



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 13

Agenda Date: November 7, 2024

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Finance Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Troy Elliott

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

City Code updates for SAWS Water Supply Fee

SUMMARY:

Update and clarify City Code language on the SAWS Water Supply Fee.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On October 19, 2000, Ordinance 92753 created the SAWS Water Supply Fee. The purpose of the Water Supply Fee was to fund the acquisition of new water supplies to reduce San Antonio's dependence on the Edward Aquifer. At that time, San Antonio was 100% reliant on the Edwards Aquifer for its potable water needs. Ordinance 92753 created Article IX – Water Supply Fee in Chapter 34 of City Code.

In 1998, SAW published its first Water Management Plan. The Plan guides SAWS in meeting San Antonio's long-term water needs, planning over a 50-year horizon. The Plan was subsequently updated in 2005, 2009, 2012, and 2017. SAWS is currently in the process of updating the Plan with approval anticipated by the SAWS Board later this fall. Council was last briefed on the Plan on June 13, 2024, which highlighted SAWS supply diversification with 13 water supply projects from 7 water sources.

ISSUE:

Consider an ordinance updating Article IX – Water Supply Fee in Chapter 34 of City Code to:

- Reference the Water Management Plan;
- Eliminate various date and procedural references rendered irrelevant by the passage of time;
- Eliminate provisions which are redundant of other ordinances and not specific to the Water Supply Fee;
- Update the reporting processes around the Water Supply Fee to reflect the communication practices used with the Water Management Plan; and
- Clarify other wording.

ALTERNATIVES:

The proposed Ordinance updates and clarifies City Code language. If the proposed Ordinance is not approved, the current City Code provisions will remain in effect.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.

RECOMMENDATION:

City Staff recommends approval of the proposed Ordinance to update and clarify City Code language.