

Terrie Gillen

From: Paul Brunell <paulbrunell@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2022 12:07 PM
To: Jack Gibson; Monty Schmitt; Larry Bragman; Cynthia Koehler; Larry Russell
Subject: Re: Do NOT ease restrictions in February and here's why

STILL no rain in the forecast for the next two weeks.

DO NOT reduce or eliminate restrictions. At this point it looks like we're going to keep drawing down. We are still 9 inches of rainfall below the normal of 52. If we hit 52, by all means reduce restrictions. If not you need to keep restrictions in place so that we can survive another 20 inch season if that comes next year.

On Jan 19, 2022, at 12:58 PM, Paul Brunell <PAULBRUNELL@COMCAST.NET> wrote:

MMWD Board-

I realize my input at this point will likely not be listened to or considered, however I want my contribution as a rate payer recorded and noted. And I would appreciate some form of response.

Easing restrictions is a huge mistake at this point, and here's why:

As you know January is likely to be almost a rain-free month. There is no rain in the forecast through Feb 2nd and maybe longer. We are STILL 9-10 inches short of average rainfall for the year. If the figurative "faucet" remains shut off for the remainder of the Spring, we will again be drawing down from 95% and be RIGHT BACK in the same situation by end of of this calendar year. Given that we use about 1% per week, with not much further rain, we will be right back down to 40-45% by December of this year.

The ONLY reason we made it through calendar year 2021 with any water at all is because in Spring of 2019, we had a miraculous rainfall, pushing us to 74 inches for the season and keeping our reservoirs full through end of June 2019. Feb, 2019 - 20 inches, March 2019 - 10 inches, April/May 2019 - 10 inches.

If not for that we would never have survived the two dry years to come. See attached screen shot of where we were on July 1, 2019:

If we begin drawing down in 2022 at a normal rate NOW (without restrictions) we will be at 70% come July 1, and 45% by December 1.

We are NOT promised rain from now through April. The ONLY way you should consider easing restrictions is if we have a plentiful Spring 2022, as we did in 2019 that keeps our lakes full through July 1st. If not, then it would be massively irresponsible to reduce restrictions. You need to wait until at least May 1st to see what the levels are before considering ANY reductions in restrictions.

Paul Brunell

Terrie Gillen

From: Nitsa Lallas <nlallas@alumni.stanford.edu>
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2022 8:18 AM
To: Larry Bragman; Jack Gibson; Cynthia Koehler; Larry Russell; Monty Schmitt; Ben Horenstein
Subject: Board input: water supply

To: MMWD Board Member Bragman
MMWD Board Member Gibson
MMWD Board Member Koehler
MMWD Board Member Russell
MMWD Board Member Schmitt
MMWD General Manager Horenstein

As a resident of Marin for over 40 years I provide this input to you regarding Marin's water supply and request that you include this input in any/all discussions and decisions regarding Marin water supply.

Marin Municipal Water District has taken Marin residents on a roller coaster ride with respect to water supply for far too long. A climate resilient water supply which supports all Marin residents, businesses and firefighters needs to be built; it is not optional.

My suggestions to you are:

Implement all of the recommendations proposed by board member Monty Schmitt as described on January 16, 2022 in [Marin Voice](#). Please do so with urgency. These are:

Increase water storage capacity

Implement a climate resilient water supply system for Marin county

Add permanent, consistent sources of water from pipelines **AND** desalination sufficient to support our entire population and needs.

Continue to encourage conservation but do not rely on conservation as the only strategy.

Work with Congressman Jared Huffman to access new infrastructure funds from the federal government for these investments, where available.

If any of you, as board members or managers, do not support urgent action on these plans I would suggest it is time for you to retire or be voted out.

Let me share a few reasons why. For decades I've lived through extreme drought years and intermittent years of torrential rains in Marin. During droughts in the 70's the water district installed a pipeline to source new water supplies, only to take it out later, when rains returned. Now the pipeline is planned again, and perhaps put on hold again? Putting it on hold is wrong! Get it done.

Similarly measures to implement desalination which had broad public support, circa 2009, were implemented then put on hold, and not pursued by MMWD. That was also wrong.

On the other hand, when the torrential rains do appear, much water runs into the ocean because storage capacity is insufficient. That is wrong.

The water district has put too much of the burden on its customers, demanding conservation yet penalizing people and raising prices when they complied. That is wrong.

This kind of short term, roller coaster approach is at best bad management, and could be considered reckless stewardship of a precious resource on which life and the environment depends. Climate change adversely impacting water supply is no surprise to people in Marin. Yet there is still no long term plan by MMWD to address it. Over the years I've heard people hypothesize that the water district limits water supply in an effort to limit population growth. I certainly hope that is not true, it would be wrong.

MMWD must urgently implement an effective, comprehensive water supply strategy that provides for all users including residents, commercial users and firefighting, now and in the future. It is unacceptable to do anything less. Enough is enough of the roller coaster ride with water supply.

I understand that this may be difficult or complicated, that arcane rules may need to change, and that innovation and regional cooperation may be necessary. None of these is insurmountable. Much of it has already been done in other parts of California.

It is your duty to get it done for Marin, and do so with urgency, given the positions you choose to hold.

Thank you.

Nitsa Lallas

Mill Valley (Marin resident for over 40 years)

Terrie Gillen

From: GARY DENISON <hikermv@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2022 7:25 PM
To: Board Comment
Subject: Public Comment for the Board Feb 1 meeting

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input. My comments are in regard to the February 1, 2022 Board of Director package, specifically agenda items 9 and 10.

Agenda item 9 is for the approval of a \$401,175 expenditure for Jacobs Engineering. This purpose is for the company to perform a Strategic Water Assessment for the MMWD. This assessment will include: water supply and demand drought scenarios, an assessment of water supply alternatives and an evaluation of water supply alternative for the purpose of assisting in the selection of a "preferred project." This assessment and report are to be completed by the end of June, 2022.

One of the potential "preferred projects" is the intertie project through EBMUD which is the subject of agenda item 10. Item 10 seeks the approval of a \$998,030 expenditure to conduct an environmental impact review on the intertie project.

As a MMWD rate payer, I strongly object to the approval of agenda item 10 prior to the completion of the assessment being approved in agenda item 9. Regardless of which "preferred project" is selected it is likely an environmental impact review will need to be conducted. It is fiscally responsible to defer almost a \$1 million outlay until a "preferred project" is identified and selected.

This leads to my final comment. Given the lack of foresight and planning for the recent drought, should the district consider allocating money to have an outside consulting firm assess the overall governance process of the MMWD? This assessment should include, the role of Board Members and the General Manager and qualifications thereof. It should contrast the governance structure of the MMWD against other California municipal water districts. Is the Board is over involved in the day-to-day operations of the district, because of managerial weaknesses at the top of the organization? These are questions best addressed outside of the organization by an independent consulting firm.

Respectfully submitted,

MMWD ratepayer