

STAFF REPORT

Business Agenda Item

DATE: June 15, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Brian Issa, Public Works Director

THROUGH: Amy Nilsen, City Manager

SUBJECT: **Review and Approval of the 2026 Urban Water Management Plan and Water Shortage Contingency Plan**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Review and adopt *Resolution 2026-27*, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fortuna Adopting the 2026 Urban Water Management Plan and Water Shortage Contingency Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The 2025 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) has been prepared in compliance with the California Urban Water Management Planning Act (Water Code §10610 et seq.). The UWMP evaluates long-term water supply reliability, demand projections, conservation measures, and drought preparedness over a 25-year planning horizon. The draft plan was noticed for public comment as required by statute. No comments were received.

Key Findings:

- **Reliable Groundwater Supply (Water Code §10631(b))** – The City relies on five groundwater wells that have demonstrated long-term reliability and are projected to meet demand through 2050.
- **Adequate Supply vs. Demand (Water Code §10635(a))** – Current demand (~385 MGY) is well below available supply (~658 MGY), indicating a long-term surplus.
- **Service Area & Demand (Water Code §10631(a))** – The system serves approximately 4,657 connections (~12,500 population), with residential usage comprising the majority of demand.
- **Conservation Compliance (Water Code §10608.40)** – The City met the State’s 2020 conservation targets and continues implementing conservation measures.
- **Water Loss (Water Code §10631(d)(3))** – System loss averages 12–14%, with minor reductions needed to meet State standards.

- Drought Resilience (Water Code §10635(b)) – Groundwater supply remains stable and sufficient during drought conditions.
- Limited Alternative Supplies (Water Code §10631(f)) – The City does not rely on imported or recycled water; future improvements include Well #5 replacement.
- Water Shortage Contingency Plan (Water Code §10632) – Includes staged response levels, demand reduction actions, annual assessments, and enforcement provisions.

Conclusion:

The UWMP demonstrates that the City of Fortuna has a reliable groundwater-based water supply that exceeds projected demand under all planning scenarios.

COMMUNITY VISION ALIGNMENT:

Adoption strongly supports community priorities around public health and safety, long-term resilience, regulatory compliance, and fiscal stability. The plan is conservative in its assumptions and leaves future policy flexibility intact through amendment provisions. Non-adoption or delay would create compliance risk without delivering a corresponding public benefit.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Adoption ensures continued eligibility for state funding. Failure to adopt the plan would impact future funding opportunities.

RECOMMENDED COMMISSION ACTION:

1. Receive staff presentation
2. Open Public Comment
3. Close Public Comment
4. Motion to adopt *Resolution 2026-27* and read by title only. Roll Call vote.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A. Draft 2026 UWMP

Attachment B. *Resolution 2026-27, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fortuna Adopting the 2026 Urban Water Management Plan and Water Shortage Contingency Plan*