

**CITY OF BROOKINGS
STATE OF OREGON**

RESOLUTION 15-R-1067

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BROOKINGS ADOPTING A DROUGHT RESPONSE POLICY.

Whereas, the Curry County Board of Commissioners (County) has adopted a resolution declaring a local drought emergency and requesting the Governor to declare a State of Emergency in Curry County due to drought conditions; and

Whereas, the City of Brookings, (City) has determined by ordinance, as codified under Brookings Municipal Code (BMC) Section 13.05.250, that, "It is the policy of the City of Brookings to provide clean, healthful and plentiful water to its residents." Said section of the BMC further provides a policy for water curtailment, "To address the impact of a potential water shortage on the City's residents and the ability of the Chetco River to serve as a viable habitat to important fishery resources;" and

Whereas, said water curtailment policy provides for four stages of reduced water use based upon the flow of water in the Chetco River and the amount of water withdrawal. The purpose of said water curtailment, as provided in BMC Section 13.05.250(A), is to "limit water withdrawal from the Chetco River to a daily average of 5.1 cfs whenever the three day average flow of the river is below 80 cfs;" and

Whereas, the three-day average flow of the Chetco River dropped below 80 cfs on July 3, 2015; and

Whereas, the three-day average withdrawal of water by the City as of July 3, 2015, was 2.1 cfs, approximately 50 per cent of criteria established by law requiring curtailment action; and

Whereas, the City provides water service to 3,340 regular customers connected through City-owned meters to the City water system, approximately 329 of said customers being located outside of the City Limits. Together, said City water customers within the City Limits and outside the City Limits are City Water Service Customers; and

Whereas, the Chetco River is the City's sole source of water supply; and

Whereas, the Chetco River flow is considered to be at a historic low for the early summer period; and

Whereas, the City source of supply was designed and has proven to be resilient to low flow events, with the source being a Ranney Collector system drawing from the groundwater aquifer located below the Chetco River; and

Whereas, the City has a water storage capacity of 3,628,600 gallons, which is equal to approximately two days of peak day demand and four days of average day demand; and

Whereas, water flow below 80 cfs in the Chetco River has been a recurring event for a number of years, but has generally occurred in the August or September calendar period; and

Whereas, it is the responsibility of the County to take the lead in responding to drought by coordinating local responses and requesting state assistance;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved that the City Council of the City of Brookings does hereby find, determine and direct as follows:

1. A drought condition exists in Curry County.
2. Such drought condition may have an effect on the City water source of supply.
3. The amount of water being diverted from the Chetco River is approximately 1.0 per cent of the total river flow.
4. City Water Service Customers have already taken action to reduce consumption, with average residential use having been reduced by over 40 per cent...from 133 gallons per day to 77.8 gallons per day, since 2000.
5. The City has made improvements to its water system to reduce its unaccounted-for water use to less than 10 per cent.
6. Even though the criteria established in the BMC precipitating voluntary and mandatory conservation and curtailment has not been met, the City Council finds that it is in the best interest of the community and consistent with the City's water goals as articulated in BMC Section 13.05.250 to call for voluntary conservation by the City Water Service Customers.
7. In its own water use at City facilities, the City will follow the guidelines prescribed in BMC 13.05.250(B)(2) except that the City's municipal swimming pool shall remain in full operation.
8. The City Manager is directed to coordinate with Curry County in responding to incidents resulting from the drought emergency. Such response may include:
 - a. Providing water to other public water systems within Curry County.
 - b. Providing water to residents of Curry County who are not City Water Service Customers.
 - c. Wildfire response.

All such actions shall be in response to a request for assistance received from Curry County.

9. The City Manager is directed to undertake a public information campaign to inform the public about the City's water system and water conservation measures.

10. The City Manager is directed to undertake a leak detection program to identify and repair water leaks within the City's water system.
11. The City Manager is directed to pursue funding through the State of Oregon, the National Disaster Resiliency Competition and other sources for the construction of improvements to the City water system which would make the City water system even more resilient to drought, with a goal of increasing water storage supply to at least 30 days of average daily use.
12. The City Manager is directed to fully explore alternative, long-term sources of water supply, including utilization of sources where the City has existing, unused water rights, and new technologies.

Be it therefore further resolved that this Drought Response Policy shall remain in effect until such time as the City Council deems it is no longer necessary.

Passed by the City Council July 13, 2015 ; effective the same date.

Ron Hedenskog
Mayor Ron Hedenskog

Attest:

Joyce Heffington
City Recorder Joyce Heffington