Metropolitan Water District’s Colorado River Municipal Conservation Memorandum of Understanding

Public Works Commission
November 10, 2022

Presented by Robert Welch
Aug. 24, 2022, MWD signed an MOU with 6 other agencies

Purpose of MOU
- basin-wide collaboration
- commitment to reduce reliance on Colorado River

MWD is requesting BH sign on to the MOU
MOU Highlights

1. Continue and expand water use efficiency programs.
2. Replace non-functional turf grass with drought and climate-resilient landscaping.
3. Increase water reuse and recycling programs.
4. Implement best practices and sharing lessons.
5. Collaborate with other water users in the Colorado River basin.
• October 11, 2022, MWD adopted a resolution recommending cities/water agencies pass ordinances permanently prohibiting the installation and irrigation of non-functional turf.

• MWD provided a draft ordinance for consideration
Draft Ordinance Considerations

• Clear Definition of non-functional turf
  – State - Turf that is solely ornamental and not regularly used for human recreational purposes or for civic or community events and has only been applied to Commercial, Institutional and Industrial.

• Exemptions for historical and/or public properties

• Penalties and enforcement

• Modifications to existing municipal codes
  – Coordination with Community Development
Recommendation

• PWC to consider joining MWD MOU and provide a recommendation to the City Council to consider adopting an ordinance restricting non-functional turf.