



CITY OF FERNLEY

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: February 19, 2020

REPORT TO:	Mayor and City Council
REPORT THRU:	Daphne Hooper, City Manager
REPORT FROM:	Dave Whalen, Public Works Director
REVIEWED BY:	Brent Kolvet, Deputy City Attorney
REVIEWED BY:	Denise Lewis, City Treasurer

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>	CURRENTLY BUDGETED: Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>	FUND/ACCOUNT: 510-810-698
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------

ACTION REQUESTED: Consent Ordinance Resolution Motion Receive/File

AGENDA ITEM: (Possible action) Approval of the 2019 City of Fernley Water Resource Plan, dated January 2020.

Agenda Item Brief: This Water Resource Plan (WRP) is intended to provide the City of Fernley (City) a document to guide future decisions related to the City's water supply, transmission and distribution system, and its ability to meet customer water demands into the future. This Plan provides the City the framework for maintaining a high level of service for its water customers.

Recommended Motion:
"I move to Approve the 2019 City of Fernley Water Resource Plan, dated January 2020."

Business Impact (per NRS Chapter 237):

A Business Impact Statement is Attached.

A Business Impact Statement is not required because this is not a rule (term excludes vehicles by which legislative powers are exercised under NRS Chapters 271, 278, 278A, or 278B).

See attached report for background, analysis, alternatives.

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1.) City Council may decide to not approve the water resource plan.

BACKGROUND:

City Council set water management as a top priority in the Water Enterprise Fund for the last several years. Water resources are critical to the City of Fernley's future. Staff worked on developing a basic Water Resource Plan (WRP) during FY 2017/2018 focusing on limited resources in managing the water resource program. This WRP documents and provides policy related to the City's ability to provide a sustainable water supply to its customers in periods of above and below average precipitation. The plan began in FY 2017/2018 and additional services were requested for Fiscal Year 2018/2019/2020.

Studies conducted in 2013 showed the City had enough water and current infrastructure to fulfill outstanding obligations. It is critical that the City plan and prepare to have water available for future development, encourage new development, but not over-allocate the City's available water resources. Over the past several years, there have been two items that have and will continue to affect water resources at the City of Fernley. The implementation of the Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA) and the finalization of the upstream storage contract have both affected Fernley's position greatly. The City staff continues to review the water resources needed for the City.

Farr West was approached to provide the proposal for the WRP and was selected from the City's Qualified Professionals List (QPL) for water resources engineering. Staff interviewed several professional engineering firms and found Farr West to be the most qualified to perform this work for the City's WRP project. The WRP was scoped by Farr West Engineering and modeled after the Truckee Meadows Water Authority WRP.

This Water Resource Plan (Plan) is intended to provide the City of Fernley (City) a document to guide future decisions related to the City's water supply, transmission and distribution system, and its ability to meet customer water demands into the future. In total, the Plan is comprised of an Introduction and four focused chapters.

Since its incorporation in 2001, the City's population has doubled to approximately 19,700 people and is continuing to grow into a significant economic center where residents live, work, and recreate. As a signatory party to the Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA), the City is in a favorable position to manage its surface and groundwater rights in such a way that the water system operates in an efficient manner in both drought and non-drought years. In addition to other recently completed or forthcoming planning efforts, this Plan provides the City the framework for maintaining a high level of service for its water customers.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

Nevada Statutes: NRS 445A, 533 & 534;

Other: Senate Bill 150 (effective July 1, 2019) requires governing bodies to develop and maintain a water resource plan for a period of no more than 10 years without update.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

This Plan will help guide the City in decisions related to water resources including future investments in the water system and water sources.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1.) Water resource Plan