

**ORDINANCE NO. 2014-0009**

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

April 17, 2014

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 13.04.910  
OF THE SACRAMENTO CITY CODE RELATING TO A  
DECLARATION OF WATER SHORTAGE, AND DECLARING  
THE ORDINANCE TO BE AN EMERGENCY MEASURE  
TO TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY UPON ADOPTION (M14-007)**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO:

**SECTION 1.**

Section 13.04.910 of the Sacramento City Code is amended to read as follows:

**13.04.910 Declaration of water shortage.**

- A. In response to any condition necessitating increased water conservation, such as a water shortage due to drought, natural disaster, or other reduction of water supply availability, or as may otherwise be required to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, the city council may by resolution declare the existence of a water shortage and impose revised and additional limitations and time restrictions on outdoor water use. While the declaration of water shortage remains in effect, no person shall use, or cause to be used, city water in violation of such limitations or restrictions. Unless the resolution specifies an ending date, the declaration of water shortage shall remain in effect until rescinded or otherwise modified by subsequent resolution of the city council.
- B. While a declaration of water shortage is in effect, any requirement in the Planning and Development Code to plant or irrigate trees, shrubs, or other groundcover, or for groundcover to be living, is suspended.

**SECTION 2.**

This ordinance is adopted as, and declared by the City Council to be, an emergency measure and shall take effect immediately upon adoption. Due to ongoing severe drought conditions reducing water supplies in Northern California, on January 14, 2014, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2014-0018, declaring a water

shortage and imposing additional restrictions on outdoor water use in the City. On January 17, 2014, Governor Brown declared a State of Emergency due to critical drought conditions throughout the state. Approximately 50% of water usage in the City is for outdoor irrigation. Various provisions of the City's Planning and Development Code (Title 17) specify requirements to plant or irrigate trees, shrubs, or groundcover, or to use living vegetation as groundcover, which are not consistent with, and may undermine, the critical need to reduce outdoor water use during the water shortage. It is necessary that this ordinance take effect immediately, to suspend these Title 17 requirements for the duration of the water shortage, to maximize the City's water conservation efforts and ensure that adequate water supplies remain for essential health and safety needs throughout the City. Compliance with these requirements will be required when the declaration of water shortage ends or is rescinded.

Adopted by the City of Sacramento City Council on April 17, 2014, by the following vote:

Ayes: Members Ashby, Cohn, Fong, Hansen, McCarty, Pannell, Schenirer, Warren and Mayor Johnson.

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Attest:

**Shirley A. Concolino**

Digitally signed by Shirley A. Concolino  
DN: cn=Shirley A. Concolino, o=City of Sacramento, ou=City  
Clerk, email=sconcolino@cityofsacramento.org, c=US  
Date: 2014.04.28 11:24:31 -07'00'

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Shirley Concolino, City Clerk

Effective: April 17, 2014

Pass for Publication: N/A (to be published in its entirety)

Published: April 25, 2014