

Staff Report

Agenda Item #: {{section.number}}C

# Yountville Town Council Staff Report

DATE: September 21, 2021

TO: Mayor and Town Council

**FROM:** John Ferons, Public Works Director

**PREPARED BY:** John Ferons, Public Works Director

## SUBJECT:

Water Conservation Update for August 2021

## DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND

In response to the statewide drought emergency in March 2021, the Director of Operations for the Veterans Home notified the Town that there would be a 20% reduction of our Rector Water Supply from +500 Acre-Feet (AF) down to a maximum 400 Acre-Feet. Subsequently, the Town's water customers will need to conserve a collective 20% to meet this new, lower allocation. As such, in May 2021 Town Council approved and adopted a resolution placing the Town into a Modified Phase 2 Water Shortage Emergency with the modifications supplementing all of the existing conditions in a Phase 2 Water Shortage Emergency.

The formal water conservation efforts went into effect July 1, 2021, with our collective goal is to use 400 Acre-Feet of water (or less) from Rector Reservoir. The metrics of this goal will be to compare current FY 21-22 water used with last FT 20-21 water use on a month-to-month and running total basis which will be reported to Town Council at their regularly scheduled meetings.

For perspective, there are 325,851 gallons of water in one Acre-Foot acre foot. Therefore, the amount that we need conserve, 100 Acre-Feet is 32,585,100 gallons ( $35 \frac{1}{2}$  million gallons). By way of comparison, a 20 ft wide x 40 ft long by 6 ft deep swimming pool holds +/- 32,500 gallons, so we need to conserve +/- 1,000 swimming pools worth of water in one year's time.

For the month of August FY 21/22, the Town used 50.88 Acre-feet from Rector Reservoir. This is only a 13.1% reduction from August FY 20/21 which was 58.55 Acre-Feet which is 6.9% short of the goal of 20%.

Water Conservation and Outreach is a big focus for Public Works staff. Outreach is focused on Courtesy Notices to properties that appear to be irrigating contrary to the current water regulations. The water conservation message is; Please be ever mindful of your water use. Excess runoff, watering on the wrong day/time and overuse of water may result in a courtesy notice and if unabated may result in a notice of violation, citation, fines, and discontinuance of water service.

During the month of August, 39 Courtesy Notices were issued in the form of a blue door hanger at the residences. One Courtesy Notice of Violation was issued and there were no fines or discontinuance of water service during August.

# **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

Not Applicable

# **FISCAL IMPACT**

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No Is it Currently Budgeted? N/A Where is it Budgeted? N/A Is it Mandatory or Discretionary? Discretionary Is there a Staff Resource Impact? Nominal

## STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL

Is item Identified in Strategic Plan? Yes

If yes, Identify Strategic Goal and Objective. **Exceptional Town Services and Staff:** The Town supports its talented staff who deliver high quality municipal programs and services while maintaining public infrastructure for the benefit of the community. **Visionary Leadership:** The Town's leadership maintains an open-minded, forward-thinking decision-making process. We value engagement and participation from all members of the community as we work together to create policies and plan for the future.

Briefly Explain Relationship to Strategic Plan Goal and Objective. Water conservation is a collective effort by Town staff, our residents and our business partners to reach our goal of conserving 100 acre feet for a total of 400 acre feet of use from Rector Reservoir.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Receive Staff Informational Report and direct any questions to staff.