

ADDRESSING WATER SHORTAGES DROUGHTS AND OTHER EMERGENCIES

Recommended Revision to Chapter 47, Article VII

September 12, 2012



BACKGROUND

- Proposed ordinance presented to TTI Committee 5/31
- Public Comment Periods
 - June 6 to June 27
 - July 24 to August 17
- Presentations to Stakeholder Groups
 - Super Neighborhood Alliance
 - East Harris County Manufacturers' Association
 - Water Resource Stress Conference
- Focused meetings with
 - Texas Nursery and Landscapers' Association
 - East Harris County Manufacturers' Association
 - Regional Water Authorities
- Further consideration and revision

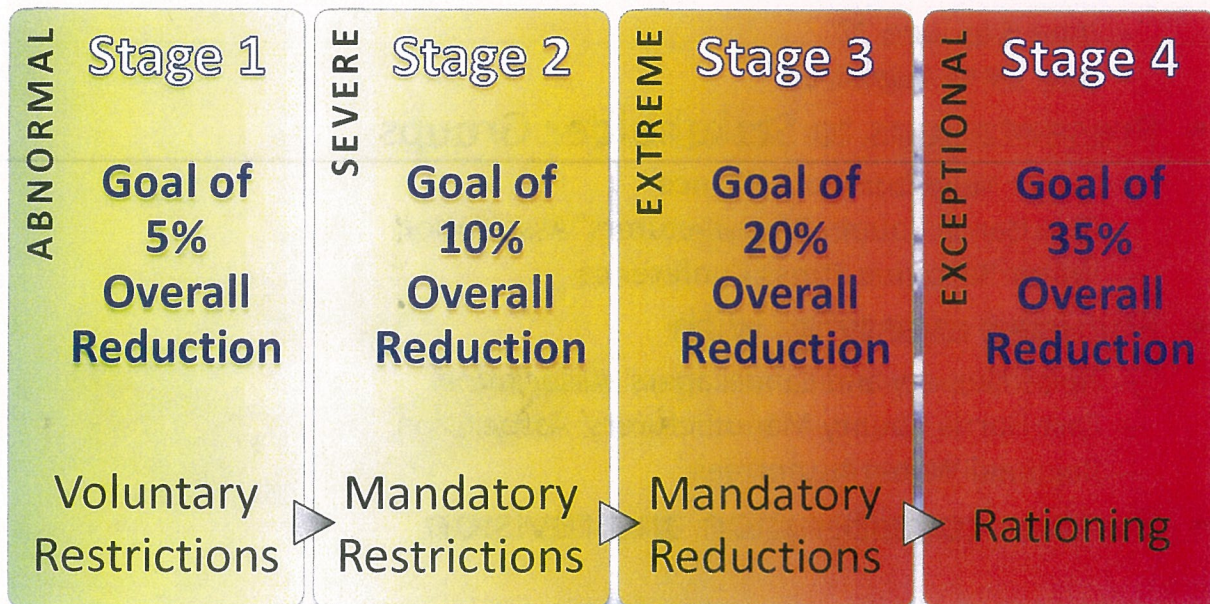


OBJECTIVES

- Improve stages as management framework
- Clarify criteria for stages
- Establish measurable goals for reductions within each Stage
 - Decrease system peaking due to irrigation restrictions
 - Establish rationing to reduce use across all customer types
- Clarify steps to declare, progress and rescind stages
- Clarify violations, enforcement and affirmative defenses



Stages and Conditions Recommended Provisions





RESPONSES TO PUBLIC INPUT



CHANGES TO PROPOSED ORDINANCE

- **Outdoor Uses**
 - Allowance of hand watering
 - Earlier evening start time
 - Progression from twice to once weekly restricted watering
 - Specific inclusion of foundation watering
 - Seasonal flexibility for restrictions
- **Confirmed applicability to City Departments by stage**
- **Confirmed voluntary measures in Stage 1 become mandatory in Stage 2**
- **Clarified context for *force majeure* declaration**
- **Lengthened non-residential usage baseline**
- **Added affirmative defenses for**
 - Emergency Response
 - Multi-Family compliance with rationing

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RESPONSES TO PUBLIC INPUT



ISSUE ADDRESSED BY PROPOSED ORDINANCE

- Balancing demands with restricted outdoor uses
- Use of reclaimed water (AC condensate, rainwater, etc.)
- Equitability concern of rationing for large families
- Customer consumption awareness during stage 4
- Adequacy of watering periods for low volume irrigation systems
- Fairness in restrictions for areas served through wholesale contracts

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RESPONSES TO PUBLIC INPUT



CONSIDERED BUT NOT PROPOSED

- Later morning end time for outdoor restrictions
- Foundation watering at Stage 3 and 4
- Exceptions for new plantings
- Allowance for make-up water for pools

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Summary of Improvements



- Consistency of definitions
- Progressive response stages
- Established priority for reduction in use
 - Outdoor Use is first (non-essential)
 - Indoor/production uses not impacted until Stage 4
- Updated enforcement provisions
- Better provides for contract customer measures

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