



City of Santa Fe, New Mexico

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JoAnne Vigil Coppler, District 4

MEMO

Date: July 29, 2021

To: Governing Body

CC: Jarel Lapan Hill, City Manager
Shannon Jones, Public Utilities Department Director
Marcos Martinez, Assistant City Attorney

From: Jesse Roach, Water Division Director, Public Utilities Department

Supplemental Information Associated with July 28, 2021 CoSF Water Presentation

Subsequent to an update to the Governing Body on July 28, 2021 from City of Santa Fe Water on system conditions and outlook in the context of the current severe drought, four requests were made for follow up information. These included:

1. Provide figure showing Gallons Per Capita Per Day and population through time.
2. Provide figure showing estimated water shortages to the City and County from 2020 through 2070 if no changes were made to the system.
3. Provide information on our water rights profile with specific attention on water rights committed to developments.
4. Provide public access to slides developed by Marcos Martinez showing the relationship between surface water rights in the Middle Rio Grande

RESPONSE

- 1&2. The entire slide deck presented last night is included with this memo including the two supplemental figures.
3. Water Rights. Discussion on pages 2-4 of this memo is in response to this request.
4. Those slides have been uploaded to our website (https://www.santafenm.gov/water_resources_1#arsd), and are also included with this memo for reference.

Please feel free to reach out to me by email jdroach@santafenm.gov or phone 505-428-9761 if you would like additional information from our team. Thank you

The total City water right portfolio is summarized in Table 1 below. In the case of the Buckman Wellfield, and a portion of the City Wellfield, the pumping permit is constrained by ability to offset impacts of that pumping to nearby rivers.

Table 1: City of Santa Fe Water Rights Summary as of March 2021

Water Source	One Year Legal Limit (AF/yr)	Amount of Pumping Requiring Offsets for Impacts to Rivers (AF/yr)	Water Rights Available to Offset Pumping Impacts to Rivers (AF/yr)
Santa Fe River	5040		
San Juan Chama	5230		
City Wellfield	4865	900	1437
Buckman Wellfield	10,000	10,000	

The City’s Water Bank is set up to manage the water rights acquired to offset pumping impacts to the Rio Grande since 2009. That accounts for approximately 1219 AF of the 1437 AF shown in Table 1 above. The difference is rights on the Rio Grande that we owned before the Water Bank was set up, and rights on other streams impacted by pumping including the Nambe, Pojoaque, Tesuque, Santa Fe, and La Cienaga rivers. The table on the next page, which is Table 15 in the 2020 Annual Water Report available on our website (https://www.santafenm.gov/water_resources_1#awr) shows water rights activity in the Water Bank. That table includes both water rights and credits associated with conservation including toilet retrofit credits. I would call your attention to the final two lines which are highlighted. The final line shows the total water demand that development including affordable housing has been required to offset since 2009. This ranges from a low of 35 AF/yr of new water demand in 2011 to a high of 409 AF/yr of new water demand in 2014, and averages about 190 AF/yr of new demand associated with development. Actual water rights dedicated by private developers to get development permits is shown in the second to the last line which sums to 233 AF of water rights, or approximately 20 AF/yr of added demand. We have a sense of development in the pipeline, but because large developments must provide water rights we generally do not try to account for it before it has been fully permitted.

Table 2: City of Santa Fe Water Bank Balances, Acquisitions, and Dedications

Year:	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Balance of Water Rights & Credits by Year (acre-feet)												
City Water Rights – Dedicated	0	6	16	33	49	63	77	91	119	144	179	193
City Water Rights – Undedicated	10	76	75	66	56	103	164	191	178	161	132	120
City Affordable Housing Water Rights & Toilet Retrofit Credits	57	51	46	42	38	33	32	30	27	9	2	-24
City Owned - Total	67	133	137	141	143	198	273	312	324	314	313	289
Private Water Rights	456	484	518	499	490	579	657	638	613	660	654	631
Private Toilet Retrofit Credits	218	217	217	217	216	207	199	198	194	185	177	175
Total	741	834	872	857	849	983	1128	1148	1131	1159	1144	1096
Credits and Rights Generated or Acquired by Year (acre-feet)												
City Water Rights Acquired	10	40	0	1	0	54	18	0	0	0	2	0
Water Conservation Credits Generated	0	32	9	7	6	6	3	8	7	3	4	2
City Toilet Retrofit Credits Acquired	0	0	0	0	0	0	54	33	8	5	0	0
Water Rights & Toilet Retrofit Credits Allocated to Affordable Housing	59	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total City Acquisitions	69	72	9	8	6	60	75	41	15	8	6	2
Private Water Rights Acquired	63	33	42	0	31	95	115	7	0	52	14	9
Total Acquisitions	132	105	51	8	37	155	136	15	7	56	20	11
Credits and Rights Dedicated to Development by Year												
City Water Rights Dedicated	0	6	10	17	17	14	15	13	28	25	35	14
Affordable Housing Dedications	2	6	5	4	4	5	2	2	3	17	8	26
Total City Dedications	2	12	15	21	21	19	17	15	31	42	43	40
Privately Owned Toilet Retrofit Credits Dedicated	39	18	13	18	12	384	318	33	178	350	316	66
Private Water Rights Dedicated	10	6	7	19	40	6	37	25	25	6	21	31
Total Dedications	51	36	35	58	73	409	372	73	234	398	380	137

Explanation of terms in Table 2:

Balance of Water Rights & Credits

- City Water Rights – Dedicated: These are CSFW water rights in the Buckman Wellfield permit that have been transferred from private owners to CSFW to offset specific development.
- City Water Rights – Undedicated: These are water rights owned by CSFW available to offset sub-threshold development (for which developers pay a water offset fee), to allocate to the Affordable Housing balance or to allocate to any City of Santa Fe public development project.
- City Owned – Affordable Housing: These are CSFW water rights or toilet retrofit credits that have been allocated by City Council to offset affordable housing development.
- Privately Owned – Water Rights: Water rights that have been tendered into the Buckman Wellfield permit and list CSFW as a co-owner, but have not been fully dedicated to a specific development. These are water rights approved by the NM Office of the State Engineer that are potentially available to offset above threshold development.

- Privately Owned – Toilet Retrofit Credits: These are water conservation credits associated with a previous toilet retrofit program that are available to offset development.

Credits and Rights Generated or Acquired

- City Water Rights Acquired: water rights acquired by CSFW, generally through a purchase from a private party.
- Conservation Credits Generated: water conservation credits generated by the Water Conservation Office through Water Rebate Credits (WRC) to support affordable housing and sub-threshold development. See Water Rebate Credits below.
- City Toilet Retrofit Credits Acquired: toilet retrofit credits purchased by the City from a previous toilet retrofit program which can be used to offset sub-threshold development (for which developers pay a water offset fee), to allocate to the Affordable Housing balance or to allocate to any City of Santa Fe public development project.
- Water Rights & Toilet Retrofit Credits Allocated to Affordable Housing: water rights or toilet retrofit credits allocated by City Council specifically for affordable housing development.

Credits and Rights Dedicated to Development

- City Water Rights Dedicated: CSFW water rights dedicated to the Buckman Wellfield permit to offset added water demand associated with sub-threshold development, or City of Santa Fe public development projects.
- Affordable Housing Dedications: water rights dedicated to the Buckman Wellfield permit, or water conservation credits utilized to offset affordable housing development.
- Privately Owned Toilet Retrofit Credits Dedicated: toilet retrofit credits utilized to offset added water demand associated with private development.
- Private Water Rights Dedicated: water rights dedicated to the Buckman Wellfield permit to offset added water demand associated with (mostly above threshold) development.