City of Phoenix

Meeting Location:
City Council Chambers
200 W. Jefferson St.
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

City of Phoenix

Agenda

Tuesday, November 10, 2026

2:30 PM

phoenix.gov

City Council Policy Session

If viewing this packet electronically in PDF, open and use bookmarks to navigate easily from one item to another.

OPTIONS TO ACCESS THIS MEETING

Virtual Request to speak at a meeting:

- Register online by visiting the City Council Meetings page on phoenix.gov at least 2 hours prior to the start of this meeting. Then, click on this link at the time of the meeting and join the Webex to speak: https://phoenixcitycouncil.webex.com/phoenixcitycouncil/j.php?MTID=m16748f3314b0ab7200aa84fe13850c2b

- Register via telephone at 602-262-6001 at least 2 hours prior to the start of this meeting, noting the item number. Then, use the Call-in phone number and Meeting ID listed below at the time of the meeting to call-in and speak.

In-Person Requests to speak at a meeting:

- Register in person at a kiosk located at the City Council Chambers, 200 W. Jefferson St., Phoenix, Arizona, 85003. Arrive 1 hour prior to the start of this meeting. Depending on seating availability, residents will attend and speak from the Upper Chambers, Lower Chambers or City Hall location.

- Individuals should arrive early, 1 hour prior to the start of the meeting to submit an in-person request to speak before the item is called. After the item is called, requests to speak for that item will not be accepted.

At the time of the meeting:

- Watch the meeting live streamed on phoenix.gov or Phoenix Channel 11 on Cox Cable, or using the Webex link provided above.

- Call-in to listen to the meeting. Dial 602-666-0783 and Enter Meeting ID 2557 558 5945# (for English) or 2553 915 6686# (for Spanish). Press # again when prompted for attendee ID.

- Watch the meeting in-person from the Upper Chambers, Lower Chambers or City Hall depending on seating availability.

- Members of the public may attend this meeting in person. Physical access to the meeting location will be available starting 1 hour prior to the meeting.

Para nuestros residentes de habla hispana:

- Para registrarse para hablar en español, llame al 602-262-6001 al menos 2 horas antes del inicio de esta reunión e indique el número del tema. El día de la reunión, llame al 602-666-0783 e ingrese el número de identificación de la reunión 2553 915 6686#. El intérprete le indicará cuando sea su turno de hablar.

- Para solamente escuchar la reunión en español, llame a este mismo número el día de la reunión (602-666-0783; ingrese el número de identificación de la reunión 2553 915 6686#). Se proporciona interpretación simultánea para nuestros residentes durante todas las reuniones.

- Para asistir a la reunión en persona, vaya a las Cámaras del Concejo Municipal de Phoenix ubicadas en 200 W. Jefferson Street, Phoenix, AZ 85003. Llegue 1 hora antes del comienzo de la reunión. Si desea hablar, regístrese electrónicamente en uno de los quioscos, antes de que comience el tema. Una vez que se comience a discutir el tema, no se aceptarán nuevas solicitudes para hablar. Dependiendo de cuantos asientos haya disponibles, usted podría ser sentado en la parte superior de las cámaras, en el piso de abajo de las cámaras, o en el edificio municipal.

- Miembros del público pueden asistir a esta reunión en persona. El acceso físico al lugar de la reunión estará disponible comenzando una hora antes de la reunión.

CALL TO ORDER

COUNCIL INFORMATION AND FOLLOW-UP REQUESTS

This item is scheduled to give City Council members an opportunity to publicly request information or follow up on issues of interest to the community. If the information is available, staff will immediately provide it to the City Council member. No decisions will be made or action taken.

CONSENT ACTION

This item is scheduled to allow the City Council to act on the Mayor's recommendations on the Consent Agenda. There is no Consent Agenda for this meeting.

CALL FOR AN EXECUTIVE SESSION

A vote may be held to call an Executive Session for a future date.

REPORTS AND BUDGET UPDATES BY THE CITY MANAGER

This item is scheduled to allow the City Manager to provide brief informational reports on topics of interest to the City Council. The City Council may discuss these reports but no action will be taken.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION (ITEM 1)

1 **Phoenix Water Supply and Demand Update - Citywide** Page 5

This report provides an update on the City of Phoenix’s water resource planning efforts in response to Colorado River water shortages and current drought conditions and outlines ongoing and future steps the City of Phoenix is taking in response.

THIS ITEM IS FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION.

Responsible Department
This item is submitted by Assistant City Manager Ginger Spencer and the Water Services Department.

ADJOURN

City of Phoenix

Report

Agenda Date: 11/10/2026, **Item No.** 1

Phoenix Water Supply and Demand Update - Citywide

This report provides an update on the City of Phoenix's water resource planning efforts in response to Colorado River water shortages and current drought conditions and outlines ongoing and future steps the City of Phoenix is taking in response.

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Summary

The United States Bureau of Reclamation will implement new Post-2026 Colorado River Operating Guidelines effective January 1, 2027. This action is the result of the Environmental Impact Statement released earlier this year that outlines multiple decision alternatives, each resulting in significant reductions to water supplies available to the Central Arizona Project (CAP) canal and the State of Arizona.

The Operating Guidelines will reduce the Lower Basin states by 1.25 million acre-feet per year. Currently the Lower Basin states of Arizona, California, and Nevada are negotiating a two-year deal to share in the water shortages. The reductions to each state will result in a 27 percent cut to Arizona, 10 percent cut to California and 16 percent cut to Nevada. This will be a 760,000 acre-feet cut to (CAP).

The City of Phoenix relies on water delivered via CAP to meet approximately 40 percent of its annual customer demand and because of the upcoming reductions, the Water Services Department (WSD) continues to plan and prepare for the continued water delivery to residents and customers.

Phoenix's Readiness

The City of Phoenix has been preparing for years to deal with these anticipated shortages while still developing viable long-term supply solutions.

There are several projects the City is pursuing to develop the next generation of water supplies. When completed, these projects will not only help offset Colorado River water shortages but also position the City with reliable water resources for the foreseeable future. First and foremost is Pure Water Phoenix, which is the City's Advanced Water Purification program currently under construction at the Cave Creek

Water Reclamation Plant and anticipated to deliver water to customers in 2029. In addition, the City is partnering with Salt River Project and others to expand Bartlett Dam to create more storage capacity on the Verde River. And earlier this year, Council approved the City's participation in the Secure Water Arizona Program to create new and innovative water transactions that will offset both current and long-term water shortages. The next generation solutions demonstrate Phoenix's commitment to planning, investment, and conservation to ensure reliable water services are accessible.

In the interim, the City will meet demands with backup supplies such as renewable backup supplies from the Salt and Verde river systems; water stored in the Arizona Water Bank, Tucson area and elsewhere; and groundwater. These are all solutions that, when used wisely, will build a bridge to long-term solutions.

While the City continues with these proactive measures, the City must also focus on how conservation and demand management today plays a role in strengthening our water future. For years, the City has maintained a Drought Management Plan (DMP) to employ as needed. The DMP identifies four drought stages:

- Stage 1 - Water Alert (declared June 2022)
- Stage 2 - Water Warning
- Stage 3 - Water Emergency
- Stage 4 - Water Crisis

Each stage brings with it an escalation of actions that the City can take to help deal with water supply insufficiencies. Since Stage 1, WSD has continued to build on its conservation, education and customer outreach programs, as well as take internal actions, like the creation of the Drought and Shortage Response Team, which is a comprised of staff from the City's 13 departments that directly use water, to reduce overall water use.

It is increasingly likely that a Stage 2 declaration could be necessary in the future. If this occurs, the City will ask its departments to reduce water use by 10 percent and ask customers to voluntarily reduce their own water use by five percent.

In addition, WSD plans to further expand current conservation programs. The Water Efficiency Consultation Program, which offers an on-site review from a WSD conservation team member who evaluates water use and identifies ways the customer can improve their water efficiency, will be expanded to allow for more consultations per year. The Customer Incentive Program provides financial incentives for customers who take steps to improve water efficiency. This program will increase the incentives for

grass removal and smart irrigation controllers. WSD will also be developing a new incentive program related to leak repairs.

As part of Stage 2, WSD will implement a drought surcharge. This is a temporary surcharge on customers who are the highest water users. The funds collected through surcharges will be used to fund the WSD conservation programs as well as identify and purchase new water supplies to add to the City's water portfolio.The $2.10 surcharge will be applied per unit (equal to 748 gallons) based on customer type and will be applied to the monthly City Services bill.

- Residential - $2.10 per unit over 20 units a month.
- Commercial - $2.10 per unit over 300 units a month.
- Industrial - $2.10 per unit over 15,000 units a month.

Most water customers will not see a surcharge on their monthly bill, and for those that do, WSD is available to assist them to identify how to be more water efficient.

Phoenix is dedicated to ensuring reliable, high-quality water service through ongoing planning, infrastructure investment and conservation initiatives. The City will continue with proactive steps to diversify water supplies, enhance distribution systems and strengthen long-term water resilience.

Responsible Department
This item is submitted by Assistant City Manager Ginger Spencer and the Water Services Department.