

INFORMATION HANDOUT

For Contract No. 11-282304

At 11-SD-5-31.7

Identified by

Project ID 1100000313

MATERIALS INFORMATION

Water Source Information: City of San Diego Water letter, dated July 17, 2014



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

July 17, 2014

Mr. Joel Hortizuela
Caltrans Landscape Architect
Department of Transportation
District 11
4050 Taylor Street, M.S. 120
San Diego, CA 92110

Dear Mr. Hortizuela:

Subject: Landscape, Irrigation and Plant Establishment on Route 5 in the Torrey Hills Area for a Stormwater Mitigation-Slope Erosion Repair Project.

This is in response to your letter dated July 8, 2014 regarding water availability for the above subject project. Based upon the volume and duration of the project you provided, the City of San Diego has sufficient and available potable water capacity to serve your project.

Please note that effective July 1, 2014, the City of San Diego moved to Level 1 Drought Alert per the attached memo dated June 24, 2014. The Level 1 Drought Watch Condition lists voluntary water conservation measures that are added to the City's existing permanent restrictions. Please also note that utilizing existing potable water and/or irrigation meters City-wide will be subject to any City of San Diego City Council drought actions to conserve water, if enacted by City Council.

If you have any questions, please call me at 619-446-5420 or email me at Mrastakhiz@sandiego.gov.

Sincerely,

Mehdi Rastakhiz, PE
Associate Civil Engineer
Development Services Department
Water and Sewer Development Review
1222 First Avenue, MS 401
San Diego, CA 92101

Attachment: Level 1 Drought Alert memo dated June 24, 2014



Development Services • Planning Division

1222 First Avenue, MS 413 • San Diego, CA 92101-4101

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THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 24, 2014

TO: All Department Directors

FROM: Halla Razak, Director of Public Utilities

SUBJECT: Level 1 Drought Alert starting July 1, 2014

The City of San Diego was in a Stage 2 Drought Alert Condition from June 1, 2009, through May 26, 2011. During that time, City departments played a vital role in saving water and setting a good example for the citizens in our community. During the height of that drought, City departments reduced metered water consumption by 31.4% from pre-drought levels.

The City Council recently approved moving the City to a Level 1 Drought Watch Condition starting July 1, 2014. This memo is provided to assist Departments in identifying water saving opportunities, creating water conservation plans and complying with permanent and voluntary water use regulations.

PRIOR WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS

From 1992 to 1999, the Water Department implemented a City Facilities Retrofit Program that installed more than 2,384 ultra-low flush toilets and 702 urinals in 494 City owned and operated facilities. The City wanted to show its commitment to water conservation by installing the water conserving plumbing fixtures in our own facilities. That program was completed in 1999 and the biggest retrofit job, that of Qualcomm Stadium in 1998 (365 toilets and 196 urinals) in time for Super Bowl XXXII, was used in a national water conservation publication/article.

The Public Utilities Department has also worked for many years with the Park and Recreation Department to create water use budgets for City parks. Water budgets are estimates of how much water existing landscapes need based on weather information, plant watering needs, type of soil and irrigation systems used, and these estimates are translated into run times per irrigation valve to allow them to use water efficiently. Throughout the last drought, Park and Recreation staff closely monitored water consumption in all its irrigated areas, and this diligence was evident in the achieved 31% water use reduction.

PERMANENT WATER USE RESTRICTIONS

Before the City lifted Level 2 mandatory restrictions in 2011, City Council and City staff agreed that some of these restrictions should remain in place. Hence the San Diego Municipal Code Section SDMC §67.3803 was revised to reflect the permanent water use restrictions that are in effect every day in San Diego. These include the following limitations:

- a) No runoff/excessive irrigation leaving the property;
- b) Repair leaks upon discovery or within seventy-two hours of notification;
- c) No watering of paved areas;
- d) No overfilling swimming pools and spas;
- e) No non-recirculating decorative water fountains;
- f) Car washing only in a commercial car wash or using a hose with shutoff nozzle or a bucket;
- g) New buildings must recycle cooling system water and car wash water;
- h) Restaurants will only serve and refill water upon request;
- i) Hotel guests must have the option of not laundering towels and linens daily; and
- j) No watering after 10 am and before 4 pm (winter)/before 6 pm (summer).

Please ensure that staff within your Department is aware of these permanent water use restrictions.

VOLUNTARY WATER USE RESTRICTIONS

The Level 1 Drought Watch Condition lists voluntary water conservation measures that are added to the City's existing permanent water restrictions. These voluntary measures go into effect on July 1, 2014. Although these measures are voluntary for citizens, it is advised that City Departments take the lead and treat them as mandatory:

- 1) Landscape irrigation limited to three days per week;
- 2) When watering without an irrigation system a shut-off nozzle or garden hose sprinkler system on a timer is required;
- 3) Washing vehicles limited to the same schedule as irrigation (except for: boats which may be washed after use; vehicles with health/safety issues; at a commercial carwash that recycles water);
- 4) Use recycled or non-potable water for construction purposes;

- 5) Fire hydrants for firefighting only;
- 6) Construction operations can use water only as required by regulatory agencies; and
- 7) Irrigation is not permitted during rain event.

RECOMMENDED CONSERVATION MEASURES

Indoor Water Use

If the facility is one of those that received water conserving plumbing fixtures through the City Facilities Retrofit Program, City staff can inspect these fixtures for proper operation and leaks. Self-closing faucets should shut off after a determined amount of seconds. Make sure the valves are not sticking, which would prevent the faucet from shutting off automatically. If faucet aerators have been removed, install new ones that use 1.0 gallons per minute. If the facility has tank style toilets, place dye tablets or food coloring inside the tank and observe if the coloring makes it way to the bowl. This would indicate a leak and would require an adjustment or replacement of the toilet flapper mechanism. Always repair leaks, as even small ones can waste hundreds of gallons of water.

If the facility still has high volume plumbing fixtures, replace them with water efficient ones, such as high-efficiency toilets and urinals, and faucets with self-closing features. There may be some incentives available for replacing these older fixtures. Check with the Water Conservation Program (Luis Generoso at 619-533-5258) for up-to-date information on incentives for public facilities.

Here are a few other measures City staff can take:

- Increase employee awareness of the need to conserve water. The Water Conservation Program (contact Luis Generoso at 619-533-5258) has various brochures and reference materials that can help you.
- Install signs encouraging water conservation in employee and customer restrooms.
- Assign an employee to monitor water use and waste within the facility. Read your water meter weekly to monitor the success of your water conservation efforts, and to detect leaks. Monitor water usage when reviewing water bills. Information on your historic water usage can be obtained calling our Water Conservation Program.
- Check for obvious leaks, where there are consistent water puddles.
- Repair dripping faucets and showers, and continuously running toilets.
- Install faucet aerators where possible.
- Shut off water supply to equipment rooms not in use.
- Shut off cooling equipment when not in use, and minimize water used in cooling units. There may be a need to replace the cooling tower conductivity controller. Check for incentives offered for these controllers.
- Review rebates available in Southern California at <http://www.bewaterwise.com>.

If there are other function areas like cafeterias/food preparation areas, please contact our Water Conservation Program for tips on how to conserve water specific to those areas.

Outdoor Consumption

Significant water savings can be realized if attention is given to how much water we use outdoors. Here are things City staff can readily implement to help reduce outdoor water consumption:

- Stop hosing down sidewalks, driveways and parking lots. If you need to do so for health and safety reasons, consider using a water broom or a water efficient power washer. For more information, visit our website at www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation.
- Operate your irrigation system to water before 10 a.m. or after 6:00 p.m. to minimize water loss from evaporation or windy conditions.
- Water landscape only when needed. Usually two to three times a week is sufficient. Or you can use the Landscape Watering Calculator at the website mentioned above to prepare a water efficient irrigation schedule based on your plants watering needs, weather date, soil type, and irrigation system used. This easy-to-use tool developed by the Public Utilities Department has been recognized with multiple awards, and is endorsed by a number of landscape industry professionals.
- Consider installing a weather based irrigation controller. These "smart controllers" automatically adjust irrigation run times as the season/weather changes and can shut off your system when it rains. Check with our Water Conservation Program for incentives that may be available.
- Make sure your sprinklers irrigate only the landscape area and not driveways and parking lots. Avoid irrigation runoff that causes storm water pollution.
- Do not water on windy days.
- Should landscape conversion be an option, consider water efficient plants and irrigation systems. These plants provide color and beauty, and the plant choices are numerous. Check our website or visit the Water Conservation Garden at Cuyamaca College (www.thegarden.org) for more information. Rebates for landscape and irrigation system conversions are also available.

More information on how you can save water at home and at work can be found on the following websites:

City of San Diego
<http://www.WasteNoWater.org>

San Diego County Water Authority
<http://www.sdcwa.org/whenindrought>

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
<http://www.bewaterwise.com/>

Page 5
All Department Directors
June 24, 2014

RECYCLED WATER OPTION

If the facility is located along the existing recycled water pipeline route you might consider retrofitting your irrigation system to accept recycled water. Irrigation retrofit rebates are now available under a Metropolitan Water District pilot program. For an interactive "recycled water availability zone map" visit <http://www.sandiego.gov/water/recycled/availability/index.shtml> or contact Dawnn Jackson at 619-533-4264.

Thank you for the cooperation in conserving water at City facilities and for providing a good example to the public. Please let me know if you should have any questions.



Hatia Razak
Director of Public Utilities

LSG/lsg