

# Drought and Water Conservation Plan Updates

City Council Workshop

April 11, 2024

Item 7.1



# Background

- Water Conservation Plans and Drought Contingency Plans required for public water systems with over 3,300 connections
- Required updates every five years by May 1
- Coordination with Brazos G Regional Water Planning Group and Brazos Valley Groundwater Conservation District
- On agenda for adoption at April 25 Council Meeting



# Drought Contingency Plan

- Strategy for responding to temporary water supply shortages and/or increased water demand
- Must include:
  - Triggers for each drought response stage
  - Specific, quantified targets for water use reductions
  - Procedures for notification, enforcement, & variances
  - Process for public input & education
- Included in Code of Ordinances



# Proposed Drought Plan Stages

- Year-round water use management when not in drought stage

- Stage 1 – High Water Demand
- Stage 2 – Severe Water Demand
- Stage 3 – Extreme Water Demand

*Based on water demand as  
% of production/distribution  
capacity*

- Stage 4 – Water Supply Emergency
  - Triggered if water system fails or is contaminated; reached immediately



# Water Production Dashboard

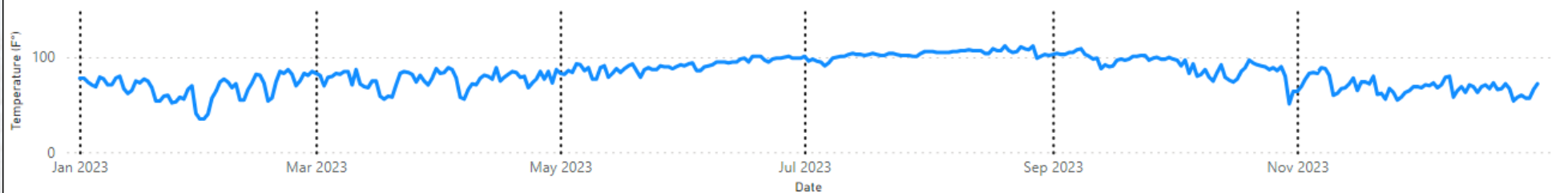
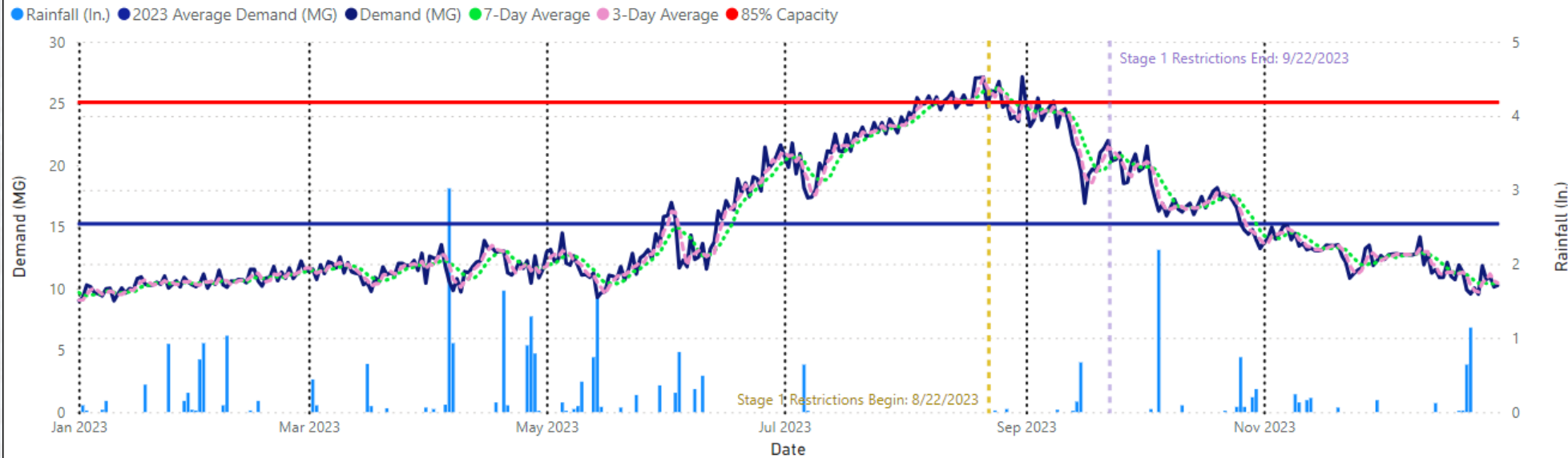


## 2023 Daily Demand

Date

1/1/2023

12/31/2023



# Summary of Changes

- Added third drought stage based on water demand
- Monitor water demand and production capacity on a 7-day average
- Clarified criteria for essential and non-essential water use in each stage of the plan
  - Essential: to sustain life; meet public health/safety/environmental requirements
  - Non-essential: includes irrigation, washing of vehicles/hard surfaces/buildings; single-pass splash pads; failure to repair leak; water from hydrants for dust control
- Schedule for irrigation of new landscapes during Stage 1



# Water Conservation Plan

- Long-term strategy to reduce consumption of water, improve efficiency, and/or increase water reuse
- Must include:
  - Quantified five-year and ten-year conservation goals
  - Best Management Practices (BMPs) to meet conservation goals
  - Program for public education
- Adopted by City Council Resolution (not an ordinance)



# Water Conservation Programs

Water Waste  
Restriction

Conservation-  
oriented  
water rates

Irrigation  
checkups

Brazos Valley  
WaterSmart

Water Reuse

Rebates

Rainwater  
Harvesting



**Thank you!**

