The Portfolio

The Water Supply Advisory Committee recommends that the City Council adopt a portfolio of measures for improving the reliability of the water supply. The recommended portfolio consists of the following elements:

- An additional 200 to 250 million gallons of demand reduction by 2035 from implementing expanded programmatic water conservation in the Master Conservation Plan;
- Aquifer Storage and Recovery:
    - Passive recharge of regional aquifers by working to develop agreements for providing surface water as an in lieu supply to the Soquel Creek Water District and/or the Scotts Valley Water Districts; and/or
    - Active recharge of regional aquifers by using existing infrastructure (wells, pipelines, and treatment capacity) and potential new infrastructure (wells, pipelines and treatment capacity) in the regionally shared Purisima aquifer in the Soquel-Aptos basin and/or in the Santa Margarita/Lompico/Butano aquifers in the Scotts Valley area;
- A drought proof potable water supply source:
    - Either using recycled water or seawater as the supply source, with a preference for recycled water.

WSAC recommends that all elements be implemented diligently with the goal to make them effective, functional water sources as soon as feasible.

Definition of DILIGENT from Merriam Webster Dictionary: characterized by steady, earnest, and energetic effort.

The Committee also supports the Water Department's plans to address certain key infrastructure constraints that are keeping the City from fully utilizing available water, especially during the high flow season. Included are:

- A replacement pipeline between the Felton Diversion and Loch Lomond that would allow the City to increase diversions to Loch Lomond during the high flow season;
- Additional pumping capacity at Felton to push more water to Loch Lomond through the replacement pipeline; and
- When and as needed, improvements to the Department's ability to treat water with turbidities that are higher than can be effectively treated by the Graham Hill Water Treatment Plant. The specific method for how to address the water treatment constraint should include evaluating a range of potential options and making a choice on the most cost-effective approach to address this issue.