

RESOLUTION NO. 8-21-624

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
UPPER SAN GABRIEL VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
ACTIVATING LEVEL 2
OF THE WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN**

WHEREAS, Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (Upper District) is a wholesale water agency that provides imported drinking water to 22 water retailers that serve nearly one million residents living in 17 San Gabriel Valley cities and unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County; and

WHEREAS, California is facing a second consecutive year of increasingly severe drought conditions throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, record high temperatures and below average snowpack levels have produced critically low levels of runoff in Northern California and the Colorado River Watershed, both of which serve as key imported water sources for Southern California; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Drought Monitor has classified all of Los Angeles County as being subject to "extreme" drought conditions since July 20, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Water Resources has issued a five percent State Water Project Allocation for 2021 and anticipates a zero percent initial State Water Project Allocation for 2022 due to severe drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, the level of the Main San Gabriel Basin, as measured at the Baldwin Park Key Well on August 13, 2021, is at 188.4 feet approaching the historical low level of 169 feet above mean sea level recorded in November of 2019; and

WHEREAS, on April 21, May 10 and July 8, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom issued proclamations that a state of emergency exists in a total of 50 of 58 counties in California due to severe drought conditions, including a call on all Californians to voluntarily reduce water use by 15% from 2020 levels; and

WHEREAS, on August 17, 2021, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California issued a Condition 2 -- Water Supply Alert, under its Water Surplus and Drought Management Plan, calling on all its member agencies, cities and counties to implement voluntary conservation measures that support retail customers in reducing their water use and continue to preserve regional storage reserves.

WHEREAS, on June 9, 2021, the Upper District Board of Directors approved its updated Urban Water Management Plan and Water Shortage Contingency Plan to formally plan for and address future water shortages; and

WHEREAS, the Water Shortage Contingency Plan includes six standard water shortage levels, as defined by the state of California, corresponding to shortage conditions of up to and greater than 50% and each shortage level aligns with defined shortage response actions that Upper District may implement to resolve any existing or expected supply-demand gaps created by a shortage condition; and

WHEREAS in activating Shortage Level 2, Upper District intends to focus its short-term actions on voluntary measures, reserving mandatory measures for a later time based on activation of higher levels of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan; and

WHEREAS, initiation of Shortage Level 2 of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan will demonstrate that Upper District recognizes the serious nature of the current drought and supports the Governor's call for voluntary 15% water use reductions; and

WHEREAS, initiation of Shortage Level 2 of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan further emphasizes Upper District's continued commitment to ensure safe and reliable supplies to the communities it serves; and

WHEREAS, a reduction in current water use by 15 percent will result in less need to withdraw water from groundwater storage, preserving water reserves that help maintain a reliable supply in the event the extreme drought continues through 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE UPPER SAN GABRIEL VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The District hereby activates Shortage Level 2 of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan.

Section 2. The District shall implement a district-wide drought communications plan to support voluntary water use reductions in the Upper District service area, thereby improving regional water reliability.

Section 3. The District urges all local water suppliers and city councils to help their customers and constituents implement voluntary conservation measures that support retail customers in reducing their water use.

Section 4. The Secretary shall certify to the adoption of this resolution and henceforth and thereafter the same shall be in full force and effect.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED on August 25, 2021.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Ed Chavez, President

ATTEST:

Katarina Garcia, Secretary

(SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Steven P. O'Neill, District Counsel