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MAYOR JERRY SANDERS FACT SHEET

MAYOR CALLS FOR END TO WATER RESTRICTIONS

Congratulates San Diegans for Stepping Up During Drought

Mayor Jerry Sanders called for an end to the city's mandatory water restrictions, citing the state's full reservoirs and healthy snowpack levels. He also congratulated San Diegans for their remarkable job saving water in the nearly two years since the city imposed the restrictions.

Sanders emphasized that San Diegans should continue treating water as a valuable resource even without the mandatory restrictions. The mayor called for lifting the restrictions out of a belief that emergency regulations should be reserved for emergencies.

"All Southern Californians realize water is a precious resource that we can't afford to waste," the mayor said. "We've all developed great water habits these past two years. Let's not discard those habits just because the water shortage is over."

San Diegans have reduced their water usage more than 14% since the city imposed mandatory water restrictions in June 2009. The amount of water saved during this year alone would be enough to fill Lake Murray five times.

The mayor's call to end the restrictions comes after a wet winter that filled up reservoirs throughout the state. As a result, the San Diego County Water Authority – the city's water wholesaler – has lifted its cap on how much water the city can buy without being penalized.

If the Council approves the mayor's request, San Diegans will no longer face fines for, among other things, watering their lawns more than three days a week, although residents are still prohibited from overwatering their lawns or watering during the middle of the day.

Even without the restrictions, the city will continue to educate the public about wise water use through its new "San Diegans Waste No Water" public outreach campaign.

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