

What is the issue with irrigation of La Torre landscapes?



For the last 10 years, both the Community and the Administrator have been working to find a definitive solution for a permanent, independent and sustainable irrigation water source for La Torre. Owners were clearly advised, years ago, that this region would have continued difficulty obtaining irrigation water and various solutions were being worked on. For many years, it has been difficult to secure water supplies and many interim solutions have had to be deployed.

Irrigation water supply for the community has been a high priority for years, with various interim sources utilised over the years and being interim, do not last indefinitely – requiring further new solutions. La Torre is not unique in having irrigation water supply difficulties. Farmers are battling for water, other resorts and commercial operations, as well as towns and villages. Although March & April, particularly in our region brought higher levels of rain than is usual, the winter months were the driest this century and we are already seeing very dry weather now, therefore we can realistically expect the situation to continue.

It was reported at the 2014 AGM, by the current president, that irrigation water supply would become more and more challenging and expensive each year, hence the strategic need to reduce 10% of the grass around the resort, and introduce sprinklers instead of pipes across much of the resort to further reduce consumption in 2014.

STV confirmed that this has helped reduce our consumption of irrigation water, however nothing has changed the forecast of ever-increasing cost and shortage of irrigation water, especially in hot summer months when evaporation is also at its highest, indeed our water supplies were cut off on a number of occasions during 2021, followed by demands that we buy our water in advance from a de-salination plant, to ensure we have sufficient irrigation water available – but even that source has dried up as we are not allowed to buy this any longer.

After dealing with several Town Hall Administrations, the Hydrographic Confederation of Segura and other national agencies, and with the ongoing water restrictions in place, we are yet to secure a sustainable cheap supply of irrigation water. Some owners might be frustrated, but there is no 'magic wand' to be waved to solve this issue.

Over the years, we have managed to get water from various sources, however over the years many of those sources are no longer available to us.

It is concerning that some owners are seeking to 'blame' someone – and seem to be disingenuously and unfairly targeting our community administrator (who have for many years been successful in sourcing irrigation water for our community landscapes) – rather than the Town Hall or Segura Confederation, who are actually the responsible functions for providing the solution to this problem. Our administrator and lawyer have had many meetings and written correspondence with these organisations to get some progress towards solution and continue to do so currently.

Irrigation water sourcing in this, and other regions will continue to be an issue for some time to come.

The Community Administrator and Lawyer are putting continuous pressure on the Town Hall to provide us with the necessary infrastructure to guarantee La Torre with an independent irrigation system, and at the same time we have a three-party negotiation in place with the Town Hall and GNK to secure an irrigation water concession from a different desalination plant, at a reduced cost per m³ than the current one. But as this negotiation is still at an early stage, our community administrator, working very hard as usual, have also requested a temporary concession for the current supplier, to secure the supply in the meantime. This is also linked with the ongoing dealings that the community administrator is negotiating with the Town Hall regarding the execution of the Urbanisation bond explained in the previous item.

All the above has been and is happening with the knowledge and agreement of your elected general community president, who is as frustrated as any other owner, especially following his 8 years of landscape strategy, design, implementation and maintenance, but also understands that 'targeting' our own administrator for 'blame' is pointless and unrealistic, as the water authority and town hall, who should be, but are not solving our issues.

As owners, you can be fully assured that the community administrator has – and is always acting in the best interests of the community of owners, utilising their experience, deep understanding of the whole resort and with support for our community lawyer, clear understanding of Spanish Laws, politics and government organisations.

Additionally, a meeting has been formally requested in writing, with the Segura Confederation, to include our administrator, STV contract manager and the general community president to raise this issue once again with the deputy director, to try to convey our concerns about the lack of irrigation water causing damage to the resort, owner confidence, investment and future sales potential, including revenue incomes to Spain.

Given the issues this community has with the Segura Confederation and Town Hall, the president agreed with the recommendation by both STV and our community administrator, that we build a library of images/photographs and video evidence showing how fabulous of resort landscapes look – in case we are deprived of irrigation water to the point when our landscapes deteriorate and potentially die. This work is done and is held for potential future need in court if required.



This demonstrates the continued commitment of our administrator and landscape contractor to protect this community, as we have photographic evidence of our landscapes before the current water restrictions.

We have dozens of videos covering most of the whole development, in order to demonstrate that we have taken great care of our landscapes, trees and shrubs.



This includes our park areas, roundabouts, boulevards and entrances.

