

**GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2012, 4:30 - 6: 30 P.M.
ADMINISTRATION CONFERENCE ROOM
2ND FLOOR, CITY AHELL
250 N. 5TH STREET**

To become the most livable community west of the Rockies by 2025

GVRTC Proposed Bus Station

Grand Valley Regional Water Conservation Plan

[Attach W-1](#)

Airport

OTHER BUSINESS – Avalon Theater (if time allows)



Date: January 24, 2012
 Author: Greg Trainor, Rick Brinkman

 Title/ Phone Ext: Utilities, Streets, and
Facilities Director / Water Services
Manager
 Proposed Schedule: Council
Workshop, February 1, 2012
 2nd Reading
 (if applicable): _____
 File # (if applicable): _____

**Attach W-1
 CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM**

Subject: Grand Valley Regional Water Conservation Plan
Action Requested/Recommendation: N/A
Presenter(s) Name & Title: Greg Trainor, Utilities, Streets, and Facilities Director Rick Brinkman, Water Services Manager

Executive Summary:

The City of Grand Junction, Clifton Water District, and Ute Water Conservancy District have developed a Grand Valley Regional Water Conservation Plan. The draft plan is now ready to be published for public review and comment. The public review period is sixty days, after that time any public comments or concerns will be addressed and included in the final document to be adopted by the City Council. After adoption by the City Council the plan will be submitted to the Colorado Water Conservation Board for final approval.

Background, Analysis and Options:

In 1996 the City of Grand Junction, Clifton Water District, and Ute Water Conservancy District all developed water conservation plans. Although the three entities worked cooperatively on the plans, they were submitted to the Colorado Water Conservation Board as individual plans for each entity.

In 2009 the City of Grand Junction, Clifton Water District, and Ute Water Conservancy District decided it was time to revise their water conservation plans to meet the requirements of the Water Conservation Act of 2004. The entities having developed a joint Drought Response Information Project (DRIP) program in response to the 2002 drought, wanted to use the same cooperative approach to water conservation. The entities applied to the Colorado Water Conservation Board for a grant to develop a Region Water Conservation Plan. The entities were successful in receiving a \$50,000 grant in August of 2009, to develop and write the plan, now called the Grand Valley Regional Water Conservation Plan. The entities hired Rebecca Nichols of RHN Water Resources Consultants in Montrose to work with the entities to develop and write the water conservation plan.

CWCB has established nine planning steps for comprehensive, effective conservation planning.

The nine planning steps are:

1. Profile existing water system
2. Characterize water use and forecast demand
3. Profile proposed facilities
4. Identify conservation goals
5. Identify conservation measures and programs
6. Evaluate and select conservation measures and programs
7. Integrate resources and modify forecasts
8. Develop implementation plan
9. Monitor, evaluate and revise conservation activities and the conservation plan

The Goals of the Grand Valley Regional Water Conservation Plan

1. Continue to educate the community, landscape contractors, and customers regarding codes and ordinances that promote xeric landscapes and water conservation.
2. Continue to create public awareness of wise water use and conservation.
3. Reduce residential sector water demand in the Grand Valley by 10% over the next seven years
4. Promote water savings awareness in the commercial/industrial sectors.

The Grand Valley Regional Water Conservation Plan Measures and Programs

1. Water Efficient Fixtures-The goal is to offer \$75 rebates to replace up to fifty 3.5 gpf or greater toilets per year with high efficiency toilets. The program will initially target the highest water use customers based on their billing records.
2. Landscape Audits- The goal is to offer landscape audits to the highest residential water use customers that utilize treated drinking water for irrigation of landscapes.
3. Commercial and Industrial Audits-Water audits will be offered to the top ten Commercial and Industrial users over the next seven years.

How this item relates to the Comprehensive Plan Goals and Policies:

Goal 8: Create attractive public spaces and enhance the visual appeal of the community through quality development.

Policy E. Encourage the use of xeriscape landscaping

Goal 12: Being a regional provider of goods and services the City and County will sustain, develop, and enhance a healthy, diverse economy.

Board or Committee Recommendation:

N/A

Financial Impact/Budget:

Approximate cost is \$2,500 per year for the conservation measures, and \$5,000 per year for public education programs (water conservation/DRIP) per entity. This would not be new budget items as the Water Division has been budgeting for DRIP and other community participation projects for several years.

Legal issues:

N/A

Other issues:

N/A

Previously presented or discussed:

N/A

Attachments:

None