



WATER SHORTAGE RESPONSE PLAN

Issue

The Water Shortage Response plan outlines considerations and triggers for changes to water conservation staging within the Water Bylaw.

Motion Proposed by Administration

That the Water Shortage Response Plan be received as information.

Report, Analysis and Financial Implications

At the January 15, 2024 Governance and Priorities Committee (GPC) meeting the following motion was made, and a review of Water Shortage Response Plan as amended, was undertaken at the March 18, 2024 GPC meeting:

That, prior to March 31, 2024, the Water Shortage Response Plan be amended as recommended in the January 15, 2024 Governance and Priorities agenda package and include potential triggers as discussed, and that potential messaging to the community regarding current status be provided to Council for consideration.

Section 4 of the Water Shortage Response Plan (attached) outlines considerations and triggers that will inform an increase or decrease to water conservation staging. The primary trigger for a change to water conservation stages is current or projected water reservoir levels. Additional factors such as stability of reservoir levels, lead-time, public health and safety risk, environmental considerations, license capacity, consideration of other watershed users, and professional judgement will be considered in changing water conservation staging.

A new addition to the Water Shortage Response Plan is a table that highlights the Town of Okotoks commitment to water conservation and the measures that will be put in place for all tier levels of our water conservation plan. This reflects a shared commitment of the Town and residents to using water wisely and adjusting practices to respond to changing conditions.

Strategic Plan Goals

<input type="checkbox"/>	Responsibly Managed Growth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated Environmental Leadership
<input type="checkbox"/>	Strong Local Economy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Enhanced Culture & Community Health
<input type="checkbox"/>	Organizational Excellence		

Public Participation Strategy

The public participation strategy for the Water Shortage Response Plan is outlined in the Water Bylaw 15-24 report.

CAO Comments

The Water Shortage Response Plan is the administrative tool that implements Council direction arising from policy and bylaws. Council is not required to approve this plan as it is a result of the aforementioned policies and bylaws but is an important document for transparency. It is provided to illustrate Administration's interpretation of Council direction and how it will be implemented both in the community and the organization.

Attachment(s)

1. Water Shortage Response Plan – Section 4.0

Prepared by:
Jeremy Huet, P.Eng
Operations and Utilities Director
March 21, 2024