

RESOLUTION NO. 20140327-039

WHEREAS, Texas is currently experiencing an historic drought, the City of Austin is in Stage 2 water restrictions, and this drought could be part of a long-term, multi-year drought cycle; and

WHEREAS, the drought conditions have led to extremely low inflows to the Highland Lakes; and

WHEREAS, Council received a drought briefing from staff on October 3, 2013, outlining possible future extreme drought scenarios and potential responses; and

WHEREAS, the drought responses include demand-side management through water restrictions, protection of Colorado River System firm water interests, and exploration of alternative water sources; and

WHEREAS, the current Lower Colorado River Authority Water Management Plan does not protect firm water interests fully; and

WHEREAS, the provision of water through alternative sources would likely require new infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, it is both prudent and desirable to have redundant water service capability; and

WHEREAS, the briefing did not address capital planning for water infrastructure; when asked, staff indicated that they would be returning to Council with further information within the first quarter of 2014; and

WHEREAS, the 2009 San Antonio Water System Water Management Plan Update outlines a schedule for securing alternative supplies, comparing

short-, mid-, and long-range possibilities and a cost and funding analysis for each option; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

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

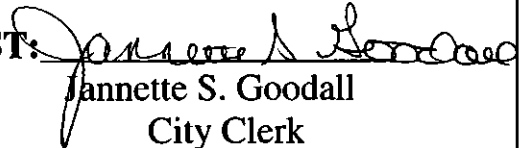
The City Manager is directed to provide a comparative analysis of a variety of alternative water source options, including short-, mid-, and long-range needs, and the costs, reservation options, funding options, and planning timelines associated with each.

These alternative water sources should include, but not be limited to, conservation, regional transmission systems and partnerships, groundwater, aquifer storage, as well as other potential sources in the region, such as Barton Springs.

This report should be provided to Council within 60 days.

ADOPTED: March 27, 2014

ATTEST:


Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk