

City Of Santa Monica
Environmental Public Works Management
Water Resource Division

Fire Hydrant Meter Program

Effective Date: July 1, 2006

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To establish a Departmental policy and procedure for issuance, proper usage and charges for fire hydrant meters.

2. Authority

- 2.1 City Of Santa Monica Municipal Code Chapter 7.12, Article 7.
- 2.2 California Code of Regulations, Titles 17 and 22.
- 2.3 California Plumbing Code
- 2.4 Water Resource Director

3. References

- 3.1 American Water Works Association Manual M-14, Recommended Practice for Backflow Prevention.
- 3.2 U.S.C. Foundation for Cross Connection Control & Hydraulic Research Manual
- 3.3 American Water Works Association Manual M-6, Water Meters-Selection, Installation, Testing and Maintenance.

4. Definitions

- 4.1 ***Fire Hydrant Meter:*** A portable water meter which is connected to a fire hydrant for the purpose of temporary water use. (These meters are sometimes referred to as Construction Meters or Eddy-Valves.)
- 4.2 ***Temporary Water Use:*** Water provided to the customer for a specified time and can be renewed or extended.

- 4.3 **Backflow Prevention Device:** A Reduced Pressure Assembly backflow device connected to the outlet side of a Fire Hydrant Meter. An air gap that is usually present on water tanker.
- 4.4 **Right Of Way:** The land secured and reserved to the public for highway purposes, sidewalks and utilities.
- 4.5 **Applicant/Customer:** Individual or company that assumes responsibility for fire hydrant meter and its use. This information is required on the application for fire hydrant meter.

5. Policies/Procedures/Conditions

- 5.1 An application for temporary water use from a fire hydrant shall be filled out completely and submitted to the billing office. There will be a set up fee of \$203.15 plus \$51.30 per month charge. There will be no deposit collected, but if the meter is lost or damaged, estimated costs will be paid before temporary water use can be resumed. Any overcharges for the repair will be refunded when the hydrant meter is disconnected.
- 5.2 There may be up to three working days before the installation of the fire hydrant meter. Please plan your project accordingly. Once the application is complete and the fee paid, a Water Resource Representative will contact the person named on the application. An appointment will be set which will include an inspection of the location and type of use.
- 5.3 Fire hydrant meters will be set and locked at specified locations. If it is necessary to relocate the hydrant meter please refer to Section 6. The use of the fire hydrant meter is primarily for filling approved water tankers. To string hose from a fire hydrant meter to the point of use by crossing the public right of way will require approval of the Public Works Inspector, Water Resources Division, and may require permits.
- 5.4 Any person using a fire hydrant without authorization shall pay to the City a fee set by resolution, in addition to the estimated cost of water that was used. The use of private hydrant meters on City hydrants is prohibited.
- 5.5 All flow of water from a fire hydrant shall be controlled by means of an approved auxiliary valve, unless otherwise specifically authorized by the Water Resources Division. The fire hydrant shall not be operated by the applicant or any of their representatives.
- 5.6 It is the responsibility of the customer to keep the area of the hydrant meter clear, organized and safe from hazards. If there are damages or concerns with

the hydrant meter set up, the customer shall contact the Water Resources Division.

6. Relocation of Existing Fire Hydrant Meters.

- 6.1 The customer shall call the Water Resources Division to request the relocation of a meter a minimum of 24 hours in advance of the requested relocation date. The cost to relocate a Fire Hydrant Meter is \$62.59 and must be paid in advance.
- 6.2 The new location of the fire hydrant meter shall be in compliance with Section 5 of Hydrant Meter Program.

7. Disconnection of Fire Hydrant Meters

- 7.1 Upon completion of the project, the customer will notify the Water Resources Division office to request the removal of the fire hydrant meter. If there is any damage to City property, such as the fire hydrant meter, backflow device, or various appurtenances, the cost of repairs or replacements will be charged to the customer of record (applicant).