



13.M.1 EXISTING SERVICES AND FACILITIES

The City of Mountain Home receives its domestic water supply from nine ground water wells, two of which were just drilled since 2010. The wells produce 12,000 gallons per minute (gpm) and are capable of meeting the current peak demand of 8150 gpm with all wells running. Water is distributed through 66 miles of water pipelines.

The City has water rights to approximately 16,857 gpm, or 37.56 cfs of which some is restricted to summertime irrigation. The City's water rights have been consolidated to allow any water right to be withdrawn from any combination of city wells. Water is stored in four reservoirs with a storage capacity of 4.99 million gallons with our newest 2 million gallon reservoir coming on line in 2019. Since 2015, with the addition of a new well and the storage reservoir, the City has increased its available EDUs to more than meet the City's existing needs, as well as future growth.

In 2018, the annual average water usage was 303 gpcd. This rate decreases in winter to 84 gpcd and in summer the amount increases to 640 gpcd. The 2018 average annual, winter and summer demands were 3000gpm, 830 gpm and 6340 gpm respectively. Irrigation accounts for approximately 70% of the total annual water use.

13.M.2 WATER MASTER PLAN

In 2019 the City engaged engineering firm Keller Associates to update the Water System Master Plan. The Plan evaluated the condition and capacity of the City's water system, assessed the needs for the future and made recommendations for system improvements to meet then current and future needs.

13.M.3 GOAL 1

Supply quality water in adequate levels to the community.

- A. Provide an adequate supply of quality water to meet current needs and expected growth for residential, commercial, municipal and industrial water users.
- B. Provide an adequate flow and pressure of water for fire protection.
- C. Implement the recommendations of the adopted Water Facilities Planning Study prepared by Keller Associates in September 2019.
- D. Maintain to the highest standards all facilities and community equipment in order to provide reliable service, and update and install new infrastructure when needed.
- E. Continue to provide quality water by continuing to follow testing guidelines from DEQ.
- F. Develop a response plan for unforeseen mechanical/electrical failures or natural disasters which would affect water supply and distribution. Generators were installed on two wells in 2007 and the newest Well 16 in 2018. Equip future wells with standby power.



13.M.4 GOAL 2

To continue proactive planning for existing and future water needs of the community in order to provide for orderly and rational extension of water facilities.

- A. Continue to follow the 2019 Water Facilities Planning Study.
- B. Require that property contiguous to the City Limits is annexed prior to connection or extension of water lines. Do not extend water service beyond the City limits except as approved by City Council under terms and circumstances determined to be in the best interests of the City.
- C. Within the Area of City Impact, discourage new developments, which do not use public water facilities unless the utility systems are equivalent to public utility systems, and can connect to the public water system when annexed to the City. Encourage agreements for ultimate transfer to city of private facilities to eliminate redundant facilities (i.e. parallel private and public pipelines).
- D. Require that prior to annexation or property development, owners pay fees and contribute to the City for the purchase and transfer of additional water rights, consistent with current market rates at the time of purchase or transfer.
- E. Review and amend the development requirements pertaining to water use including surface irrigation, and water conservation.
- F. Continue to update the City Water Conservation Plan. Review the Rebate Program for low flow toilets and washing machines. Restriction on the use of potable water for landscaping when non-potable water sources are available; and low water use landscaping.
- G. In 2007 & 2018, water re-use was explored by the City and was determined not to be cost effective. The City will continue to explore and evaluate water re-use options (see item 2a Sewer section).
- H. Continue to monitor tiered water rate structure with progressive per gallon rates for residential usage.
- I. Locate, acquire land, and permit new wells based on growth projections.
- J. Continue charging a "Water Availability Fee" for connections to a City's water system and be governed by the following standards:
 - 1. All water mains should have the capacity and placement for extension.
 - 2. Developers will be expected to install water mains and stub the services to each lot at their sole expense.
 - 3. Developers are totally responsible for the cost of the water main.
 - 4. When the City requires a water main larger than needed for the specific development, the developer shall install the larger line size required by the City and may, prior to approval of the "final plat", make arrangements with the City for reimbursement of the difference in the cost main required by his development, and the larger line which the City has required. This reimbursement shall be made in the current fiscal year, only if there are sufficient funds in the development fund or a "Late Comers Agreement" may be negotiated whereby charges of future connections can be used to help pay back a portion of the costs to oversize the facilities.
 - 5. Need to follow the City Water Standards and Construction Standards.
 - 6. Construction of water mains by private interests, should be formally accepted for continuous city maintenance (by entry in the official minutes) by the City Council.

