

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, City Council approved Ordinance No. 000406-87 requiring Council approval of extensions of water and wastewater utility service within the drinking water protection zone (DWPZ) and outside the full-purpose corporate limits; and

WHEREAS, a service extension request (SER) is a request by a landowner or developer to extend water, wastewater, or reclaimed water service to a property; and

WHEREAS, SERs are used by landowners and developers as a basis to identify required infrastructure improvements and prepare a preliminary estimate of the infrastructure cost for the proposed development; and

WHEREAS, costs associated with the design and construction of the infrastructure identified in the SER are the responsibility of the landowner or developer; and

WHEREAS, the SER program exists to ensure that water, wastewater, and reclaimed water systems have adequate capacity to handle new developments (individual, subdivision, multi-family, or commercial) and that proposed extensions meet City infrastructure planning goals; and

WHEREAS, SERs that require Council approval are located within the DWPZ on the west side of Austin; and

WHEREAS, the DWPZ has existing stringent environmental regulations that protect it from overdevelopment; and

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WHEREAS, without an approved wastewater SER, these developments would often be left with no other option but to use a decentralized system such as a septic system or a Texas land application permit (TLAP) when no other utility provider is available; and

WHEREAS, without an approved water SER, these developments would often drill a well that extends into local aquifers when no other utility provider is available; and

WHEREAS, City Code allows cost participation for oversizing water infrastructure that provides service in the DWPZ; and

WHEREAS, City Code prohibits cost participation for oversizing wastewater infrastructure that provides service in the DWPZ; and

WHEREAS, the prohibition on cost participation for wastewater infrastructure that provides service in the DWPZ impairs the City's ability to properly plan system improvements including minimizing disturbances from repeated line construction and mitigating risk of sanitary sewer overflows; and

WHEREAS, the delayed cost participation reimbursement period for projects in the DWPZ as required by City Code discourages partnerships with private developments to construct regionally appropriate utility system improvements; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF **AUSTIN:**

Council initiates amendments to City Code, including City Code Title 25 (Land Development), to remove the requirement that service extension requests in the DWPZ and outside the full-purpose corporate limits be approved by Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

Council initiates amendments to City Code, including City Code Title 25 (*Land Development*), to remove the prohibition on cost participation for oversizing wastewater infrastructure that provides service in the DWPZ.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

Council initiates amendments to City Code, including City Code Title 25 (*Land Development*), to eliminate the delayed cost participation reimbursement period for projects in the DWPZ.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to bring back these amendments to City Code to Council on or before September 21, 2023.

ADOPTED:	, 2	2023	ATTEST: _	
				Myrna Rios
				City Clerk