

Staff Report

Regular Board Meeting

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Kelly Malloy, Director of Strategic Services

SUBJECT: Conservation Update

RECOMMENDATION

This agenda item is for informational purposes only, no action required.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS

East Valley Water District has developed an extensive Conservation program to engage with community members, report out to the state and protect this precious natural resource. With more than 88% of the state experiencing extreme drought conditions, the District will continue its local and regional efforts to encourage customers and partners to conserve water.

The State's water supply continues to be impacted by extreme heat and low water levels in reservoirs and streams. In response to the developing drought, a proclamation was issued declaring a drought state of emergency in 50 counties, not including San Bernardino, triggering mandatory water restrictions in the declared counties. Governor Newsom also issued an executive order calling on all Californians to voluntarily reduce their usage by 15% compared to 2020 levels. The State Water Resources Control Board will be monitoring progress on the voluntary conservation and will determine whether additional drought response actions are needed.

Due to the investments made by regional agencies, including the District, the Bunker Hill Basin is in a strong position in this dry year. The District is currently operating in Stage 1 of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan. Under this stage, customers are encouraged to use water wisely to prevent waste and unreasonable use of water. Should drought conditions continue, and the Governor declare a Drought Emergency for San Bernardino County, the District will move into Stage 2 to reduce water usage across all customer categories.

The District continues to engage customers in conservation programs and encourage water efficiency efforts. In Fiscal Year 2020-2021, more than 340 customers participated in one of seven rebate programs offered. 113 irrigation controllers were upgraded to the weather-based irrigation controller through the direct installation program, helping the District save more than 1.6 million gallons of water, equal to the amount needed for one year of water for 21 households.

Staff will be monitoring the District's progress on voluntary reductions, continue to encourage customers to use water efficiently, and be active participants in the stewardship of our water resources.

AGENCY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- II - Maintain a Commitment To Sustainability, Transparency, and Accountability
 - B. Utilize Effective Communication Methods
 - D. Provide Quality Information to Encourage Community Engagement

REVIEW BY OTHERS

This agenda item has been reviewed by Legislative & Public Outreach Committee as well as the Community Advisory Commission.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this agenda item.

Recommended by:

Respectfully submitted:

John Mura
General Manager/CEO

Kelly Malloy
Director of Strategic Services

ATTACHMENTS

Conservation Presentation