

May 9, 2016
Issue #36

Governor Issues Executive Order Extending Emergency Water Restrictions
Conservation Provisions Continue to Affect Cities

Gov. Jerry Brown Monday morning issued an executive order to continue water savings as the drought persists. Executive Order B-37-16, [Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life](#), comes at the conclusion of [California Wildfire Awareness Week](#) as the state enters the time of year when water resources are used the most to fight fires, irrigate landscaping and recreate. *For more, see Page 2.*



Bills in Committee: May 9-13

With Gov. Jerry Brown's May Budget Revise expected this week the Legislature is gearing up for the budget. However many bills are still being heard in Appropriations Committees and the League will continue to regularly update members on upcoming hearings on bills of interest to cities. [A full listing](#) of Senate and Assembly hearings is available online. Hearing times are subject to change. *For more, see Page 2.*

'Water Restrictions' Continued from Page 1...

California is now in its fifth year of drought and the Governor wants to make water conservation a permanent way of life. He issued his first mandatory water restrictions in [April 2015](#) after proclaiming a state of emergency on [Jan. 17, 2014](#).

Under the executive order issued today, Governor Brown is directing the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to develop proposed emergency water restrictions for 2017 if drought conditions persist. He is looking to build on the overall 20 percent urban water reductions by 2020 that are already in place. Urban water suppliers will be permanently required to submit a monthly report on water usage, conservation achieved as well as enforcement. The Governor in [his press release](#) noted that Californians reduced water usage by 23.9 percent between June 2015-March 2016 compared with the same months in 2013.

The Governor wants a proposal to make these restrictions farther reaching and permanent by Jan. 10, 2017. Cities and water agencies will be at the table working with the Governor's Administration to craft a workable plan for all Californians.

Today's executive order also permanently establishes policies that prohibit the use of potable (drinkable) water for:

- Housing off sidewalks, driveways and other hardscapes;
- Washing automobiles with hoses not equipped with a shut-off nozzle;
- Using non-recirculated water in a fountain or other decorative water feature;
- Water lawns in a manner that causes runoff, or within 48 hours after measurable precipitation; and
- Irrigating ornamental turf on street medians.

The final provision has had some unintended consequences. Many cities have turned off irrigation on their medians entirely, instead of just irrigation to water grass. This has resulted in damage to trees, shrubs and other drought tolerant landscaping that has withered without any watering.

The Governor's Executive Order comes on the same day [SWRCB released draft regulations](#) that would make significant changes to the Feb. 2 emergency water conservation standard. The draft regulations remove the mandatory conservation standard and replace it with a sliding scale based on projected water supply shortages over the next three years. Water suppliers would then be required to reduce potable water use in a percentage equal to their projected shortfall. Additional information can be found on a [SWRCB fact sheet](#).

SWRCB will consider the draft regulations at its May 18 hearing. If adopted, the new conservation standard would take effect in June and remain in effect until January 2017.

The League will continue to update members as developments occur related to crafting a permanent water conservation plan.

'Bills in Cmte' Continued from Page 1...

Additional information about the important bills the League is tracking is available in the 2016 Hot and Priority Bill List. Published on April 15, this list will continually be updated throughout the remainder of the Legislative Session. Bill language and any available position letters on legislation can be found through the bill search function on the [League's website](#).

Monday, May 9

Senate Committee on Appropriations, 10 a.m., State Capitol, Room 4203

- **SB 820 (Hertzberg) Hazardous materials: California Land Reuse and Revitalization Act of 2004.** *League position: Support.*
- **SB 866 (Roth) Veterans Housing.** *League position: Support.*
- **SB 1000 (Leyva) Land use: general plans: environmental justice.** *League position: Oppose.*

- **SB 1013 (Beall) Mentally ill parolees: housing.** *League position: Support.*
- **SB 1069 (Wieckowski) Land use: zoning.** *League position: Oppose.*
- **SB 1462 (Huff) Vehicles: driving under the influence: drug testing.** *League position: Support.*

Assembly Revenue and Taxation Suspense, 2:30 p.m. State Capitol, Room 126

- **AB 1561 (Garcia, Cristina) Sales and use taxes: exemption: sanitary napkins: tampons: menstrual cups and sponges.** *League position: Oppose unless amended.*
- **AB 1562 (Kim) Sales and use taxes: exemptions: disaster preparedness products.** *League position: Oppose unless amended.*

Assembly Revenue and Taxation, 2:30 p.m. State Capitol, Room 126

- **AB 1736 (Steinorth) Personal income taxes: deduction: homeownership savings accounts.** *League position: Support.*
- **AB 2040 (Melendez) Outdoor Water Efficiency Act of 2016: personal income tax credits: outdoor water efficiency.** *League position: Support.*
- **AB 2647 (Garcia, Eduardo) Income taxation: insurance taxation: credits: California New Markets Tax Credit.** *League position: Support.*
- **AB 2673 (Harper) Sales and use tax exemption: income tax credits: hydrogen refueling station equipment.** *League position: Oppose unless amended.*
- **HOT AB 2817 (Chiu) Taxes: credits: low-income housing: allocation increase.** *League position: Support.*

Wednesday, May 11

Assembly Committee on Appropriations, 10 a.m., State Capitol, Room 4202

- **AB 1789 (Santiago) Personal income taxes: voluntary contributions: School Supplies for Homeless Children Fund.** *League position: Support.*
- **AB 1934 (Santiago) Planning and zoning: density bonuses: mixed-use projects.** *League position: Oppose.*
- **AB 2208 (Santiago) Local planning: housing element: inventory of land for residential development.** *League position: Support.*
- **AB 2255 (Melendez) Drug and alcohol free residences.** *League position: Support.*
- **AB 2257 (Maienschein) Local agency meetings: agenda: online posting.** *League position: Oppose unless amended.*
- **AB 2261 (Hernández) Division of Labor Standards Enforcement: duties.** *League position: Oppose.*
- **AB 2299 (Bloom) Land use: housing: 2nd units.** *League position: Oppose.*
- **AB 2319 (Gordon) California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank.** *League position: Support.*
- **HOT AB 2320 (Calderon) Unmanned aircraft systems.** *League position: Neutral.*
- **AB 2321 (Rodriguez) Vehicles: registration and transfers of title or interest: use tax.** *League position: Sponsor.*
- **HOT AB 2403 (Bloom) Alcoholism or drug abuse recovery or treatment facilities.** *League position: Sponsor.*
- **AB 2442 (Holden) Density bonuses.** *League position: Concerns.*
- **AB 2450 (Achadjian) Property taxation: property acquired for public use: notice.** *League position: Support.*
- **AB 2475 (Gordon) Loan program: California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank.** *League position: Support.*
- **AB 2498 (Bonta) Human trafficking.** *League position: Support.*
- **HOT AB 2501 (Bloom) Housing: density bonuses.** *League position: Oppose.*
- **AB 2535 (Ridley-Thomas) Employment: wages: itemized statements.** *League position: Support.*
- **AB 2556 (Nazarian) Density bonuses.** *League position: Concerns.*
- **HOT AB 2586 (Gatto) Parking.** *League position: Oppose.*
- **AB 2697 (Bonilla) Redevelopment dissolution: successor agencies: disposal of assets and properties.** *League position: Oppose.*
- **AB 2821 (Chiu) Medi-Cal Housing Program.** *League position: Support.*

- **AB 2873 (Thurmond) Certified access specialists.** *League position: Concerns.*

Senate Governance and Finance, 9:30 a.m., State Capitol, Room 112

- **SB 879 (Beall) Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2016.** *League position: Support.*

Senate Committee on Appropriations, 10 a.m., State Capitol, Room 4203

- **SB 868 (Jackson) State Remote Piloted Aircraft Act.** *League position: Support.*
 - **SB 1170 (Wieckowski) Public contracts: water pollution prevention plans: delegation.** *League position: Oppose.*
 - **SB 1317 (Wolk) Conditional use permit: groundwater extraction facility.** *League position: Oppose.*
 - **HOT SB 1318 (Wolk) Local government: drinking water infrastructure or services: wastewater infrastructure or services.** *League position: Oppose.*
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