

ORDINANCE NO. 77-6

V/V V

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA CRUZ PROHIBITING AND REGULATING CERTAIN USES OF WATER FROM THE CITY WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM NOT ESSENTIAL TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELL-BEING FOR WATER CONSERVATION PURPOSES; PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS; AND DECLARING THE PRESENCE OF AN EMERGENCY AND DECLARING THE URGENCY THEREOF.

WHEREAS, a water shortage emergency exists because of an impending shortage of water due to a prolonged drought; and

WHEREAS, anticipated rainfall has not arrived during the normal winter season which consequently leaves the level of the Newell Creek Reservoir at a low level, and other water sources are inadequate to meet seasonal water demand due to continuation of an area-wide drought; and

WHEREAS, this Council finds that the ordinary demands and requirements of water consumers cannot be satisfied without depleting the water supply to the extent that there would be insufficient water for human consumption, sanitation, and fire protection; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative to the public well-being that those uses of water which are not essential to public health, safety, or welfare be either prohibited or restricted; and

WHEREAS, the regulations and penalty rate structure hereinafter enacted is designed to discourage violations of the prohibitions hereinafter enacted and other nonessential or wasteful uses, encourage conservation, minimize peak load demands on City facilities, conserve the water supply of the City for the greatest public benefit with particular regard to domestic use, sanitation, and fire protection, and to avoid the necessity of even more serious rationing measures; and

WHEREAS, the usage allotments hereinafter established will spread the burden of restricted usage most equally and equitably over all consumers of City water regardless of the category or type of use, consistent with the City's ability to administer such allotments; and