



City of Long Beach

Working Together to Serve

Memorandum

Office of the City Attorney

DATE: June 19, 2007

To: Mayor and City Councilmembers

FROM: Robert E. Shannon, City Attorney

SUBJECT: Item 49 - Request for Report from Water Department on Water Conservation Efforts

Item 49, in part, requests that the City Attorney advise on an "appropriate water conservation ordinance, which would place mandatory restrictions on certain water use activities and prohibit water waste."

Please be advised that the City Charter grants the Board of Water Commissioners the sole and exclusive jurisdiction over the use and distribution of the City's water (Section 1403), and therefore passage of such an Ordinance would not be within the authority of the City Council.

The City Council may, however, express itself on a policy level and invite a dialogue with the Water Board.

Please call if you have any questions.

RES:abc:kdh

cc: Christine Shippey, Assistant City Manager
Kevin Wattier, General Manager, Water Department
Heather Mahood, Assistant City Attorney