

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

MOTION

PLANNING & LAND USE MANAGEMENT

MAR 06 2009

The Southern California region is currently suffering from a severe drought. The Los Angeles Aqueduct which historically provides 35% of the City's water is at its lowest levels in years. Additionally, water the City receives from the Colorado River Aqueduct is also very low. Drought problems are further augmented by litigation to protect the delta smelt in Northern California. The litigation has resulted in drastically reduced water supplies from the State Water Project to the City.

To address drought concerns, the Board of Water and Power Commissioners recently adopted an action to limit outdoor irrigation to two times a week. The Board contends that limiting outdoor irrigation will significantly increase water conservation levels. In addition to this, the Board plans to implement water-shortage rates which would increase the cost of water and incentivize conservation.

To assist water conservation efforts, the City should consider mandating the installation of water efficient plumbing fixtures such as low-flow shower heads and faucets, dual flush/waterless toilets and urinals and other related plumbing fixtures. These fixtures have been proven to significantly reduce the use of water in homes and commercial facilities.

To effectuate this effort, the City should consider mandating the installation of water efficient plumbing fixtures in new developments. In addition, the City should explore the feasibility of altering home re-sale requirements in order to facilitate retrofitting homes with water efficient plumbing fixtures. In this manner, water conservation efforts may be maximized and the health and welfare of City and region ensured.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Department of Water and Power (DWP), in conjunction with the Department of Building and Safety (DBS), report to the Council in 30 days on the feasibility of mandating that new construction developments be required to install water efficient plumbing fixtures.

I FURTHER MOVE that the DWP and the DBS report on the feasibility of altering home re-sale requirements to facilitate the retrofitting of homes with water efficient plumbing fixtures.

PRESENTED BY:

E.G.  
ERIC GARCETTI  
Councilmember, 13<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY:

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March 6, 2009

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