



Mayor L. DENNIS MICHAEL • Mayor Pro Tem SAM SPAGNOLO
Council Members WILLIAM J. ALEXANDER, LYNNE B. KENNEDY, DIANE WILLIAMS
City Manager JOHN R. GILLISON

THE CITY OF RANCHO CUCAMONGA

January 6, 2016

Ms. Kathy Frevert
State Water Resources Control Board
Post Office Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

Sent via U.S. Mail and E-mail to: Kathy.Frevert@waterboards.ca.gov

Subject: Comments on Proposed Regulatory Framework

Dear Ms. Frevert:

On behalf of the City of Rancho Cucamonga, I am writing to provide feedback regarding the proposal of the regulatory framework for mandatory conservation established by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board), which extends the 2015 emergency regulation on urban water conservation through October 2016.

Over the last several years, the City of Rancho Cucamonga has made extraordinary efforts to lower its water consumption by transitioning street medians to drought-tolerant landscaping and decommissioning substantial portions of turf area in our local parks. To date, more than 300,000 square feet of turf has been replaced with mulch or drought-tolerant landscaping. We have, to the largest extent possible, utilized reclaimed water for irrigation at a number of city sites and have utilized advanced technology such as master irrigation controllers to regulate water usage.

Cucamonga Valley Water District (CVWD), who serves as Rancho Cucamonga's water supplier, has also been dedicated to conservation and water use efficiency for many years. CVWD has made significant investments in a direct-use recycled water system and recycled water recharge basins and has banked groundwater for nearly 10 years in the Chino Groundwater Basin. These actions were taken in order to endure drought situations like the one we are currently experiencing. If you cumulatively add the recent water reductions CVWD has made since the conservation mandate (30% since June 1, 2015) along with the water savings achieved before the mandate, Rancho Cucamonga water users have reduced their water consumption by approximately 50%.

We are glad the State Board is working with water agencies to determine how to move forward with extending the emergency regulations through October 2016. The City supports staff's recommendation to implement the stakeholder proposal for a climate adjustment that reduces the conservation requirement by up to 4 percent for water suppliers located in the warmest regions of the state. Furthermore, the City urges you to consider further adjustments that will account for CVWD's groundwater banking and recycled water efforts. We look forward to working with the State Board to develop sound and justifiable changes to the emergency regulations that are equitable and sustainable for all agencies across the state.

Sincerely,

L. Dennis Michael
Mayor

CC: Cucamonga Valley Water District