



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**  
**{{item.tracking\_number}}**

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**Agenda Item Number:** 2

**Agenda Date:** April 7, 2023

**In Control:** Municipal Utilities Committee

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**DEPARTMENT:** Finance Department

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Troy Elliott

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

Conservation and Drought Enforcement Practices & Policies

**SUMMARY:**

Chapter 34 of the City of San Antonio ordinance includes provisions for year-round conservation practices pertaining to new homes. The ordinance also outlines drought enforcement measures intended to moderate discretionary water usage during times of drought.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The severe drought conditions of 2022 to present have made it necessary to enforce drought regulations. While many customers have had excellent compliance, the process of improving compliance through criminal misdemeanor citations has been onerous, not as administratively efficient as other options could be, and due to outdated fee structures not effective in all cases. Updates to make regulations proportionately effective for all customers and efficient in administration should be considered for the future.

Analysis of usage patterns also makes it clear that ensuring efficiency standards in new construction is critical to helping future customers be water efficient. Growth patterns make it necessary to look at how to ensure uniform implementation of existing efficiency regulations pertaining to landscape and irrigation.

**ISSUE:**

Discussion and presentation on policies and practices of year-round water conservation ordinance as well as drought ordinance.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This item is for briefing purposes only.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

This item is for briefing purposes only.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

This item is for briefing purposes only.