

Town of Hideout Provides Encouraging Update on Water Planning Efforts

The Town of Hideout has shared an update on its long-term water planning work, emphasizing that the evidence and studies indicate that Hideout is not facing a short-term water supply problem and long-term projections remain encouraging.

Today's announcement represents progress on one of Mayor Severini's four 2026 priorities - economic development and fiscal responsibility, which he announced last week during his State of the Town Address. In addition to managing the town's economic resources wisely the Mayor's other 2026 priorities include public safety, community identity and compilation of the general plan update.

Following two years of extensive water studies conducted by industry experts, the Town has confirmed that it has sufficient water to meet current needs and approved development. These studies were undertaken to understand whether Hideout could face long-term water supply challenges in the future and to ensure the Town is prepared well in advance of any potential risks.

"Water is a statewide issue, and every community in Utah is being asked to plan responsibly for the future," said Town of Hideout Mayor Ralph Severini. "The good news is that our studies show Hideout does not have an immediate water supply problem, and the long-term outlook is encouraging. That said, we are committed to being proactive and doing everything we can to prevent a worst-case scenario down the road."

The studies found that Hideout compares very favorably to other Utah communities for two key reasons: residents use water responsibly, and the Town has collected the appropriate amount of water to support development that has already occurred. As a result, the Town has exercised proper stewardship over the current water supply and has acted responsibly in planning for growth.

"I have been following this issue closely over the past several years and have heard from residents who are understandably concerned about water availability in the future," Mayor Severini added. "In the spirit of transparency, I want to share what we've learned and how we plan to move forward. Based on what we know today, we do not believe this is a critical issue, and for the homes we have built and approved, there is no indication of a water supply gap."

This conclusion is based on the independent analysis and validation of three entities:

1. Hansen, Allen & Luce (HAL), on behalf of the Town of Hideout
2. The Jordanelle Special Service District (JSSD)
3. The State of Utah

Steve Jones, CEO of HAL, underscored the Town's strong performance. "We have conducted dozens of these studies across the state of Utah, and of all the communities we've looked at, Hideout is at the top of the list in terms of responsible use of their water resources," Jones said. "The Town's landscaping policies and the behavior of Hideout residents really put the community at the top."

The studies also show that, provided ongoing water consumption continues to mirror usage patterns from recent years on a per-unit basis, the amount of water available to the Town is adequate to meet current needs. Hideout benefits from unique consumption characteristics, including a mix of part-time and full-time residents typical of a resort community, which results in lower overall water usage compared to many other communities.

Looking ahead, Town leadership recognizes the importance of continuing to monitor consumption patterns as new users enter the community. In the short term (two to three years) and mid-term (six to eight years), the Town is well positioned. Over the longer term, the Town will continue working with leading analysts to ensure it remains prepared.

Out of an abundance of caution, and because Hideout is a relatively young and fast growing community, the Mayor is instituting the following proactive measures to ensure long-term stability and flexibility:

1. **Continue responsible water use and monitoring.** The Town of Hideout currently uses water efficiently to serve its residents, with actual consumption tracking below original planning assumptions. Usage trends will continue to be monitored closely over time to ensure those assumptions remain accurate.
2. **Implement targeted water conservation opportunities.** Through the Hideout Conservation Program, the Town will explore conservation measures that could improve overall efficiency and result in meaningful water savings.
3. **Require adequate water supplies for future growth.** The Town will continue to ensure that any future annexations and new developments provide additional water supplies consistent with all applicable requirements, so that growth does not negatively impact existing residents
4. **Maintain a proactive planning posture.** Town leadership will continue coordinating with its engineering team and relevant agencies to evaluate assumptions, update planning as needed and address any potential risks well in advance.

If a future gap were ever to emerge, the Town has options, including, but not limited to purchasing water on the open market. As the Town's non-property tax revenue base continues to mature, it will be in a stronger financial position to respond if needed. Importantly, the Town has sufficient water for its current population, has not collected too much water in the past and will continue to ensure it does not collect too little in the future.

"Our focus is on monitoring our water use carefully and making sure future growth is supported by adequate resources, so we can continue to protect existing residents while positioning the Town for stability and successful development in the years ahead," said Mayor Severini.

To view the full audit report please click [here](#).

If you have any questions about this audit report, please email Mayor Severini at mayor@hideoututah.gov.