



**Recommendation for  
Water & Wastewater Commission**

<b>Commission Meeting Date:</b>	August 10, 2016
<b>Council Meeting Date:</b>	August 18, 2016
<b>Department:</b>	Austin Water
<b>SUBJECT</b>	
<p>Authorize negotiation and execution of a financing agreement with the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for a 20-year low interest loan in the amount of \$20,430,000 through TWDB's State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT) loan program, for the implementation of multiple capital improvement projects associated with Austin Water's wastewater and reclaimed water systems.</p>	
<b>AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING</b>	
<p>The option for funding \$20,430,000 is available in the Proposed Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Capital Budget of Austin Water. Financing details will be included when Council approves of the loan transaction is sought, prior to loan closing in November 2016.</p>	
<b>Purchasing Language:</b>	N/A
<b>Prior Council Action:</b>	<p>January 28, 2016 – Council approved a construction contract to Matous Construction LTD for the rehabilitation and expansion of the tertiary filtration system at South Austin Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP).</p> <p>April 21, 2016 – Council approved a resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply for funding from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for a low interest multi-year loan for multiple reclaimed water projects.</p>
<b>For More Information:</b>	Charles Celauro, 512-972-0208; Dan Pedersen, 512-972-0074; Joseph Gonzales, 512-972-0131; Denise Avery, 512-972-0104
<b>Boards and Commission Action:</b>	August 10, 2016- To be reviewed by the Water and Wastewater Commission.
<b>MBE/WBE:</b>	N/A

On July 21, 2016 the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) approved the City of Austin's application for a low interest, multi-year loan in the amount of \$86,980,000 through the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT) for the implementation of multiple capital improvement projects associated with Austin Water's wastewater and reclaimed water systems. Austin Water is requesting approval to negotiate and execute a financing agreement with TWDB for the first installment of loan funding for the following projects:

- Rehabilitation and expansion of the tertiary filtration system at South Austin Regional WWTP to improve effluent quality and increase capacity to 72 MGD (plant located in District 2 but project serves the entire southern portion of the City)
- Rehabilitation of the tertiary filtration system at Walnut Creek WWTP to improve effluent quality, increase reliability, and improve capacity to 75 MGD (plant located in District 1 but project serves the entire northern portion of the City)
- Construction of 19,000 feet of reclaimed main on Decker Lane to serve the Colony Park development and park, as well as the Travis County Expo Center (District 1)
- Construction of 18,000 feet of reclaimed main to serve several cemeteries, a school, UT facilities, Huston-Tillotson University, and parks (Districts 1&9)
- Construction of 12,000 feet of reclaimed main to reconfigure a pressure zone in the Burlison area to serve additional customers and to allow for expansion of the reclaimed system to the Onion Creek area (Districts 2&3)
- Construction of 25,000 feet of reclaimed main to serve parks, a golf course, a school and developments in the Onion Creek area (Districts 2&5)
- Construction of a 4 million gallon ground storage tank and pump station for the reclaimed water system in the Montopolis area (Districts 2, 3, 5 & 9)

These projects are included in the Austin Water's Council-approved 5-year CIP plan and will be brought to Council through the routine approval process. The construction contract for the tertiary filter project for the South Austin Regional WWTP was already awarded by Council on January 28, 2016.

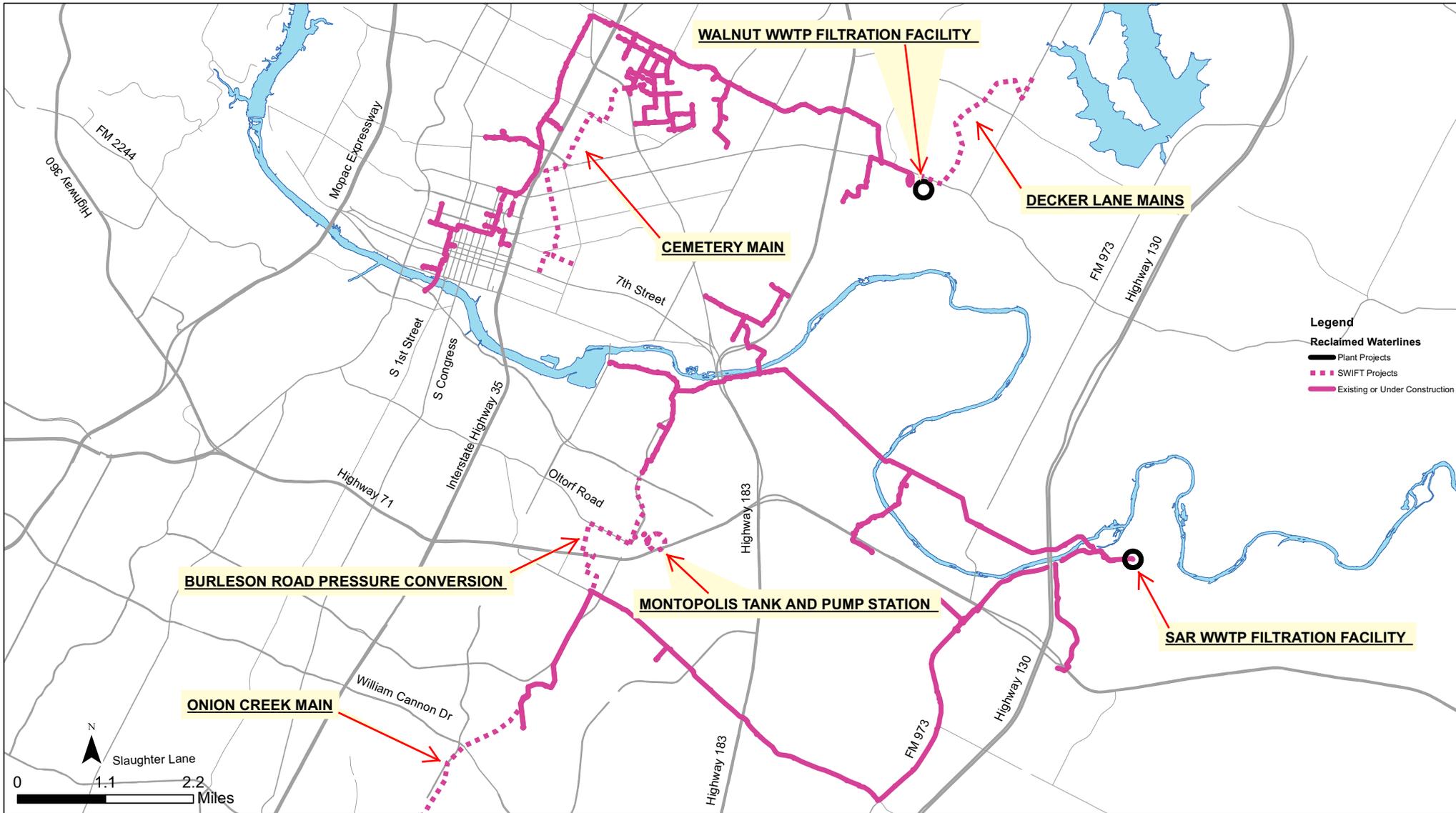
This financing agreement is for an initial \$20,430,000 loan installment for a 20 year term. It will cover Austin Water's FY 2016-2017 CIP spending plan costs, as outlined in the chart below. This financing agreement does not obligate the City of Austin to close on additional loan installments with TWDB in future years. Future loan installments will require Council approval to negotiate separate financing agreements. The closing on this initial loan is anticipated to occur in November 2016. The City will receive a 35% reduction on the interest rates that TWDB obtains during their fall 2016 bond sale, based on their AAA bond rating. These reduced interest rates will save ratepayers financing costs for the funding of this project as compared to traditional bond financing.

**TWDB SWIFT Loan – Austin Reclaimed Water Projects and  
Wastewater Plant Filtration Improvements**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Austin Water CIP FY 2016-2017 Spending Plan</b>	<b>Total Project Budget</b>	<b>Project Status</b>	<b>Estimated Project Completion Date</b>
South Austin Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant – Tertiary Filtration	\$4,403,000	\$28,333,000	Under Construction	2018
Walnut Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant – Tertiary Filtration	\$5,077,000	\$20,002,000	Design is Complete	2020
Montopolis Reclaimed Tank and Pump Station	\$5,285,000	\$11,150,000	Bidding Underway	2018
Burleson Road Reclaimed Main	\$3,970,000	\$5,570,000	Bidding Underway	2018
Decker Lane Reclaimed Main	\$1,015,000	\$6,470,000	Under Design	2020
Onion Creek Reclaimed Main Phase I	\$530,000	\$5,130,000	Under Design	2020
Cemetery Reclaimed Main	\$150,000	\$4,525,000	Planning Underway	2019
Onion Creek Reclaimed Main Phase II	No Spending in FY 2016-2017	\$5,800,000	Planning to Begin in FY 2017-2018	2022
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$20,430,000</b>	<b>\$86,980,000</b>		

# TWDB SWIFT FUNDING APPLICATION RECLAIMED WATER PROJECTS KEY MAP

## March 2016



"USING PURPLE TO KEEP AUSTIN GREEN"



**A RESOLUTION OF THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO  
THE CITY OF AUSTIN  
IN THE FORM OF A MULTI-YEAR COMMITMENT  
FROM THE STATE WATER IMPLEMENTATION REVENUE FUND FOR TEXAS  
THROUGH THE PROPOSED PURCHASE OF  
\$86,980,000 CITY OF AUSTIN, TEXAS  
WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS,  
PROPOSED SERIES 2016A THROUGH PROPOSED SERIES 2022**

**(16-075)**

WHEREAS, the City of Austin (City) has filed an application for financial assistance in the amount of \$86,980,000 from the State Water Implementation Revenue Fund for Texas (SWIRFT) to finance the planning, design, and construction of certain water supply project(s) identified as Project No. 51041; and

WHEREAS, the City seeks financial assistance from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) in the form of a multi-year commitment through the TWDB's proposed purchase of \$86,980,000 City of Austin, Texas Water and Wastewater System Revenue Bonds, Proposed Series 2016A through Proposed Series 2022, (together with all authorizing documents (Obligations)), all as is more specifically set forth in the application and in recommendations of the Executive Administrator's staff; and

WHEREAS, the City has offered a pledge of net revenues of the water and wastewater system, subordinate to outstanding priority obligations (as defined in the City's Master Ordinance) as sufficient security for the repayment of the Obligations; and

WHEREAS, the commitment is approved for funding under the TWDB's pre-design funding option, and initial and future releases of funds are subject to 31 TAC § 363.1307; and

WHEREAS, interest rate subsidies are available to the City at the following levels: 35% for a loan of a term of 20 years, 25% for a loan of a term of 21 to 25 years, and 20% for a loan of a term of 26 to 30 years, and the interest rate subsidy applicable to each proposed series will be set through each financing agreement executed between the TWDB and the City, pursuant to this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, the City is requesting a waiver of the requirement that a portion of the financial assistance received from the TWDB be used to mitigate the City's system water loss because the City is already addressing water loss through improvements in its leak detection efforts in both distribution mains and transmission lines, increasing large meter accuracy, providing a small meter replacement program, replacing outdated mains with the highest likelihood for failure throughout the City, and allocating funds in its fiscal year 2016, with a request for additional funding in fiscal year 2017, for main line replacement and leak detection programs; and

**WHEREAS, the TWDB hereby finds:**

- 1. that the application and assistance applied for meet the requirements of Texas Water Code, Chapter 15, Subchapters G and H and 31 TAC Chapter 363, Subchapters A and M;**
- 2. that the project is a recommended water management strategy in the State Water Plan adopted pursuant to Texas Water Code § 16.051, in accordance with Texas Water Code § 15.474(a);**
- 3. that a water conservation plan has been submitted and implemented in accordance with Water Code § 11.1271 and 31 TAC § 363.1309(b)(1);**
- 4. that the City satisfactorily completed any request by the Executive Administrator or a regional planning group for information relevant to the project, including a water infrastructure financing survey under Texas Water Code § 16.053(q), in accordance with 31 TAC § 363.1309(b)(2);**
- 5. that the current water audit, if required by Texas Water Code § 16.0121, has been completed by the City and filed with the TWDB in accordance with 31 TAC § 358.6;**
- 6. that based on the conditions, as described above, that the City is satisfactorily addressing the City's system water loss which supports a waiver of the requirement that a portion of the financial assistance received from the TWDB be used to mitigate the City's system water loss in accordance with Texas Water Code § 16.0121(g); and**
- 7. that the City has acknowledged its legal obligation to comply with any applicable requirements of federal law relating to contracting with disadvantaged business enterprises, and any applicable state law relating to contracting with historically underutilized businesses, in accordance with Texas Water Code § 15.435(h) and 31 TAC § 363.1309(b)(3).**

**NOW THEREFORE, based on these findings, the TWDB resolves as follows:**

- 1. For the reasons stated above, the TWDB hereby waives the requirements of Texas Water Code § 16.0121(g); and**
- 2. a commitment is made by the TWDB to the City of Austin for financial assistance in the amount of \$86,980,000 from the State Water Implementation Revenue Fund for Texas, to be evidenced by the TWDB's proposed purchase of City of Austin, Texas Water and Wastewater System Revenue Bonds as follows:**
  - a) \$20,430,000 Proposed Series 2016A, to expire on December 31, 2016;**
  - b) \$22,590,000 Proposed Series 2017, to expire on December 31, 2017;**
  - c) \$18,140,000 Proposed Series 2018, to expire on December 31, 2018;**
  - d) \$12,560,000 Proposed Series 2019, to expire on December 31, 2019;**
  - e) \$9,110,000 Proposed Series 2020, to expire on December 31, 2020;**

- f) \$1,925,000 Proposed Series 2021, to expire on December 31, 2021;
- g) \$2,225,000 Proposed Series 2022, to expire on December 31, 2022.

Such commitment is conditioned as follows:

**Standard Conditions:**

1. this commitment is contingent on a future sale of bonds by the TWDB or on the availability of funds on hand;
2. this commitment is contingent upon the issuance of a written approving opinion of the Attorney General of the State of Texas stating that all of the requirements of the laws under which said Obligations were issued have been complied with; that said Obligations were issued in conformity with the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas; and that said Obligations are valid and binding obligations of the City;
3. this commitment is contingent upon the City's continued compliance with all applicable laws, rules, policies and guidance as these may be amended from time to time to adapt to a change in law, in circumstances, or any other legal requirement;
4. this commitment is contingent upon the City executing a separate financing agreement, approved as to form and substance by the Executive Administrator, and submitting that executed agreement to the TWDB consistent with the terms and conditions described in the financing agreement;
5. the City shall use a paying agent/registrar in accordance with 31 TAC § 363.42(c)(2), and shall require the paying agent/registrar to provide a copy, to the TWDB and to the TWDB's designated Trustee, of all receipts documenting debt service payments;

**The Following Conditions Must Be Included in the Obligations:**

6. the Obligations must provide that the Obligations can be called for early redemption only in inverse order of maturity, and on any date beginning on or after the first interest payment date which is 10 years from the dated date of the Obligations, at a redemption price of par, together with accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption;
7. the Obligations must include a provision wherein the City, or an obligated person for whom financial or operating data is presented to the TWDB in the application for financial assistance either individually or in combination with other issuers of the City's Obligations or obligated persons, will, at a minimum, regardless of the amount of the Obligations, covenant to comply with requirements for continuing disclosure on an ongoing basis substantially in the manner required by Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in 17 CFR § 240.15c2-12 (Rule 15c2-12) and determined as if the TWDB were a Participating Underwriter within the meaning of such rule, such continuing disclosure undertaking being for the benefit of the TWDB and the beneficial owners of the City's Obligations, if the TWDB sells or otherwise transfers such

Obligations, and the beneficial owners of the TWDB's bonds if the City is an obligated person with respect to such bonds under SEC Rule 15c2-12;

8. the Obligations must contain a provision requiring the City to maintain and collect sufficient rates and charges to produce system revenues in an amount necessary to meet the debt service requirements of all outstanding obligations and to maintain the funds established and required by the Obligations;
9. the Obligations must include a provision requiring the City to use any loan proceeds from the Obligations that are determined to be surplus proceeds remaining after completion of the project for the following purposes as approved by the Executive Administrator: (1) deposit into the Interest and Sinking Fund or other debt service account for the payment of interest or principal on the Obligations owned by the TWDB; or (2) eligible costs for the project as authorized by the Executive Administrator;
10. the Obligations must contain a provision that the TWDB may exercise all remedies available to it in law or equity, and any provision of the Obligations that restricts or limits the TWDB's full exercise of these remedies shall be of no force and effect;
11. loan proceeds are public funds and, as such, the Obligations must include a provision requiring that these proceeds shall be held at a designated state depository institution or other properly chartered and authorized institution in accordance with the Public Funds Investment Act, Government Code, Chapter 2256, and the Public Funds Collateral Act, Government Code, Chapter 2257;
12. loan proceeds shall not be used by the City when sampling, testing, removing or disposing of contaminated soils and/or media at the project site. The Obligations shall include an environmental indemnification provision wherein the City agrees to indemnify, hold harmless and protect the TWDB from any and all claims, causes of action or damages to the person or property of third parties arising from the sampling, analysis, transport, storage, treatment, recycling and disposition of any contaminated sewage sludge, contaminated sediments and/or contaminated media that may be generated by the City, its contractors, consultants, agents, officials and employees as a result of activities relating to the project to the extent permitted by law;
13. the Obligations must include a provision stating that the City shall report to the TWDB the amounts of project funds, if any, that were used to compensate historically underutilized businesses that worked on the project, in accordance with 31 TAC § 363.1312;
14. the Obligations must contain a provision that the TWDB will purchase the Obligations, acting through the TWDB's designated Trustee, and the Obligations shall be registered in the name of Cede & Co. and closed in book-entry form in accordance with 31 TAC § 363.42(c)(1);
15. the Obligations must include a provision prohibiting the City from using the proceeds of this loan in a manner that would cause the Obligations to become "private activity bonds"

within the meaning of § 141 of the Internal Revenue Code as amended (Code) and the Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder (Regulations);

16. the Obligations must provide that no portion of the proceeds of the loan will be used, directly or indirectly, in a manner that would cause the Obligations to be “arbitrage bonds” within the meaning of § 148(a) of the Code and Regulations, including to acquire or to replace funds which were used, directly or indirectly, to acquire Nonpurpose Investments (as defined in the Code and Regulations) which produce a yield materially higher than the yield on the TWDB’s bonds that are issued to provide financing for the loan (Source Series Bonds), other than Nonpurpose Investments acquired with:

- a. proceeds of the TWDB’s Source Series Bonds invested for a reasonable temporary period of up to three (3) years after the issue date of the Source Series Bonds until such proceeds are needed for the facilities to be financed;
- b. amounts invested in a bona fide debt service fund, within the meaning of § 1.148-1(b) of the Regulations; and
- c. amounts deposited in any reasonably required reserve or replacement fund to the extent such amounts do not exceed the least of maximum annual debt service on the Obligations, 125% of average annual debt service on the Obligations, or 10 percent of the stated principal amount (or, in the case of a discount, the issue price) of the Obligations;

17. the Obligations must include a provision requiring the City take all necessary steps to comply with the requirement that certain amounts earned on the investment of gross proceeds of the Obligations be rebated to the federal government in order to satisfy the requirements of § 148 of the Code. The Obligations must provide that the City will:

- a. account for all Gross Proceeds, as defined in the Code and Regulations, (including all receipts, expenditures and investments thereof) on its books of account separately and apart from all other funds (and receipts, expenditures and investments thereof) and retain all records of such accounting for at least six years after the final Computation Date. The City may, however, to the extent permitted by law, commingle Gross Proceeds of its loan with other money of the City, provided that the City separately accounts for each receipt and expenditure of such Gross Proceeds and the obligations acquired therewith;
- b. calculate the Rebate Amount, as defined in the Code and Regulations, with respect to its loan, not less frequently than each Computation Date, in accordance with rules set forth in § 148(f) of the Code, § 1.148-3 of the Regulations, and the rulings thereunder. The City shall maintain a copy of such calculations for at least six years after the final Computation Date;
- c. as additional consideration for the making of the loan, and in order to induce the making of the loan by measures designed to ensure the excludability of the

interest on the TWDB's Source Series Bonds from the gross income of the owners thereof for federal income tax purposes, pay to the United States the amount described in paragraph (b) above within 30 days after each Computation Date;

- d. exercise reasonable diligence to assure that no errors are made in the calculations required by paragraph (b) and, if such error is made, to discover and promptly to correct such error within a reasonable amount of time thereafter, including payment to the United States of any interest and any penalty required by the Regulations;
18. the Obligations must include a provision prohibiting the City from taking any action that would cause the interest on the Obligations to be includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes;
  19. the Obligations must provide that the City will not cause or permit the Obligations to be treated as "federally guaranteed" obligations within the meaning of § 149(b) of the Code;
  20. the Obligations must provide that neither the City nor a related party thereto will acquire any of the TWDB's Source Series Bonds in an amount related to the amount of the Obligations to be acquired from the City by the TWDB;
  21. the Obligations must require the accumulation of a reserve fund of no less than average annual debt service requirements, to be accumulated in equal monthly installments over the initial sixty (60) months following the issuance of the Obligations;
  22. if the City has existing revenue obligations with the same pledge of security as the proposed Obligations that will remain outstanding after any loan(s) made by the TWDB pursuant to this commitment, the Obligations must contain a provision providing that the lien or liens securing the Obligations issued to the TWDB shall be at least on a parity with lien or liens securing such outstanding obligations;
  23. the Obligations must contain a provision providing that additional revenue obligations may only be incurred if:
    - a. a designated financial officer executes a certificate stating that the City is in compliance with all covenants contained in its Master Ordinance and any supplement, is not in default in the performance and observance of any of the terms, provisions and conditions thereof, and the funds and accounts used to secure the then outstanding water and wastewater obligations of the City contains the amounts required to be therein or the proceeds of sale of any parity water and wastewater obligations then to be issued are to be used to cure any deficiency in the amounts on deposit to the credit of those funds and accounts, if any; and
    - b. a certified public accountant shall certify or render an opinion that for the last completed fiscal year of the City, preceding the date of the then proposed water

and wastewater obligations to be issued on parity with the proposed series the subject of this Resolution, or for any twelve (12) consecutive calendar month period ending not more than ninety days prior to the date of the then proposed parity obligations, the net revenues of the water and wastewater system, after deducting amounts expended from the net revenues of the system during the last completed fiscal year for the payment of debt service requirements for prior first lien obligations and prior subordinate lien obligations, are equal to 1.25 times the average annual debt service requirements of the parity water and wastewater obligations to be outstanding. In making a determination of net revenues for the purposes of this section, the accountant may take into consideration a change in the rates and charges for services and facilities afforded by the water and wastewater system that became effective at least 30 days prior to the last day of the period for which net revenues are determined and, for purposes of satisfying the net revenues coverage test, make a pro forma determination of the net revenues of the water and wastewater system for the period of time covered by the accountant's certification or opinion based on such change in rates and charges begin in effect for the entire period covered by the accountant's certificate or opinion.

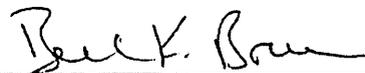
**Conditions to Close or for Release of Funds:**

24. prior to closing, the City shall submit documentation evidencing the adoption and implementation of sufficient system rates and charges or, if applicable, the levy of an interest and sinking tax rate sufficient for the repayment of all system debt service requirements;
25. prior to closing, and if not previously provided with the application, the City shall submit executed contracts for engineering, and, if applicable, financial advisor and bond counsel contracts, for the project that are satisfactory to the Executive Administrator. Fees to be reimbursed under the contracts must be reasonable in relation to the services performed, reflected in the contract, and acceptable to the Executive Administrator;
26. prior to closing, when any portion of financial assistance is to be held in escrow or in trust, the City shall execute an escrow agreement or trust agreement, approved as to form and substance by the Executive Administrator, and shall submit that executed agreement to the TWDB;
27. prior to closing, the City's bond counsel must prepare a written opinion that states that the interest on the Obligations is excludable from gross income or is exempt from federal income taxation. Bond counsel may rely on covenants and representations of the City when rendering this opinion;
28. prior to closing, the City's bond counsel must prepare a written opinion that also states that the Obligations are not "private activity bonds." Bond counsel may rely on covenants and representations of the City when rendering this opinion;

29. the transcript must include a No Arbitrage Certificate or similar Federal Tax Certificate setting forth the City's reasonable expectations regarding the use, expenditure and investment of the proceeds of the Obligations; and
30. the transcript must include evidence that the information reporting requirements of § 149(e) of the Code will be satisfied. This requirement may be satisfied by filing an IRS Form 8038 with the Internal Revenue Service. In addition, the applicable completed IRS Form 8038 or other evidence that the information reporting requirements of § 149(e) have been satisfied must be provided to the Executive Administrator within fourteen (14) days of closing. The Executive Administrator may withhold the release of funds for failure to comply.

APPROVED and ordered of record this, the 21st day of July, 2016.

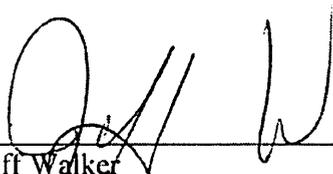
TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD



Bech K. Bruun, Chairman

DATE SIGNED: 7-21-16

ATTEST:

  
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Jeff Walker  
Executive Administrator