

CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS MEETING

AGENDA ITEM

NUMBER: 19.

SUBJECT:

Approve Interim Use of 5,000 Acre-Feet of North Las Vegas Groundwater Rights by the Southern Nevada Water Authority and Las Vegas Valley Water District for Year 2021; and Authorize the City Manager to Execute Any Necessary Agreements. (Citywide) (For Possible Action)

REQUESTED BY:

Tom Brady, Director of Utilities

WARD:

Citywide

RECOMMENDATION OR RECOMMEND MOTION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve the Interim Use of North Las Vegas Groundwater and authorize the City Manager to execute any necessary agreements to that effect.

FISCAL IMPACT:

AMOUNT: None

EXPLANATION: N/A

ACCOUNT NUMBER:

N/A

STAFF COMMENTS AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The City has several groundwater wells as a part of its Utility with rights to use approximately 6,201 acre-feet of water each year, to supplement water supplied through the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA), sourced from Lake Mead. For the past few years, the City's wells have been out of service while the Well Rehabilitation Project was underway. This project is two-thirds of the way complete and includes drilling four new wells at existing City-well sites. Although the drilling of the new wells is complete, the setup and construction of the equipping element to draw the water and place it into service remains and should be completed in 2022. During that time, the City has been unable to utilize its available groundwater, which has resulted in the additional use of water sources from the Colorado River and Lake Mead.

The Robinson Well is the only well currently in service. At SNWA's request, staff reviewed its anticipated demand and concluded that approximately 5,000 acre-feet out of the City's 6,201 acre-foot portfolio will go unused this calendar year. In an effort to slow the declining Lake Mead water levels, staff recommends allowing the SNWA, through the Las Vegas Valley Water District, to pump the City's remaining groundwater allotment for the 2021 calendar year.

The District's use of the groundwater will be cost neutral, as the District would pay for the temporary use permits to allow this use. Additionally, reducing the current draw upon Colorado River water through Lake Mead will balance out the additional demand to meet City water needs while our wells have been offline, thus decreasing the impact to Lake Mead's already sensitive water levels. With this request, the City Manager would execute any necessary agreements to achieve the desired outcome.

CIP No.	Related Item:	
LIST CITY COUNCIL GOAL(S): Responsible Fiscal Management; Quality Municipal Services		
PREPARED BY:	Respectfully Submitted	MEETING DATE:
Tom Brady Utilities Director	Ryann Juden City Manager	8/18/2021