

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	70644	Agenda Number	5.
---------------------	---------	-------	---------------	----

Meeting Date:	5/11/2017	Department:	Planning and Zoning
---------------	-----------	-------------	---------------------

Subject

Approve a resolution consenting to Travis County Water Control & Improvement District No. 18’s annexation of 60 out-of-district water customer properties currently in Austin’s extraterritorial jurisdiction, adjacent to Council District 10.

Amount and Source of Funding

Fiscal Note

Purchasing Language:	
----------------------	--

Prior Council Action:	
-----------------------	--

For More Information:	Virginia Collier, Planning and Zoning Department, (512) 974-2022
-----------------------	--

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:	April 12, 2017 - Water & Wastewater Commission meeting cancelled due to no quorum. April 25, 2017 - Approved by the Planning Commission on a 10-0 vote with Commissioner’s Vela, White and Zaragoza absent.
--	--

MBE / WBE:	
------------	--

Related Items:	
----------------	--

Additional Backup Information

Travis County Water Control & Improvement District No. 18 (the “District”) submitted an application requesting that the City of Austin (“City”) consent to the District’s annexation of certain properties into the boundaries of the District. The District is currently located in the City’s extraterritorial jurisdiction (“ETJ”) and portions of certain parcels within the District are located within the City’s full and limited purpose jurisdiction along the shoreline adjacent to Lake Austin. A map showing the existing District boundaries and the 60 out-of-District parcels to be annexed into the District is attached.

Background

The District was created by Order of the Commissioners Court of Travis County dated February 9, 1956. The City does not have a consent agreement with this District, but the District is required to obtain the City’s approval for any boundary changes. The District provides retail water services to residential and commercial customers. On-site sewage facilities are used for wastewater treatment.

Sixty (60) of the District’s 1,850 retail water service connections are located outside of the District’s corporate and taxing boundaries. The District charges a higher base monthly fee to the out-of-District customers for water service that generally equates to the amount of tax revenues that would have been collected by the District if these properties were located within the District’s boundaries.

To address concerns expressed by the out-of-District customers regarding the higher out-of-District fee and to eliminate the rate disparity, the District would like to give the customers the option of being annexed into the District. After annexation, the customers would no longer pay the higher base monthly fee for water service, but would pay ad valorem taxes to the District.

Applicant's Proposal

The District requests the City's consent for annexation of the out-of-District properties. Whether the District annexes each individual property will be up to the individual property owner since the owner would have to sign a petition for annexation. In summary, the District will be able to give each out-of-District customer the option to petition for annexation into the District in order to avoid the higher out-of-District surcharge that applies to customers in the out-of-District water customer class.

Process for Annexation to a Water District

Annexation of territory to a water district requires approval by both the district and property owners. The District has submitted this request for the City's consent because the affected property is in the City's ETJ. The City Code review process for annexation of territory to a water district requires review by staff and boards and commissions prior to action by Council within 91 days of the receipt of a completed application. The completed application was received on February 28, 2017, and must be acted upon by Council on or before May 30, 2017.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the request to allow Water Control & Improvement District No. 18 to annex the 60 out-of-District water customer parcels into the District because:

1. City water infrastructure is more than six miles away from the District;
2. The out-of-District customers already receive water service from the District;
3. City departments have not indicated a negative impact to their department upon the approval of the District's request; and
4. The City's approval does not impair the City's ability in the future to annex properties located within the District.