



DATE: October 12, 2015

AGENDA ITEM # 4

**TO:** Environmental Commission

**FROM:** J. Logan, Staff Liaison

**SUBJECT:** Water Conservation

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Review and discuss water consumption and conservation efforts

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**BACKGROUND**

The Environmental Commission appointed a Subcommittee of Commissioners Eyre, Weiden and Halkola to determine methods for achieving the State's goals for reductions in water consumption. To this effort, the Subcommittee continues to: 1) review and report on water conservation efforts within Santa Clara County; 2) explore model water conservation ordinances and enforcement procedures; 3) gather water consumption data from the City of Los Altos water retailer, Cal Water; 4) formulate water consumption data to display annual and monthly usage in the Climate Action Plan Dashboard; 5) provide education and outreach efforts to residents and commercial establishments in Los Altos; 6) utilize resources from the Santa Clara County Valley Water District; and 7) analyze the provisions in the current City of Los Altos Water Conservation Resolution to determine the effectiveness of water reduction efforts.

At the Environmental Commission/Council Joint Meeting on March 17, 2015, Council advised the Commission that water conservation for the City is a major priority. Council encouraged the Commission to continue its Work Plan goal and projects on water conservation and to advise Council on the actions needed to attain the State's water reduction goals.

The Subcommittee efforts continue to provide reports to the Commission that result in discussions and lead to the formulation of recommendations to Council.

In September 2014, the Subcommittee began to explore opportunities for Cal Water Service, Purissima Hills Water District, the Town of Los Altos Hills and the City of Los Altos Environmental Commission to work together on the topic of Water Innovation for a public education and outreach effort to the joint communities. The Water Innovation seminar was held on March 12, 2015. The Subcommittee gave its report about the seminar at the April 13, 2015 Environmental Commission meeting.

The Subcommittee and Staff Liaison continue to work with Cal Water and the Santa Clara Valley Water District on local efforts, and data collection and initiatives for water usage reduction and conservation. Rachael Gibson, Office of Government Relations, Santa Clara Valley Water District, gave a presentation on water conservation efforts at the April 13, 2015 Environmental Commission meeting.

In addition, City staff attended a webinars hosted by the Office of the Governor regarding the Governor's Executive Order for water conservation and new goals set by the State for 25% reduction in water consumption. The Los Altos Water District goal for water reduction is 32%.

## **DISCUSSION**

Staff met with Cal Water Service (CWS) on April 22, 2015 and received a report about the drought, water-use restrictions and conservation efforts that will be implemented in the Los Altos Water District effective June 1, 2015. Staff then meet with the Water Conservation Subcommittee on April 30, 2015 and provided a briefing on these measures.

CWS convened a community meeting on May 11, 2015 at 6 pm at Covington School and presented drought, water use restrictions and conservation plans for the community. The Environmental Commission meeting convened at approximately 8:00 pm after the conclusion of the CWS community meeting.

At the May 11, 2015 Environmental Commission meeting, Public Works Director Susanna Chan presented a report and requested comments on the proposed City of Los Altos Level Three water conservation measures and implementation strategy.

At the June 9, 2015 Council meeting, Council adopted Resolution No. 2015-15 for Water Conservation Measures. At the June 23, 2015 Council meeting, Council approved the City of Los Altos agency water conservation efforts and approved Level 3 water reduction measures and prioritization

Effective June 1, 2015, CWS commenced implementation of Rule 14.1 reduction mandates and monthly water budget allocations for individual water users along with enforcement measures for meeting a 32% reduction in water usage for residents, businesses and for City municipal operations.

The City Municipal Service Center is a distribution point for SCVWD issued shower buckets and "Brown is the New Green" yard signs. Distribution hours are 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. In addition, drought gear items will also be distributed at the Hillview Recreation and Community Center Office from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

CWS notified residents and the City of a Boil Water Order due to contamination in certain locations. in response to Council's request for a report, at the August 25, 2015 meeting, CWS presented its report to Council regarding the circumstances requiring the Boil Water Order and its communication processes to residents.

The Water Conservation subcommittee will provide comments and updates on status of the drought and water conservation efforts.

### **Attachment:**

- A. *Santa Clara Valley Water District Drought 2015 Monthly Status Report; September 2015* – selected pages. Full report link  
[file:///C:/Users/jlogan/Downloads/Monthly%20Drought%20Report%20\(6\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/jlogan/Downloads/Monthly%20Drought%20Report%20(6).pdf)

## Section 2. Retailers' Water Use and Savings

This section contains detailed water use data from 2013 and 2015, summarizes cumulative water use saving percent, and illustrates cumulative and monthly trends in water use and savings at the water retailer level. [Please see Section 5, Data Collection Methodology for more information]

**TABLE 4: 2015 RETAILER CONSERVATION ACTIONS AND SAVINGS SUMMARY**

Water Retailer	Call for Savings	Cumulative Water Use (AF)	Monthly Savings July 2015	Monthly Savings Aug 2015	Cumulative Savings Jan to Aug 2015
San Jose Water Co.	30%	72,465	38%	36%	27%
Santa Clara (City)	30%	12,000	20%	33%	19%
Sunnyvale	30%	10,783	37%	36%	27%
San Jose Municipal	30%	10,994	35%	34%	26%
California Water Service	32%	7,154	39%	37%	31%
Palo Alto	24%	6,876	31%	34%	28%
Mountain View	16%	6,164	31%	41%	28%
Great Oaks	30%	6,223	36%	35%	28%
Milpitas	30%	5,901	25%	32%	20%
Gilroy	30%	4,701	35%	32%	26%
Morgan Hill	30%	4,092	42%	34%	31%
Purissima Hills Water	<sup>2</sup>	1,169	41%	27%	31%
Stanford <sup>1</sup>	<sup>3</sup>	924 <sup>1</sup>	1	1	1
<b>Total</b>		149,445	36%	<b>35%</b>	<b>26%</b>

<sup>1</sup> July and August 2015 data not available as of Sept 15, 2015

<sup>2</sup> 2-day/week water restrictions

<sup>3</sup> No percent reduction targets for domestic use

**TABLE 5: 2015 RETAILER CUMULATIVE AND MONTHLY SAVINGS SUMMARY**

<b>Cumulative Water Retailer Savings</b>	<u>Jan to Jan</u>	<u>Jan to Feb</u>	<u>Jan to Mar</u>	<u>Jan to April</u>	<u>Jan to May</u>	<u>Jan to June</u>	<u>Jan to July</u>	<u>Jan to Aug</u>
San Jose Water Company	-3%	1%	3%	10%	18%	22%	25%	27%
Santa Clara, city	2%	5%	4%	6%	11%	15%	16%	19%
Sunnyvale	-6%	7%	6%	12%	20%	23%	26%	27%
San Jose Municipal Water	-8%	2%	4%	11%	19%	22%	25%	26%
California Water Service	8%	11%	10%	15%	23%	27%	29%	31%
Palo Alto	10%	15%	12%	16%	25%	26%	27%	28%
Mountain View	0%	13%	10%	15%	22%	24%	25%	28%
Great Oaks	0%	5%	7%	13%	20%	24%	26%	28%
Milpitas	1%	6%	4%	8%	14%	16%	18%	20%
Gilroy	-5%	0%	5%	12%	18%	22%	25%	26%
Morgan Hill	-8%	-2%	6%	19%	24%	26%	30%	31%
Purissima Hills Water	-4%	14%	7%	21%	25%	29%	31%	31%
Stanford*	-3%	6%	7%	13%	22%	24%	-	-
<b>Combined Cumulative Savings</b>	<b>-2%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>26%</b>
<i>Cumulative Savings</i>	<i>N/A*</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>11%</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>12%</i>	<i>11%</i>	<i>11%</i>	<i>11%</i>
<b>Month to Month Water Retailer Savings</b>	<u>Jan to Jan</u>	<u>Feb to Feb</u>	<u>Mar to Mar</u>	<u>April to April</u>	<u>May to May</u>	<u>June to June</u>	<u>July to July</u>	<u>Aug to Aug</u>
San Jose Water Company	-3%	5%	7%	25%	36%	35%	38%	36%
Santa Clara (City of)	2%	7%	3%	11%	26%	29%	20%	33%
Sunnyvale	-6%	18%	4%	27%	38%	36%	37%	36%
San Jose Municipal Water	-8%	11%	7%	24%	39%	33%	35%	34%
California Water Service	8%	15%	8%	26%	40%	40%	39%	37%
Palo Alto	10%	19%	6%	25%	46%	31%	31%	34%
Mountain View	0%	24%	3%	27%	38%	33%	31%	41%
Great Oaks	0%	10%	10%	25%	38%	37%	36%	35%
Milpitas	1%	11%	-1%	17%	31%	24%	25%	32%
Gilroy	-5%	5%	13%	24%	34%	33%	35%	32%
Morgan Hill	-8%	3%	17%	39%	35%	35%	42%	34%
Purissima Hills Water	-4%	25%	-3%	40%	37%	40%	41%	27%
Stanford *	-3%	13%	8%	29%	44%	35%	-	-
<b>Combined Month to Month 2015</b>	<b>-2%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>35%</b>
<i>Combined Month to Month 2014</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>12%</i>	<i>15%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>8%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>14%</i>

\* January 2014 was not included in analysis as there was no call for savings

\*\* July and August data not available as of 9/15/2015

# California Water Service Company

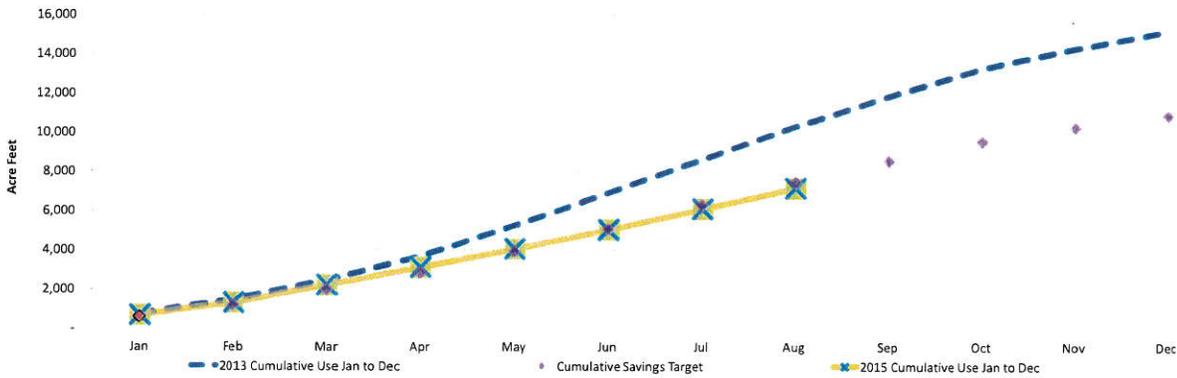
## 2013 and 2015 Water Use Compared to Target

2013	Groundwater	Treated Water	SP-11C	Surface	2013 Monthly Use
Jan	215.0	510.0	-	-	725.0
Feb	254.0	477.0	-	-	731.0
Mar	446.0	544.0	-	-	990.0
Apr	439.0	786.0	-	-	1,225.0
May	672.0	906.0	-	-	1,578.0
Jun	709.0	930.0	-	-	1,639.0
Jul	690.0	1,049.0	-	-	1,739.0
Aug	437.0	1,241.0	-	-	1,678.0
Sep	321.0	1,221.0	-	-	1,542.0
Oct	363.0	1,068.0	-	-	1,431.0
Nov	183.0	844.0	-	-	1,027.0
Dec	262.0	626.0	-	-	888.0
<b>Jan to Current Month</b>	<b>3,862.0</b>	<b>6,443.0</b>	-	-	<b>10,305.0</b>
<b>January to December Total</b>	<b>4,991.0</b>	<b>10,202.0</b>	-	-	<b>15,193.0</b>

2015	Groundwater	Treated Water			2015 Monthly Use
Jan	491.0	178.0	-	-	669.0
Feb	447.0	175.0	-	-	622.0
Mar	658.0	252.0	-	-	910.0
Apr	479.0	427.0	-	-	906.0
May	219.0	729.0	-	-	948.0
Jun	73.0	903.0	-	-	976.0
Jul	41.0	1,026.0	-	-	1,067.0
Aug	52.0	1,004.0	-	-	1,056.0
Sep	-	-	-	-	-
Oct	-	-	-	-	-
Nov	-	-	-	-	-
Dec	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Jan to Current Month</b>	<b>2,460.0</b>	<b>4,694.0</b>	-	-	<b>7,154.0</b>
<b>%Savings by Source of Supply</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>27%</b>	-	-	<b>31%</b>

Cumulative % Savings Jan to December
(+) = savings
8%
11%
10%
15%
23%
27%
29%
31%
-
-
-
-

Cal Water  
2013 & 2015 Cumulative Water Use and Savings



Cal Water  
2013 & 2015 Monthly Water Use and Savings



**Notes**

Current monthly water use data is preliminary and subject to change.

Percent savings are shown in positive values where savings have been made and negative percent values where water use is higher than the base year period (2013)

January to March 2015 savings targets at 20% reductions compared to the same period in 2013, and the remaining months are at the March 24, 2015 call for 30% savings.

Cumulative % Savings shows the target savings for all months combined at that period in time.

Recycled water not included in monthly analysis and will be analyzed separately. It is not included in the water savings target.

N/A = Not Applicable

-' Not Available



As of 9/14/2015