

Dear Ms. Bean,

The following are concerns regarding the new emergency water regulations:

1. The City of Kerman has invested in many parks over several decades providing open space for its citizens and now we are being held to a higher standard for reducing water use (35%) even though we instituted 3 day per week landscape irrigation throughout the city including residential several years ago and we went to two days per week last summer and one day per week from December 1st to March 1st.. Now, not only do we have many parks with mature trees that could die from lack of water, we have to reduce from an already reduced irrigation level that most city's did not do.
2. We have many mature landscaped medians throughout our city that are landscaped with a combination of turf, trees and shrubs that are irrigated by systems that are for both and are not separate so that if we do not irrigate the grass, we will lose the trees and shrubs, and in the summer in the central valley, reflective heat from the adjacent road surface can be 15 to 25 degrees above the ambient temperature away from the road. This means that air temperatures as high as 130 degrees are not uncommon near the roads.
3. If the City chooses to place part of the conservation requirement on residents by reducing outdoor watering to one day per week, it will likely result in dead, un-appealing front yards. With Kerman's small, rural nature, it is already a challenge to encourage new growth. With dead yards and no street appeal, it will likely lead to lower property values and lower demand for new homes. This could be of negative impact to Kerman's economy.
4. It is hard to accept the State Board's use of the term "equitable" in the proposed requirements. Of course those communities in the bay area and along the coast use less water, they do not have to water landscape to maintain a nice yard and the temperature is far cooler. Would they like for everyone in the valley and drier areas to relocate to these areas? Different climates require different amounts of water use. Thirty five percent seems unreasonable without impacting Kerman's overall appeal and economy. It would take many years to recover from losing all our mature trees.
5. The City of Kerman is in the process of installing water meters throughout the city but we only have 60% of the residences on water meters. This makes it very difficult to determine the residential water use per capita per day. Overall, the regulations appear to place Kerman and other entities that are not fully-metered in a tough situation. Conservation and reporting in different sectors will be extremely hard without all properties being metered
6. Our community is completely surrounded by agriculture and how is it equitable for the city to drastically reduce its use of water while the adjacent farmers are allowed to pump for 24 hours per day?

Thank you

Ken Moore

City of Kerman

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