

COUNCIL AGENDA – JANUARY 21, 2014


SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION URGING GOVERNOR BROWN TO  
DECLARE THAT A STATE OF EMERGENCY EXISTS DUE TO  
DROUGHT CONDITIONS

SOURCE: ADMINISTRATION

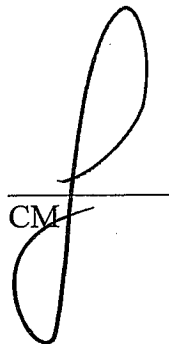
COMMENT: At its meeting of January 15, 2014, the City Council unanimously  
authorized staff to prepare for its consideration a resolution urging  
Governor Brown to declare the existence of a state of emergency due to  
state-wide drought conditions. The draft resolution is presented herein for  
Council's approval.

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council approve the draft resolution urging Governor  
Brown to declare that a state of emergency exists due to drought  
conditions.

ATTACHMENT: Draft Resolution

  
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Item No. 13a

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ -2014

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF PORTERVILLE URGING GOVERNOR BROWN TO DECLARE  
THAT A STATE OF EMERGENCY EXISTS DUE TO DROUGHT CONDITIONS

WHEREAS, according to the Department of Water Resources, approximately half of the State's annual precipitation occurs December through February, with three-quarters occurring November through March; and

WHEREAS, recent reports indicate that current snow pack in the Sierra Nevada Mountains is at 20% of normal levels, nine of California's twelve major reservoirs are below 50% capacity, and it is evident that California is now facing serious drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, California's farmers produce more than half of the nation's fruits, nuts and vegetables, generate approximately \$28 billion in gross receipts annually, employ 1.1 million people, and create \$60 billion in personal income each year; and

WHEREAS, such drought conditions will have devastating impacts on California's agricultural industry, which will also have widespread adverse environmental, economic and social impacts on the people of California; and

WHEREAS, local agriculture is a critical component of the economy of the City of Porterville, and such a substantial reduction in available water resources could devastate its economy; and

WHEREAS, the City of Porterville is now entering its third year of significantly reduced rainfall with Lake Success storage levels remaining low, and virtually no snow pack currently in the Southern Sierra Nevada mountains; and

WHEREAS, such reduced water levels may cause water restrictions and mandatory conservation measures which could negatively impact the City of Porterville's ability to adequately meet the essential water supply needs of its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Porterville does hereby urge Governor Brown to declare that a state of emergency exists due to drought conditions.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of January, 2014.

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Cameron J. Hamilton, Mayor

ATTEST:

John D. Lollis, City Clerk

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By: Patrice Hildreth, Chief Deputy City Clerk