

RESOLUTION NO. 4459-2021

RESOLUTION OF THE FORT BRAGG CITY COUNCIL RESCINDING THE CITY OF FORT BRAGG'S STAGE 2 WATER WARNING DECLARATION

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Bragg experienced significantly less rainfall in the last twenty-four (24) months than would be considered normal; and

WHEREAS, the water flow in the Noyo River in the summer and early fall of 2021, declined to and below water levels in the summer of 1977, which is the worst drought on record for the City of Fort Bragg; and

WHEREAS, historically, in the months of August, September and October, the Noyo River experiences high tides, where the gravitational pull between the sun and the moon increase tide levels to a foot or two higher than normal tide levels. High tides during periods of low flow levels on the Noyo River increase salinity content and shorten pump run times, impairing the City's ability to replenish water supply from the Noyo River; and

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2021, the USDA declared that 50 counties in California, including Mendocino County, were designated as primary natural disaster areas due to recent drought; and

WHEREAS, on April 21, 2021, Governor Newsom declared a state of emergency in Mendocino County due to drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, on August 9, 2021, after a properly noticed public hearing, the City Council declared a Stage 3 Water Emergency and implemented Stage 3 Water Conservation Restrictions for the Fort Bragg Water System; and

WHEREAS, on September 13, 2021, after a properly noticed public hearing, the City Council declared a Stage 4 Water Crisis and implemented Stage 4 Water Conservation Restrictions for the Fort Bragg Water System water supply; and

WHEREAS, during the second half of September 2021 the region received several days of rain which resulted in increased flows in the Noyo River allowing the City to replenish water storage in the Summers Lane Water Reservoir; and

WHEREAS, the City received the Desalination-Reverse Osmosis Treatment System on September 24th which is operational and able to treat brackish salt water during high tide cycles; and

WHEREAS, the City has negotiated a Well Use Agreement with the Fort Bragg Unified School District, to allow the City to use well water to supplement its water supply, if necessary; and

WHEREAS, the City has received the Water Treatment System to allow it to utilize Fort Bragg Unified School District's irrigation well water to further supplement the City's water supply and has determined that it is not necessary for the current season but will be utilized next year for a well to be installed on the City's CV Starr Community Center property; and

WHEREAS, on October 12, 2021 the City Council downgraded the Stage 4 Water Crisis to a Stage 2 Water Warning; and

WHEREAS, Fort Bragg and the region has received additional rainfall since October 12, 2021, and the Noyo River flows have increased from just above one (1) cubic feet per

second (cfs) to over ten (10) cfs from October 15, 2021 to October 20, 2021 and are expected to continue to rise with the additional predicted rain; and

WHEREAS, the weather forecast from the National Weather Service for October 20, 2021 through October 26, 2021 includes rain and showers every day with the chance of precipitation between 40 and 100% each day with October 21st and 22nd at 100% chance of rainfall; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager, after considering all the relevant factors impacting the City's potable water sources per Section § 14.06.020 (WATER CONSERVATION STAGES), recommends that the City Council rescind the Stage 2 Water Warning.

WHEREAS, based on all the evidence presented, the City Council finds as follows:

1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and are made a part of this Resolution.
2. The City Manager's evaluation of the City of Fort Bragg's current water supply, future rainfall predictions, reduced temperatures inland of Fort Bragg in the water shed, projected water demand, projected water source levels, supply available from Desalination-Reverse Osmosis Treatment System and Well Use Agreement with the Fort Bragg Unified School District resulted in a recommendation that the City Council rescind the Stage 2 Water Warning.
3. The City Manager determined Water Conservation Restrictions are no longer necessary and are not currently in the best interests of the City of Fort Bragg Water Customers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Fort Bragg does hereby rescind the Stage 2 Water Warning pursuant to Chapter 14.06 of the Fort Bragg Municipal Code and removes and terminates the mandatory Stage 2 Water Conservation Measures, as set forth in Fort Bragg Municipal Code section 14.06.050 B.

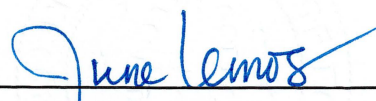
The above and foregoing Resolution was introduced by Councilmember Peters, seconded by Councilmember Albin-Smith, and passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fort Bragg held on the 25th day of October, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Albin-Smith, Morsell-Haye, Rafanan, Peters and Mayor Norvell.
NOES: None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
RECUSED: None.



BERNIE NORVELL
Mayor

ATTEST:



June Lemos, CMC
City Clerk