional water Conservation requirements apply during a declared Level 2 Water Supply Shortage:
 - 1) **Limits on Watering Hours and Watering Duration** Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with Potable Water is prohibited between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. on any day, except by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device, or for a very short periods of time for the express purpose of adjusting or repairing an irrigation system. Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetates area with Potable Water using a Landscape Irrigation System is limited to no more than 10 minutes per day.
 - 2) **Watering Days:** Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with Potable Water is limited to 2 days per week on a schedule established and posted by the City. This provision does not apply to landscape irrigation zones that exclusively use very low flow drip type irrigation systems when no emitter produces more than 2 gallons of water per hour. This provision also does not apply to watering or irrigating by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device, or for very short periods of time for the express purpose of adjusting or repairing an irrigation system.
 - 3) **Obligation to Fix Leaks, Breaks or Malfunctions:** All leaks, breaks, or other malfunctions in the Water User's plumbing or distribution system must be repaired within four days of notification by the City unless other arrangements are made with the City.

- 4) **Limits on Filling Ornamental Lakes or Ponds:** Filling or re-filling ornamental lakes or ponds is prohibited, except to the extent needed to sustain aquatic life, provided that such animals are of significant value and have been actively managed within the water feature prior to declaration of a supply shortage level under this ordinance.
- 5) **Limits on Washing Vehicles:** Using water to wash or clean a vehicle, including but not limited to, any automobile, truck, van, bus motorcycle, boat or trailer, whether motorized or not, is prohibited except by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device, by high pressure/low volume wash systems, or at a commercial car washing facility that utilizes a re-circulating water system to capture or reuse water.
- 6) **Limits on Filling Residential Swimming Pools & Spas:** Re-filling of more than one foot and initial filling of residential swimming pools or outdoor spas with Potable Water is prohibited.
- 7) **Other Prohibited Uses:** The City may implement other prohibitions on water uses as determined by the City, after notice to Customers.

Section 76.4.090 Level 3 Water Supply Shortage – Emergency Condition

- a) A Level 3 Water Supply Shortage condition is also referred to as an "Emergency" condition. A Level 3 condition exists when the City declares a water shortage emergency and notifies its residents and businesses that a significant reduction in consumer demand is necessary to make more efficient use of water and respond to existing water conditions. Upon the declaration of a Level 3 Water Supply Shortage Emergency condition, the City will implement the mandatory Level 3 Conservation measures identified in this section.

A Level 3 Water Supply Shortage condition exists when the City notifies its Water Users that due to drought or other supply reductions, a Customer demand reduction exceeding 30% is necessary to make more efficient use of water and respond to existing water shortage conditions. Upon declaration of a Level 3 Water Supply Shortage condition, the City shall implement the mandatory Level 3 Conservation measures identified in this ordinance.

- b) **Additional Conservation Measures:** In addition to the prohibited uses of water identified in Section 76.4.060, 76.4.070, and 76.4.080, the following water Conservation requirements apply during a declared Level 3 Water Supply Shortage Emergency:
 - 1) **No Watering or Irrigating:** Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with Potable Water is prohibited. This restriction does not apply to the following categories of use or to the use of Recycled Water providing it is available and may be lawfully applied to the use:
 - i) Maintenance of vegetation, including trees and shrubs, that are watered using a hand-held bucket or similar container, hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device, or a very low-flow drip type irrigation system when no emitter produces more than 2 gallons of water per hour subject to the hour restrictions in Section 76.4.060 (a);
 - ii) Maintenance of existing landscape necessary for fire protection;
 - iii) Maintenance of existing landscape for soil erosion control;
 - iv) Maintenance of plant materials identified to be rare or essential to the well being of rare animals;
 - v) Maintenance of landscape within active public parks and playing fields, day care centers, school grounds, cemeteries, and golf course greens, provided that such irrigation does not exceed 2 days per week according to the schedule established in Section 76.4.080 (b)(1) and time restrictions in Section 76.4.060 (a) and (b);
 - vi) Public works projects and actively irrigated environmental mitigation projects.

- 2) **Obligation to Fix Leaks, Breaks or Malfunctions:** All leaks, breaks, or other malfunctions in the Water User's plumbing or distribution system must be repaired within two days of notification by the City unless other arrangements are made with the City.
- 3) **Discontinue Service:** The City, in its sole discretion, may discontinue service to Customers who willfully violate provisions of this section.
- 4) **Other Prohibited Uses:** The City may implement other prohibited water uses as determined by the City, after notice to Customers.

Section 76.4.100 Procedures for Determination / Notification of Water Supply Shortage

a) Declaration and Notification of Level 1 & 2 Water Supply Shortage:

- 1) The existence of Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 Water Supply Shortage conditions may be declared by resolution of the City adopted at a regular or special public meeting held in accordance with State law. The mandatory Conservation requirements applicable to Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 Water Supply Shortage conditions will take effect immediately upon adoption by the City Council.
- 2) In case of emergency, the City Manager will have the authority to declare a Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 Water Supply Shortage condition subject to ratification by the City Council within 7 days or the order will have no further force or effect.
- 3) The City Council is authorized to implement mandatory Conservation requirements applicable to Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 Water Supply Shortage conditions in order for the City to comply with water use restrictions imposed by federal, state or regional water agencies or respond to emergency water shortage conditions.

Section 76.4.110 Other Provisions

- a) **Commercial Car Wash Systems:** Effective on January 1, 2012, all commercial conveyor car wash systems must have installed and operational re-circulating water systems, or must have secured a waiver of this requirement from the City.
- b) **Large Landscape Areas – Rain Sensors:** Effective January 1, 2012, Large Landscape Areas, such as parks, cemeteries, golf courses, school grounds, and playing fields, that use Landscape Irrigation Systems to water or irrigate, must use Landscape Irrigation Systems with rain sensors that automatically shut off such systems during periods of rain or irrigation timers which automatically use information such as evapotranspiration sensors to set an efficient water use schedule.
- c) **Construction Purposes:** Recycled or other approved non-Potable Water must be used for construction purposes when available.
- d) **Limits on Building Permits:** The City will limit or withhold the issuance of building permits which require new or expanded water service, except to protect the public health, safety and welfare, or in cases which meet the City's adopted Conservation offset requirements.
- e) **Water Recycling Required if Alternative Available:** The use of Potable Water, other than Recycled Water, is prohibited for specified uses after the City has provided to the Customer an analysis showing that Recycled Water is a cost-effective alternative to Potable Water for such uses and the Customer has had a reasonable time, as determined by the Public Works Director, to make the conversion to Recycled Water.
- f) **Water Recycling – New Service:** Prior to the connection of any new water service, an evaluation must be done by the City to determine whether Recycled Water exists to supply all or some of the water needed and Recycled Water must be utilized to the extent feasible.

Section 76.4.120 Hardship Waiver

- a) **Undue and Disproportionate Hardship:** If, due to unique circumstances, a specific requirement of this Article would result in undue hardship to a Person using water or to property upon which water is used, that is disproportionate to the impacts to Water Users generally or to similar property or classes of Water Users, then the Person may apply for a waiver to the requirements in accordance with administrative procedures established by the City.

Section 76.4.130 Penalties and Violations

- a) **Misdemeanor:** Any Person who violates any provision of this Article is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 30 days, or by a fine not exceeding \$1,000, or by both fine and imprisonment.
- b) **Civil Penalties:** In addition to all other remedies, the City may issue civil penalties for failure to comply with any provisions of this Article are as follows:
- 1) **First Violation:** The City will issue a written warning and deliver a copy of this ordinance by mail.
 - 2) **Second Violation:** The City will issue a second written warning and deliver a copy of this ordinance by mail.
 - 3) **Third Violation:** A third violation within the preceding 12 calendar months is subject to fine not to exceed \$100. This fine will be incorporated into the Customer's water bill. Non payment will be subject to the same remedies as non payment of basic water rates.
 - 4) **Fourth Violation:** A fourth violation within the preceding 12 calendar months is subject to a fine not to exceed \$250. This fine will be incorporated into the Customer's water bill. Non payment will be subject to the same remedies as non payment of basic water rates.
 - 5) **Fifth and Subsequent Violations:** A fifth and subsequent violation is subject to a fine not to exceed \$500. This fine will be incorporated into the Customer's water bill. Non payment will be subject to the same remedies as non payment of basic water rates.
 - i) **Water Flow Restrictor:** In addition to any fines, the City may install a water flow restrictor device of approximately one gallon per minute capacity for services up to one and one-half inch size and comparatively sized restrictors for larger services after written notice of intent to install a flow restrictor for a minimum of 48 hours.
 - ii) **Termination of Service:** In addition to any fines and the installation of a water flow restrictor, the City may disconnect and/or terminate a Customer's water service.
- c) **Cost of Flow Restrictor and Disconnecting Service:** A Person or entity that violates this Article is responsible for payment of the City's charges for installing and/or removing any flow restricting device and for disconnecting and/or reconnecting service per the City's schedule of charges then in effect. The charge for installing and/or removing any flow restricting device must be paid to the City before the device is removed. Nonpayment will be subject to the same remedies as nonpayment of basic water rates.
- d) A violation of this Article is declared to be a public nuisance and may be abated by the City in accordance with its authority to abate nuisances.
- e) The penalties and remedies listed in this Article are not exclusive of any other penalties and remedies available to the City under any applicable federal, state or local law and it is within the discretion of the City to seek cumulative penalties and remedies."

URGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 3782

AN URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 76.4.050, 76.4.060, 76.4.070, 76.4.080, 76.4.100, 76.4.110, AND 76.4.120 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO WATER CONSERVATION AND WATER SUPPLY SHORTAGE AND SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM AND REGULATIONS

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2009, the City Council of the City of Torrance (City Council) adopted Ordinance No. 3717 entitled "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Torrance Establishing a Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage and Sustainability Program and Regulations" (Water Conservation Ordinance); and

WHEREAS, the Water Conservation Ordinance establishes certain permanent prohibitions regarding the wasteful uses of water, restrictions on potable water use and establishes increased levels of conservation depending on the severity of the water shortage conditions or other water supply reductions; and

WHEREAS, California is currently in the midst of a severe fourth consecutive drought year and snowpacks in the key Sierra Nevada watersheds in the state, which normally provide approximately 30% of all California's annual fresh water supplies, are at unprecedented low levels; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2015, in response to severe drought conditions, Governor Brown issued the first ever statewide executive order requiring implementation of mandatory water use reductions throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, the current severe drought situation and water supply shortage conditions necessitate that all communities in the state reduce their water use and increase their conservation efforts. This situation warrants the repeal of Resolution 2014-33 and activation of a Level 2 Water Supply Shortage stage of the City's Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance in accordance with Sections 76.4.080 and 76.4.100, to help mitigate drought impacts by implementing augmented water use restrictions. In addition to permanent measures and prohibitions against wasteful uses of water, augmented restrictions include prohibiting outdoor watering between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. and restricting water times to no more than 10 minutes; limiting outdoor watering to two days per week; requiring that all leaks be repaired within four days, placing restrictions on the filling or re-filling of ornamental ponds, swimming pools and spas, and establishing water usage target reductions of 30%.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Torrance ordains as follows:

SECTION 1

Section 76.4.050(a) is amended to read in its entirety as follows:

"a) The provisions of this Article apply to any Person in the use of any Potable Water within the City. This Article applies to the Torrance Municipal Water service area and to the service areas of any other agencies providing water service within the City."

SECTION 2

Section 76.4.060(b) is amended to read in its entirety as follows:

"b) Limit on Watering Duration: Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with Potable Water using a Landscape Irrigation System or a watering device that is not continuously attended is limited to no more than 15 minutes watering per day per station or per area. This subsection does not apply to Landscape Irrigation Systems that exclusively use very low-flow drip type irrigation systems when no emitter produces more than 2 gallons of water per hour and weather based controllers or stream rotor sprinklers that meet a 70% efficiency standard."

SECTION 3

Section 76.4.060 is amended to add a new subsection (m) to read in its entirety as follows:

"m) Limits on Watering During or After Measurable Rainfall: Watering or irrigating of any lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with Potable Water during a measurable rainfall is prohibited. Additionally, watering or irrigating of any lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with Potable Water within 48 hours after a measurable rainfall is prohibited."

SECTION 4

Section 76.4.070(b)(1) is amended to read in its entirety as follows:

"1) Limits on Watering Hours and Watering Duration: Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with Potable Water is prohibited between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on any day, except by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device, or for very short periods of time for the express purpose of adjusting or repairing an irrigation system. Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with Potable Water using a Landscape Irrigation System or watering device is limited to no more than 15 minutes watering per day per station or per area."

SECTION 5

Section 76.4.080(b)(1) is amended to read its entirety as follows:

"1) Limits on Watering Hours and Watering Duration: Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with Potable Water is prohibited between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. on any day, except by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, a hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device, or for very short periods of time for the express purpose of adjusting or repairing an irrigation system. Watering or irrigating of lawn, landscape or other vegetated area with Potable Water using a Landscape Irrigation System or watering device is limited to no more than 10 minutes per day per station or per area."

SECTION 6

Section 76.4.100(a) is amended to read in its entirety as follows:

"a) Declaration and Notification of Level 1, 2, & 3 Water Supply Shortage"

SECTION 7

Section 76.4.110 is amended to add a new subsection (g) to read in its entirety as follows:

"g) Administrative Rules: The Public Works Director shall have the authority to establish administrative rules, operating rules, procedures, and guidelines to implement and enforce this Article in accordance with its provisions and intent."

SECTION 8

Section 76.4.120(a) is amended to read in its entirety as follows:

"a) Undue and Disproportionate Hardship: If, due to unique circumstances, a specific requirement of this Article would result in undue hardship to a Person using water or to property upon which water is used, such as addressing appropriate moisture content to maintain the integrity of foundations or structural components of buildings in expansive soil areas, that is disproportionate to the impacts to Water Users generally or to similar property or classes of Water Users, then the Person may apply for a waiver to the requirements in accordance with administrative procedures established by the City."

SECTION 9

Declaration of Facts Supporting the Urgency Ordinance. This Ordinance is adopted under the authority of Government Code Section 36937. The statements of fact set forth in the preamble to this Ordinance are incorporated into this Section by this reference.

SECTION 10

Any inconsistent provisions of the Torrance Municipal Code, or any other inconsistent ordinances of the City, are repealed, to the extent of the inconsistencies.

SECTION 11


If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, then the decision will not affect the validity of the remaining portion of the ordinance. The City Council declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each of its sections, subsections, sentences, clauses and phrases, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases might be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 12

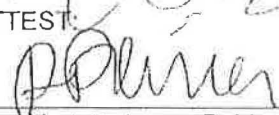
This Urgency Ordinance takes effect immediately upon its adoption pursuant to Water Code section 376. Within 10 days following adoption, this ordinance will be published at least once in the Daily Breeze, a newspaper of general circulation, published and circulated in the City of Torrance.

ADOPTED and PASSED this 5th day of May, 2015.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
JOHN FELLOWS III, City Attorney

by 
~~Patrick Q. Sullivan, Assistant City Attorney~~


Mayor Patrick J. Furey

ATTEST:

City Clerk Rebecca Poirier, MMC

TO: WATER COMMISSION
FROM: MATTHEW KNAPP, DEPUTY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR – OPERATIONS
SUBJECT: ACCEPT AND FILE MONTHLY WATER OPERATIONS REPORT FOR APRIL 2022

It is the recommendation of the Deputy Public Works Director - Operations that the Water Commission accept and file this report.

Monthly Water Department highlights for the month of April 2022 are:

1. Total potable water produced from local sources is 56% higher than in April 2021. On a year-to-date basis, potable water is 14.8% higher than last year and total water produced from all sources, including recycled water is 4.8% higher than in 2021. There has been a significant increase in potable water sales to the Torrance Refining Company as a result of continued high production and quality related issues with recycled water received from the West Basin Municipal Water District.

Water Produced and Imported (Acre-feet)

Month: April

Water Source	April 2021	April 2022	Change
Potable Groundwater			
Wells*	146.8	156.2	6.4%
WRD Desalter*	151.0	308.3	104.2%
Subtotal	297.8	464.5	56.0%
Imported Potable			
MWD	1,157.6	1,066.4	-7.9%
Imported Recycled			
WBMWD	506.7	406.4	-19.8%
Total Produced/Imported			
All Potable Sources	1,455.4	1,530.9	5.2%
All Sources + Recycled	1,962.1	1,937.2	-1.3%

Year to Date: 2021 vs 2022

Water Source	2021 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
Potable Groundwater			
Wells	576.8	650.1	12.7%
WRD Desalter	618.4	1,017.8	64.6%
Subtotal	1,195.2	1,667.9	39.6%
Imported Potable			
MWD	4,131.0	4,444.8	7.6%
Imported Recycled			
WBMWD	1,762.1	1,313.5	-25.5%
Total Produced/Imported			
All Potable Sources	5,326.2	6,112.7	14.8%
All Sources + Recycled	7,088.3	7,426.2	4.8%

*data estimate based on production reads

2. There was 4 water main breaks for the month of April 2022, compared to 4 for the same period in 2021. Total main breaks for calendar year 2022 are 14 compared to 19 last year.
3. Currently, the Goldsworthy Desalter is operating at an optimum level. The Desalter is projected to produce an average of 3,000 to 3,500 AF of potable water per year in the near future. The Water Replenishment District recently acquired a brackish well that formerly served the Brewer Desalter, which is no longer in service, and is developing plans to install a main in the City Yard to connect to the Goldsworthy Desalter. This would provide a third source well and increase production.


 Matthew Knapp
 Deputy Public Works Director - Operations

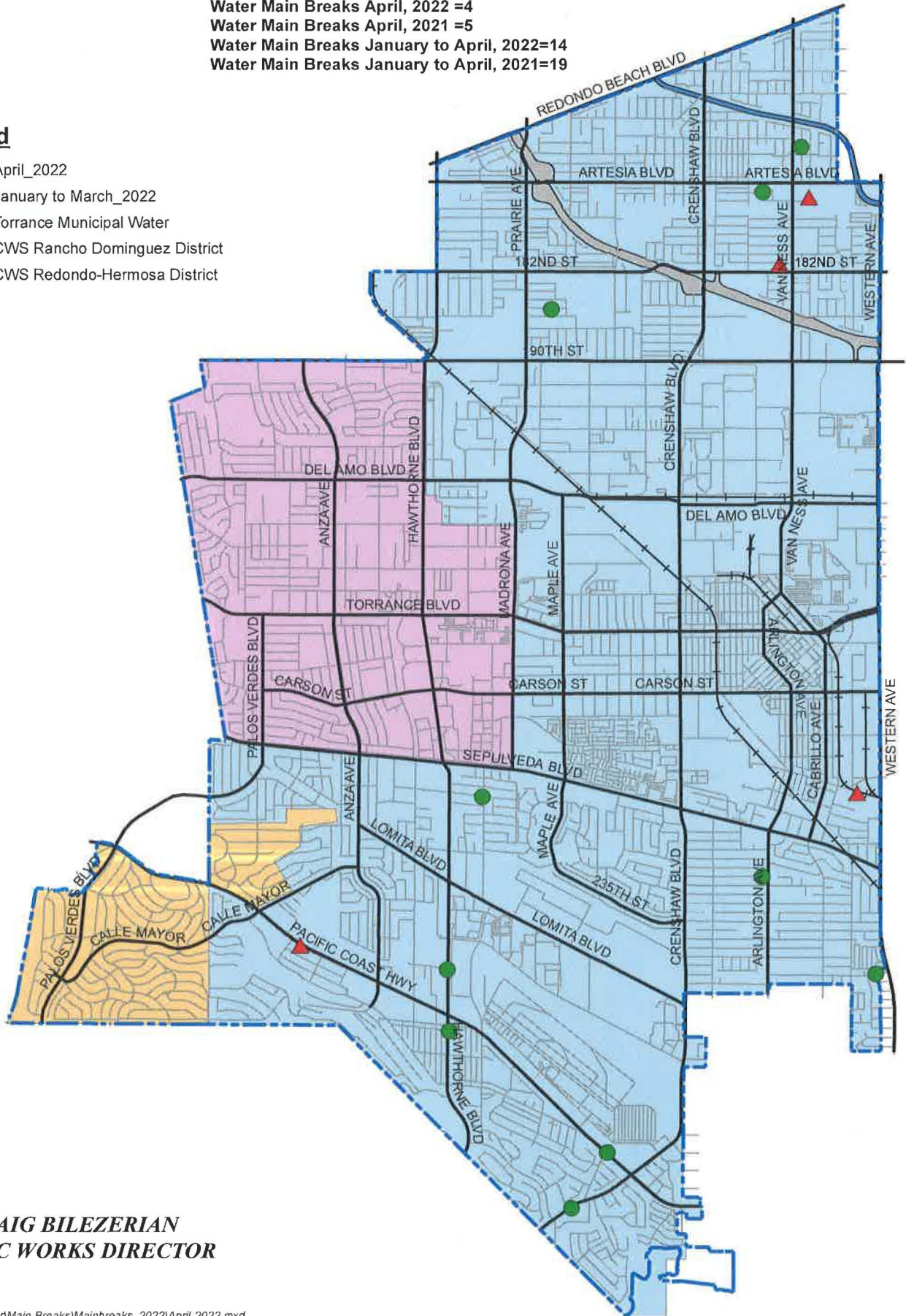
Roll Call: _____ **Craft** _____ **Glass** _____ **Kawai** _____ **Masnek**
 _____ **Mattie** _____ **Siani** _____ **Chairperson Jay**

TORRANCE MUNICIPAL WATER WATER MAIN BREAKS 2022

Water Main Breaks April, 2022 =4
 Water Main Breaks April, 2021 =5
 Water Main Breaks January to April, 2022=14
 Water Main Breaks January to April, 2021=19

Legend

- ▲ April_2022
- January to March_2022
- Torrance Municipal Water
- CWS Rancho Dominguez District
- CWS Redondo-Hermosa District



CRAIG BILEZERIAN
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR