

Water Resource Allocation Policy

PURPOSE

The city of Goodyear (city) holds a 100-year Designation of Assured Water Supply (DAWS) for its existing residents, but the city does not currently have a sufficient volume of total water resources to sustainably serve a future “full buildout” of the city’s planning area.

The city’s Integrated Water Master Plan (IWMP) addresses water resource and infrastructure planning for some portions of the city’s incorporated limits. The city desires to take additional steps to plan and organize the sustainable and fair allocation of the city’s uncommitted water resources in a manner that reasonably protects existing city water users while allowing the city to serve new customers under its Designation.

SCOPE

This policy is only applicable to the city’s water service area. It does not apply to any Certificates of Convenience and Necessity (CC&N) held by private water providers operating within the city.

WATER ALLOCATION

The city will use the most current adopted IWMP and its water resource planning quantities to determine the amount of water resources available for each vacant parcel in the city’s water service area or proposed future water service area. Any parcel currently receiving city water service will be allotted the historic water usage on that parcel. No water use changes that exceed the historical water usage for a parcel will be approved without further evaluation and analysis.

Allocation of water resources to a vacant parcel per the IWMP does not guarantee city water resources will be available if the city determines at its reasonable discretion that water resources are not reasonably available for a proposed use. Water resources planned in the IWMP for a parcel may not be moved or transferred to another parcel.

LARGE WATER USER

New large and multiple meter water users and other users that seek water resources in excess of those in the current IWMP may submit a request for additional water resources. Any such request must include details needed by the city to conduct an objective evaluation and analysis for the proposed use.

ANNEXATIONS

Annexations of unincorporated areas into the city may be considered for a number of reasons, including to realize planned or anticipated city growth, to support development that is economically beneficial to the city, or to take actions to improve the quality of life of city residents. City annexations will not be made for the sole purpose of extending city water resources to newly incorporated areas. Any annexation request must provide information and details related to use and demand for water resources. Any annexation request must include details needed by the city to conduct an objective evaluation and analysis for the proposed use and annexation.

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REZONING

Requests to rezone parcels within the city and the city's water service area must account for the allocation of city water resources per the IWMP for the impacted parcel(s). For rezoning requests where the proposed water resource uses for the impacted parcel(s) exceed the IWMP allocation, a request must be submitted for additional water resources. Any such request must include details needed by the city to conduct an objective evaluation and analysis for the proposed use and the rezoning request.

The rezoning process does not guarantee the availability of future city water resources or services.

EVALUATION AND ANALYSIS OF REQUESTS

As noted above, water resource requests associated with a large water user, annexation applications, and/or rezoning actions are subject to additional evaluation analysis.

In its sole discretion, the city will conduct an evaluation and analysis of any requests to exceed the city allocation of water resources for a parcel per the IWMP or a request for city allocation of water resources for a parcel not included in the IWMP. The city may consider various aspects of the request and the proposed uses including, but not limited to:

- economic impacts to the city and its residents and businesses, such as
 - one-time and ongoing sales tax revenues, and
 - creation of jobs (number of jobs and type/quality of jobs),
 - intangible costs and benefits such as factors that affect existing city residents' quality of life beyond economic impacts, including environmental factors such as air quality and water conservation measures taken, the potential for water shortages, and health factors,
- whether the proposed water use will result in the provision of a needed service to an area of the city where such services are inadequate; and
- availability of uncommitted city water resources.

Upon consideration of the evaluation and analysis, the city may take various actions in response to water resource requests, such as:

- (1) Propose a different parcel for development, OR
- (2) Increase the allocation of city water resources for the parcel at a market rate cost, OR
- (3) Require the user to acquire and dedicate the additional water resources needed for the proposed use to the city at no cost to the city

Note: All water resources acquired and dedicated to the city must be sustainable water resources sufficient to serve for at least 100 years and meet the city's requirements for incorporation into the city's DAWS.

Note: There will be no long-term reservations for water resources.

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SELF SERVICE

Self-service is prohibited and the city will oppose new groundwater wells and groundwater uses within or near the city's water service areas to preserve existing groundwater supplies.

WATER SERVICE AGREEMENT

Water service agreements will be updated by city staff from time to time to include provisions that assist the city in managing water demands, addressing droughts, and preventing water waste, including notification to new water customers of the city's water service rules. For each new water customer account or for each modification to an existing water customer account, the water customer will be required to sign the most current water service agreement form.