

## Business Item 2020-31:

# Turfgrass Irrigation Efficiency Project with University of Minnesota Turfgrass Science Program

Brian Davis, Senior Engineer, Water Supply Planning

Metropolitan Council, January 22, 2020

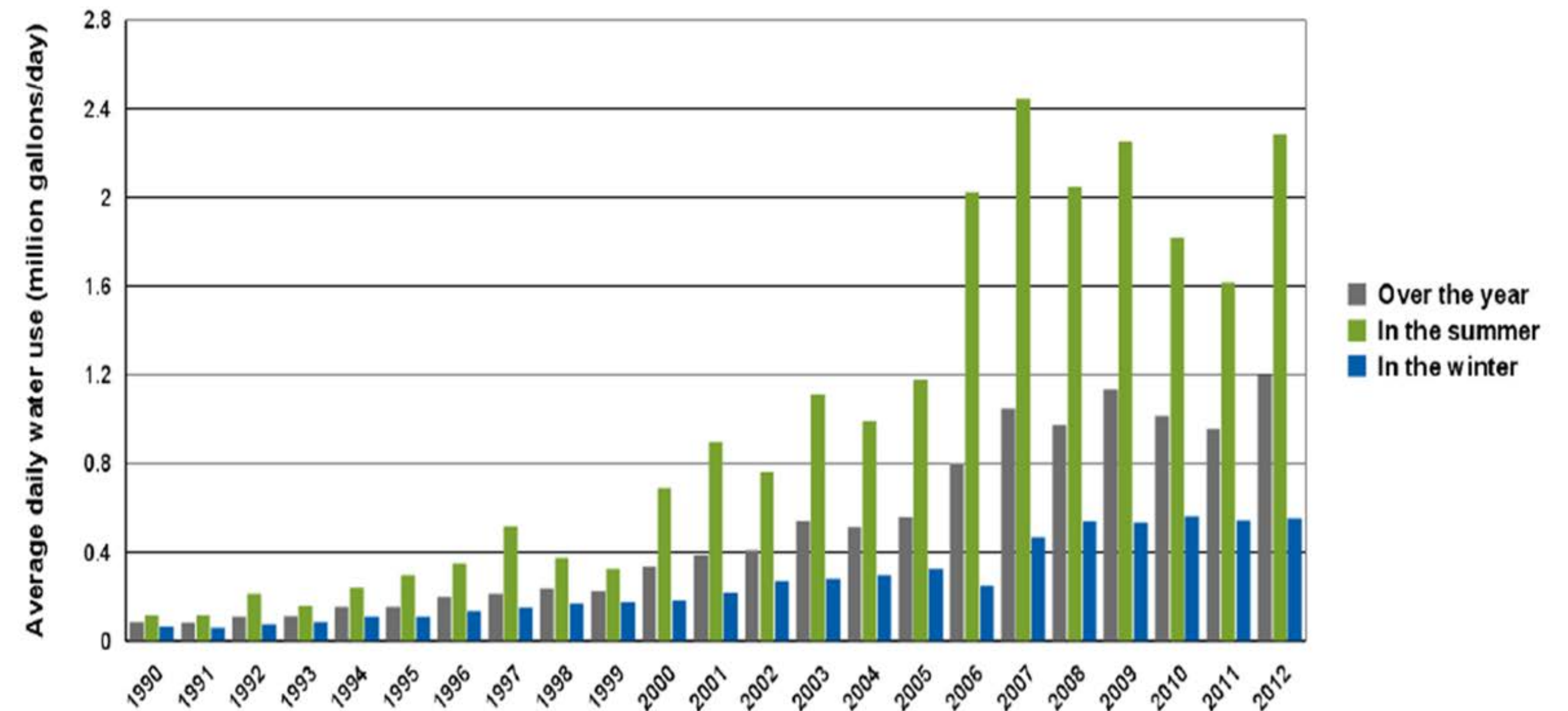


# Turfgrass Irrigation in the Metro Area

- Irrigation increasing since the 1990s
- Comprises 30% of residential water use
- The leakiest appliance at your house



Historical municipal water use in the community

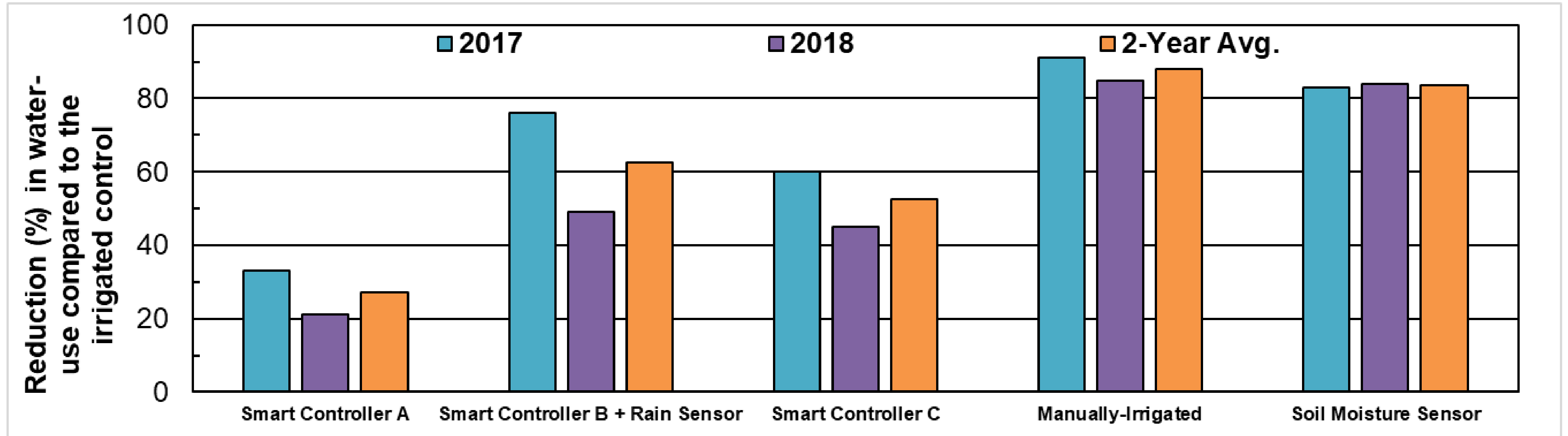


# Partnership with University of Minnesota Turfgrass Science Program

- Commenced summer 2015
- Irrigation audits, surveys, field trials



# Significant Water Savings Possible



# Getting the Word Out

## Give Your Lawn a Brain

Invest in a **SMART Controller**



Take the worry out of when to water. Whether it rains a little or a lot, a SMART controller automatically adjusts to weather and soil moisture conditions. For a couple hundred dollars, you can be water SMART!

**Get SMART with a Rain Sensor**

A rain sensor can be added to any irrigation system. It stops it from running when it rains. In fact, it's the law. A sensor is required on any system installed in Minnesota after 2003.



*A SMART Controller can reduce water usage by 30 to 50%.*

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To learn more, visit:  
[extension.umn.edu/turfgrass](http://extension.umn.edu/turfgrass)



# Education at the Minnesota State Fair



# Expand Training Across the Metro Area



# Mobile Education Trailer





# Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to execute the contract amendment for contract 15I103 with the University of Minnesota in Attachment A of the business item in the amount of \$268,393 making the contract total \$591,205.

# Questions

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