



Mountain View Coalition for Sustainable Planning
Mountain View, CA 94041

June 12, 2016

City Council
City of Mountain View

Re: Item 6.3, June 14, 2016 Council agenda: Water use restrictions

Honorable Mayor Showalter and Members of the City Council:

The Mountain View Coalition for Sustainable Planning, a group of Mountain View residents concerned with our city's sustainability, would like to comment on the proposal to reduce water-use restrictions in Mountain View, due to the current improved state of reservoir storage and the excellent public response to earlier calls for conservation.

MVCSP feels strongly that current water-use restrictions should remain in place. As Governor Brown indicates, continuing water conservation should be part of a "permanent framework." Besides the amount of water available in reservoirs, you should consider the amount of energy required to transport water from one location to another. According to the California Energy Commission, "Water-related energy use in California also consumes approximately 20 percent of the state's electricity, and 30 percent of the state's non-power plant natural gas (i.e., natural gas not used to produce electricity)."

We have good water-use habits established now. If we pull back on this, it will be that much more difficult to convince people to reestablish these habits again at a later date. Please consider that current drought conditions are forecasted to persist at least through 2016, so easing restrictions at this time, in our view, should not be considered.

Accordingly, we ask that you give highest consideration to Alternative 2 proposed by Staff: "Remain in a Stage 2 water shortage and maintain the current two-day-per-week watering schedule."

Thank you very much for taking our comments into account.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Aaron Grossman".

Aaron Grossman

for the Mountain View Coalition for Sustainable Planning

cc: Elizabeth Flegel, Michael Fuller, Dan Rich, Lorrie Brewer