

# OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

ELLIOTT ROTHMAN  
Mayor

April 22, 2015

Ms. Jessica Bean  
State Water Resources Control Board  
PO Box 100  
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100



RE: Comments on Draft Regulatory Framework to Implement 25% Water Conservation

Dear Ms. Bean:

Thank you for allowing the City of Pomona the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed Regulatory Framework for implementing the 25 percent conservation standard mandated by Executive Order dated April 1, 2015. The City is committed to working with the Water Board to achieve the Governor's statewide conservation goal of reducing urban water use by 25 percent below the 2013 levels. This can be accomplished by utilizing Proposition 1 water bond funds.

The City of Pomona understands the need to protect our precious resources and has worked diligently to implement practices of sustainability. Although the City has struggled financially, we have invested in environmental improvements and programs, such as synthetic turf for Veteran's Park, low-flow toilets, energy efficient streetlight retrofit, rain barrel distributions, student education programs, and CNG vehicle replacements. Additionally, the City has won numerous environmental sustainability awards including most recently the "2014 Energy Leader in Partnership with Edison" Gold Level award.

The City has been working diligently on educating its water customers on ways to reduce their water consumption. It is in the interest of the City and its residents to preserve this resource, which is an integral part of our community. The number of Pomona residents and businesses interested in water conservation is growing. They are participating in water wise landscape classes, using rebates, reporting water waste in the community, and taking advantage of financial incentives to replace ornamental turf with California friendly plants. From these efforts, the City has attained a 6% voluntary reduction in water use.

Pomona appreciates the funding opportunities presented through the State's most recent Proposition 1 water bond and plans to apply for this funding. As the Board is aware, the implementation of the Executive Order will require expedited funding. As an example, the cost to retrofit the medians to no longer irrigate grass will take planning and funding

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to accomplish this goal. Pomona is extremely challenged from a fiscal perspective and is still recovering from the recent economic crisis. The City would like to take advantage of all state grants, including any that focus on economically challenged areas, to further our water conservation efforts.

The City sincerely appreciates the opportunity to comment and looks forward to working with the Regional Water Quality Control Board. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Meg McWade, Deputy Public Works Director at (909) 620-2392 or Julie Carver, Environmental Programs Supervisor at (909) 620-3628.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elliott Rothman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Elliott" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Rothman".

Elliott Rothman  
Mayor