

TO: James L. App, City Manager
FROM: Meg Williamson, Interim Public Works Director
SUBJECT: Water Shortage Emergency Declaration
DATE: April 20, 2004

NEEDS: For the City Council to declare a citywide water shortage emergency due to the December 22, 2003, San Simeon Earthquake.

- FACTS:**
1. The City water distribution system contains 12 million gallons of storage capacity. During the December 22, 2003, earthquake, the City lost use of one of three of its above ground 4 million gallon storage tanks.
 2. Storage capacity is currently limited to 8 million gallons. Summertime use can exceed 11,000,000 gallons per day.
 3. During the month of March City water demand increased 19% compared to March last year due to unusual hot weather conditions.
 4. Due to the earthquake, there is an immediate operational urgency to reduce the City's water demand by 25%. On March 2, 2004, the City Council implemented a Water Conservation Plan.
 5. In accordance with California Water Code Section 350, the City of Paso Robles is authorized to declare a water shortage emergency to protect its supply for human consumption, sanitation, and fire protection use.
 6. Until normal water supply has been replenished or augmented the City will implement some or all of the following mandatory water cutback options: use of flow restrictors, implementation of a tiered rate structure, limit production well supplies, or eliminate or curtail nonessential water uses.

**ANALYSIS
AND**

CONCLUSION: The City experienced a 6.5 magnitude earthquake on December 22, 2003. The earthquake caused damage to one of the City's 4 million gallon reservoir. The City implemented a Water Conservation Plan to assist in conserving water. Due to hot weather conditions, water consumption increased during the month of March, and in anticipation of heavy summer water demand, declaration of a water emergency seems appropriate.

POLICY

REFERENCE: California Water Code,
Water Conservation Plan

FISCAL

IMPACT: None.

- OPTIONS:**
- a. Adopt Resolution 04-xx declaring a Water Shortage Emergency.
 - b. Amend, modify, or reject the above option.

Attachments (1)
Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 04-

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASO ROBLES
DECLARING A CITY-WIDE WATER SHORTAGE EMERGENCY
DUE TO THE DECEMBER 22, 2003 SAN SIMEON EARTHQUAKE

WHEREAS, the City water distribution system contains 12 million gallons of storage capacity; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the December 22, 2003, earthquake, the City lost use of one of its three above-ground 4 million gallon storage tanks ; and

WHEREAS, due to the loss of the use of the tank, there is an immediate operational urgency to reduce the City's water demand by 25%; and

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2004, the City Council implemented a Water Conservation Plan; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of Section 352 of the Water Code, a notice of the time and place of a public hearing was published once in a newspaper published within the City, at least seven days prior to the hearing; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with California Water Code Section 350 et seq., the City of Paso Robles is authorized to declare a water shortage emergency if it finds and determines that the ordinary demands and requirements of water consumers cannot be satisfied without depleting the water supply of the City to the extent that there would be insufficient water for human consumption, sanitation, and fire protection use; and

WHEREAS, until normal water supply has been replenished or augmented the City intends to implement certain measures to conserve water use: use of flow restrictors, implementation of a tiered rate structure, limit production well supplies, or eliminate or curtail nonessential water uses.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles does hereby find and determine that due to the loss of one of the City's major water storage tanks, the ordinary demands and requirements of water consumers cannot be satisfied without depleting the water supply of the City to the extent that there would be insufficient water for human consumption, sanitation and fire protection use. This finding is based upon the report of the staff presented at the public hearing of April 20, 2004. Based on the testimony and evidence presented at the hearing, in accordance with California Water Code Section 350 et seq., the City Council hereby declares that a City-wide water shortage emergency exists within the City.

SECTION 2. The City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles does hereby authorize staff to draft a water reduction plan that may include some of all of the following options: use of flow restrictors, implementation of a tiered rate structure, limit production well supplies, or eliminate or curtail nonessential water uses.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Paso Robles this 20th day of April 2004 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Frank R. Mecham, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sharilyn M. Ryan, Deputy City Clerk



CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES

"The Pass of the Oaks"

CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles will hold a Public Hearing to consider the following:

Declaration of a city-wide water shortage emergency due to damage to one of the City's water storage tanks caused by the December 22, 2003, San Simeon Earthquake in order to protect the City's Water supply for human consumption, sanitation, and fire protection use. The City Council will consider options for reducing water use.

The Public Hearing is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, April 20, 2004, at the hour of 7:30 pm in the Conference Center (first floor) at the Paso Robles Library/City Hall, 1000 Spring Street, Paso Robles, California. All interested parties may appear and be heard at this hearing.

Written comments on the proposed declaration may be mailed to the Public Works Department, 1000 Spring Street, Paso Robles, CA 93446 provided that such comments are received prior to the time of the public hearing. Oral comments may be made at the hearing. Should you have any questions regarding this application, please call Alfredo Cardenas at (805) 237-3861.

If you challenge the declaration you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City Council at, or prior to, the public hearing.

Alfredo Cardenas, Utilities Manager

04/12/04 10:01 FAX 805 781 7947

THE TRIBUNE

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**CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES
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Alfredo Cardenas, Utilities Manager

April 13, 2004

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