



City of Kelowna  
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# Council Policy

Water Supply

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Contact Department: Civic Operations

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## **Guiding Principle**

To operate a reliable water system that delivers clean, safe, drinking water and adequate water for commercial, industrial, agricultural, and fire protection services at equitable and competitive rates.

## **Purpose**

To set priorities, direction and limitations of water delivery to City water utility customers to ensure fairness and responsible management of the resource.

## **Application**

This policy applies to the City water utility and its customers.

## **Policy Statements**

1. The City operates potable and non-potable water systems and will ensure clean, safe potable water is provided to all utility customers to maintain public health and safety.
2. The City will provide adequate water for other uses (e.g. industrial, commercial, irrigation) when available to support local business and the Kelowna economy.
3. Water for irrigation may be sourced from either potable or non-potable supply. The City will determine the extent of the non-potable water system as well as the properties served by the system based on best overall value to the utility and consistent with the priorities outlined in Council Policy.
4. The non-potable system will be maintained and operated to meet the Canadian Water Quality Guidelines for the Protection of Agricultural Water Uses during the irrigation season.
5. The City supports agriculture within the utility service area. Pricing of water for agricultural purposes will reflect the community's support and will be set to be competitive with agricultural water rates in the Okanagan Valley.
6. Properties classified as Farm under the Assessment Act will be eligible for agricultural water rates ..
7. To encourage the use of the lower cost, non-potable water to the extent that it is available, pricing for non-potable water for irrigation purposes may be lower than the pricing for potable water for the same customer class.
8. City bylaws and policies for water supply will reflect the following priorities (ranked from highest to lowest):
  - Safe water for human health and sanitation;
  - Fire suppression, emergency response and risk mitigation;
  - Commercial, Industrial and Agricultural use;
  - Irrigation for aesthetics.