

### Austin Integrated Water Resource Planning Community Task Force

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### Austin Integrated Water Resource Planning Community Task Force May 28, 2019 – 4:00 p.m. Waller Creek Center, Room 104 625 East 10<sup>th</sup> Street Austin, Texas 78701

### For more information go to: Austin Integrated Water Resource Planning Community Task Force

### AGENDA

### **Voting Members:**

Sharlene Leurig - Chair Jennifer Walker – Vice Chair Todd Bartee Marianne Dwight Diane Kennedy Perry Lorenz Robert Mace Bill Moriarty Sarah Richards Lauren Ross

Ex Officio Non-Voting Members: Austin Water: Greg Meszaros Austin Energy: Kathleen Garrett Austin Resource Recovery: Sam Angoori Neighborhood Housing and Community Development: Rebecca Giello Office of Innovation: Kerry O'Connor Office of Sustainability: Lucia Athens Parks and Recreation: Sara Hensley Watershed Protection: Mike Personett

### 1. CALL TO ORDER – May 28, 2019 4:00 p.m.

### 2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

The first 10 speakers signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will each be allowed a threeminute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

### 3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

a. Approval of the meeting minutes from the March 12, 2019 Task Force meeting (5 minutes)

### 4. STAFF BRIEFINGS, PRESENTATIONS, AND OR REPORTS

- a. Recap of Recent Activities– City Staff (15 minutes)
  - a. Task Force Questions and Discussion
- b. Water Forward Code Items Implementation Approach City Staff (60 minutes)
   a. Task Force Questions and Discussion
- c. Near-Term Schedule Update City staff (5 minutes)
  - a. Task Force Questions and Discussion

### 5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

### 6. ADJOURN

Note: Agenda item sequence and time durations noted above are subject to change.

### MINUTES



The Austin Integrated Water Resource Planning Community Task Force convened in a Regular Meeting on March 12, 2019 at Waller Creek Center, Conference Rm 104, 625 E 10<sup>th</sup> Street, in Austin, Texas.

### Members in Attendance:

Sharlene Leurig - Chair Jennifer Walker – Vice Chair Perry Lorenz Lauren Ross Bill Moriarty Diane Kennedy Robert Mace Sarah Richards

### **Ex-Officio Members in Attendance:**

Greg Meszaros, Josh Rudow, Mike Personett, Lucia Athens

### **Staff in Attendance:**

Kevin Critendon, Daryl Slusher, Teresa Lutes, Marisa Flores Gonzalez, Ginny Guerrero, Sarah Hoes, Helen Gerlach, Mark Jordan, Matt Cullen, Mary Zambrano, Mike Kelly, Prachi Patel, Matt Hollon, Kayla Miloy

### **Additional Attendees:**

Adam Conner, David Foster, Al Braden

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Leurig called the meeting to order at 5:13 p.m.

### 2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

### 3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

The meeting minutes from the October 9, 2018 Austin Integrated Water Resource Planning Community Task Force regular meeting were approved on Member Mace's motion and Member Moriarty's second with a final 8-0-0-2 vote.

### 4. STAFF BRIEFINGS, PRESENTATIONS, AND/OR REPORTS

a. A staff presentation on Water Forward Plan implementation approach and timeline was provided by Marisa Flores Gonzalez, Program Manager, Austin Water. This was followed by Task Force discussion and input.

### 5. VOTING ITEMS

a. Following a discussion of the proposed meeting schedule for 2019, the following regular meeting dates were approved for 2019: May 7, 2019, July 9, 2019, September 10, 2019, and November 5, 2019 on Member Moriarty's motion and Member Mace's second with a final 8-0-0-2 vote.

### 5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Chair Sharlene Leurig adjourned the meeting at 5:56 pm.

## PRESENTATION



### Water Forward Task Force Meeting May 28, 2019



05/28/2019



### **Meeting Agenda**

- Recent Activities
- Water Forward Code Items Implementation Approach
  - AW code items approach, including beginning stakeholder engagement on code concepts and potential adoption of specific code changes on a parallel timeline to the Land Development Code revision process
  - Current AW involvement in land development process, efforts to encourage and/or require reuse and conservation, and recent development trends
- Near-Term Schedule Update



### **Recent Activities**



### **Recent Activities**

- March 27-28 Water Now Alliance 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Summit
- March 31 AWWA Sustainable Water Management Conference
- April 11-12 National Blue Ribbon Commission for Onsite Nonpotable Water Systems
- April 13 Leadership Austin Engage Breakfast
- April 24 National Adaptation Forum/Water Utility Climate Alliance
- April 24 Greater Austin Contractors & Engineers Association Symposium



### Water Forward Code Items Implementation Approach



### **Proposed Process Approach**

- Now Early June 2019
  - $_{\odot}$  AW staff to refine code concepts
  - AW staff to meet with Task Force Code Subcommittee as needed to discuss code approaches and gather Task Force input
  - AW staff to gather input through targeted stakeholder meetings
- Late June-August 2019
  - AW to hold public meetings to gather stakeholder input on code concepts (with Task Force members attending)
  - o June 25th AW Onsite Reuse Summit
  - Further design charrettes, meetings, and workshops to be scheduled during the months of July and August



- Concept 1
  - In parallel to the Land Development Code (LDC) revision timeline, develop and implement requirement that new development submitting a site plan also submit a Water Balance application, with effective date to coincide with LDC adoption.
  - In parallel to the LDC revision timeline, develop and implement a program where all new developments over 250,000 SF would be required to meet with staff to discuss optimization of alternative and onsite water sources to meet non-potable demands based on Water Balance application. Use of alternative and onsite sources as directed by current codes would be required. Use of additional alternative and onsite water sources would be voluntary where not required.
  - Staff would continue to develop codes, technical criteria, and design guidance in anticipation of additional requirements related to alternative and onsite reuse.
  - 18-24 months after Council adoption of the LDC revision, the voluntary program would become a requirement that new development over 250,000 SF use alternative and/or onsite water sources to meet non-potable indoor and outdoor demands (with a potable back-up required) as specified by the Water Balance submittal prepared for that development.
- Concept 2
  - In parallel to the Land Development Code (LDC) revision timeline, develop and implement requirement that new development submitting a site plan also submit a Water Balance application, with effective date to coincide with LDC adoption.
  - In parallel to the LDC revision timeline, require new non-residential commercial development over 250,000 SF to use centralized reclaimed and/or non-sewage based onsite water sources to meet certain non-potable indoor and outdoor demands (with a potable back-up required) as specified by the Water Balance submittal prepared for that development. This requirement would be effective one year post Code adoption to allow for the development of required technical criteria, guidance, and administrative programs
  - Post adoption of initial requirements, staff would revisit ordinance applicability and scope.



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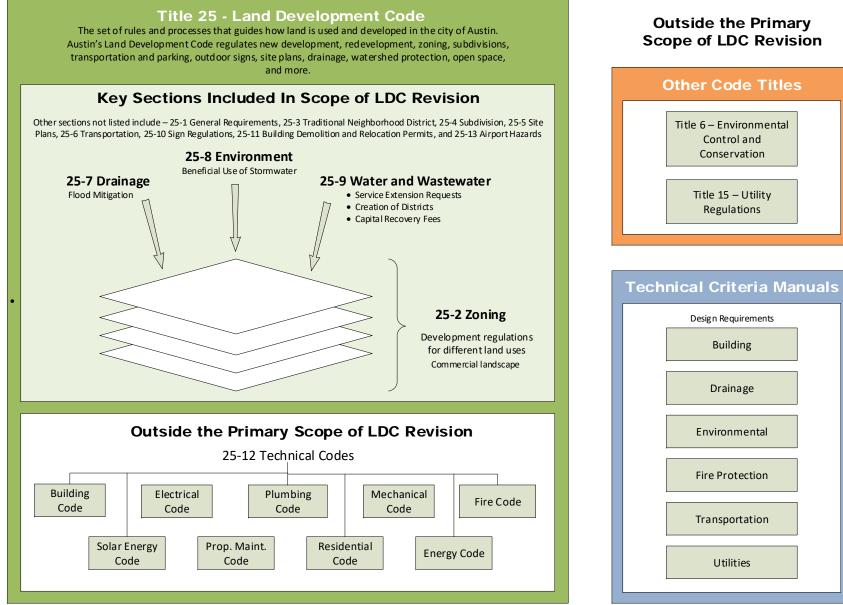


### What is needed beyond code language to be able to effectively implement requirements?

- Development of technical criteria
  - $\,\circ\,$  Code tells you what to do, criteria tells you how to do it
- Integration the development review process
  - $_{\odot}\,$  Definition of roles and responsibilities
  - $\circ\,$  Dedicated staff for review, inspection, and monitoring
- Development of guidance and educational materials for the development community



### **City Code Refresh**





### COA Development Review Process for Multifamily and Commercial Properties

Zoning Review	La	and Use Revie	W	Commercial Plan Review
Ex: PUDS	Development Assessment (optional)	Subdivision/Pl at	Site Plan	Building Permit
Designates "uses" (e.g. residential, commercial, or industrial), the size of buildings, and how buildings relate to their surroundings, including other buildings, open spaces, and the	A voluntary (and free) review step that developers may elect to undergo in order to obtain guidance on subsequent permitting processes.	A map of land that has been subdivided into lots showing the location and boundaries of individual parcels with the streets, alleys, easements, and rights of use over the land of	Review of detailed architectural and engineering designs of proposed improvements to a tract of land.	Review of detailed architectural and engineering designs of buildings and accessory structures.
street.		another.	Alternative Water Review	Alternative Water Review



### Current AW involvement in land development process

- AW Land Use Review Team
  - Visibility into all new cases that go through Development Services
  - Flag applicable requirements or reviews, such as requirements to connect to the reclaimed water system
- AW Utility Development Services review of Service Extension Requests
  - An SER is a request to extend City water or wastewater utility service to a tract of land, and is used to determine required infrastructure improvements and a preliminary estimate of the cost of infrastructure for proposed development
  - Many SER applications come in at the preliminary feasibility stage, which is often ahead of the DSD process
- AW Pipeline Engineering
  - Review design of relevant infrastructure included in subdivision/site plan cases

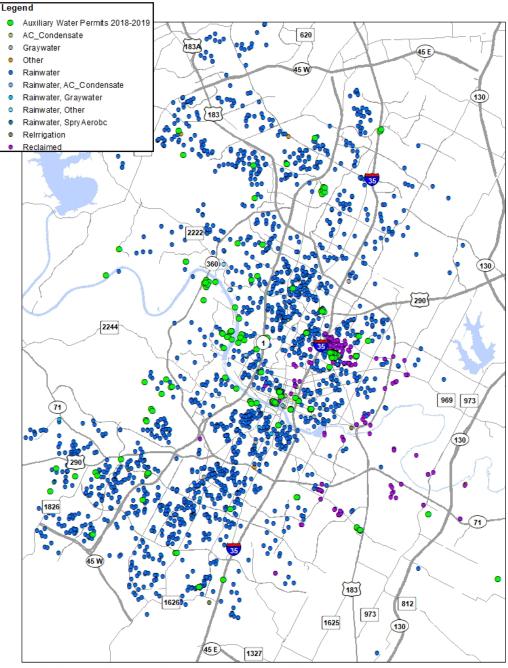


### Current AW efforts to encourage and/or require reuse and conservation in new development

- Current Ordinances
  - AC Condensate and Reclaimed Water connection requirements
- Planned Unit Developments
- Public Improvement Districts
- Municipal Utility Districts
- Master Development Agreements
- Regulating Plans
- City Property Repositioning Team
- Ch. 380 Agreements (Economic Development)
- Service Extension Request Applications (Conservation Checklist)
- Austin Energy Green Building
- Plumbing Code Efficiency Standards



### Alternative Water in Austin



PRELIMINARY DRAFT - Alternative Water in Austin 5/7/2019



### New Reclaimed Water Customers in the Last Two Years

Reason for Connecting	No. of Customers
Demonstration project	1
Internal "green" initiatives	6
Internal "green" initiatives, low cost irrigation water	7
Internal "green" initiatives, low cost water	4
Low cost irrigation water	7
Low cost irrigation water, no watering restrictions	2
Mandatory connection	17
Grand Total	44



### **Planned Unit Developments**

PUD Name	Status
425 W. Riverside Drive PUD ("Snoopy" PUD)	PUD is approved. (Ordinance No. 20180510-083)
Camelback PUD	PUD is approved. (Ordinance No. 20181101-055)
211 S. Lamar PUD ("Paggi House" PUD)	PUD is pending. Developer is working with staff on addressing comments.
218 S. Lamar PUD ("Schlotzsky's" PUD)	Briefing on the Project Assessment Report to Council, conducted 8/23/2018. Developer continues to work with staff on requirements and refinement of PUD. The rezoning case has been postponed to the May 14, 2019 Planning Commission hearing.
Circuit of the Americas PUD ("COTA" PUD)	PUD has been closed, unaware if it is planned to be resubmitted at this time
Austin Green PUD	PUD is pending. Developer is working with staff on addressing comments.



### **Commercial Landscapes**

- Commercial landscape ordinance in Draft 3
  - Requires that at least 80% of new planting shall be native or adapted, drought tolerant species
  - Establishes Functional Green for sites with greater than 80% impervious cover

### Description

(A) A functional green landscape provides a site with little to no landscape area or planting areas at ground level with green infrastructure that function equivalent to the ecosystem provided by a site that complies with landscape requirements.

### Applicability

(B) A site that may exceed 80 percent impervious cover must meet functional green landscape requirements.

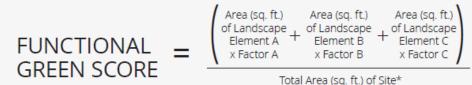
### Requirements

(C) The Environmental Criteria Manual establishes the minimum requirements for functional green landscapes.



### **Commercial Landscapes – Functional Green**

To calculate the Functional Green score, the total area of each landscape element is determined and then multiplied by an established factor. The weighted-area value of each landscape element is then summed and divided by the total area of the site.



\* Landscape Elements integrated into the right-of-way can also be claimed for Functional Green credit; however, the right-of-way is not included in the total site area.

	LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS	
	PLANTED AREA	FACTOR
1	Existing Trees	0.8
2	Newly Planted Tree: Large	0.6
2	Newly Planted Tree: Medium	0.5
2	Newly Planted Tree: Small	0.4
3	Shrubs / Ornamental Grasses / Perennials	0.3
4	Ground Cover	0.2
	SPECIALIZED MEDIA	
5	Extensive Green Roof	0.5
6	Intensive Green Roof	0.6
7	Rain Garden	0.3
	ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS	
8	Porous Pavement	0.4
9	Vegetated Wall	0.5
10	Cistern	0.3
	BONUS OPTIONS	
11	Auxiliary Water Irrigation	0.2
12	Pollinator Resource	0.1
13	Suspended Pavement System	0.2



### **Questions and Discussion**



### **Near Term Schedule Update**



### Upcoming

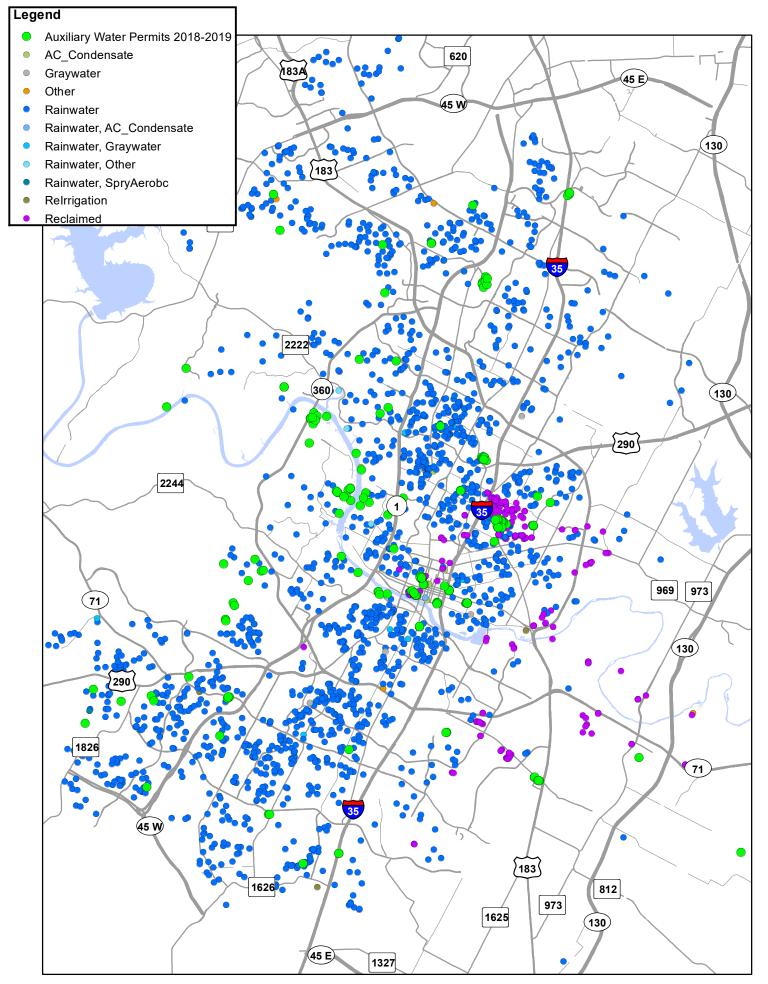
- DUE DATE
  - $\,\circ\,$  Task Force input on stakeholder list requested by June  $4^{th}$
- June 5<sup>th</sup>
  - o Austin Chapter of the Environmental and Water Resources Institute
- June 25<sup>th</sup>
  - Austin Water Onsite Reuse Workshop and stakeholder engagement kick-off
- September 18<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup>
  - $\circ\,$  One Water Summit







# **BACKUP MATERIALS**



PREJ MINARY DRAFT - Alternative Water in Austin

Although Austin Water does not have a formal seat at the table in relation to the PUD Ordinance 20080618-098, an internal working team has been formed that contains Utility Development Services, Systems Planning, Conservation, and Reclaimed Divisions to allow AW input on proposed developments prior to plan submittal. Since the internal inception, the following PUD applications have been reviewed and have received the following staff comments (bullet points) and the red text contains the current status update for each.

### 425 W. Riverside Drive PUD ("Snoopy" PUD)

- The Riverside PUD shall install a reclaimed water line along Riverside Drive between South 1st Street and Barton Springs Road.
- Any building within the Riverside PUD shall be constructed using a reclaimed water system to allow acceptance of reclaimed water supply from the City for non-potable water uses within the building.

Update: PUD is approved. (Ordinance No. 20180510-083)

### Camelback PUD (144.817 acres located at the terminus of Bridge Point Parkway)

 AW requested onsite non-potable alternate water strategy to offset potable water use, such as rainwater harvesting, for primary irrigation that would benefit demand reduction.
 Update: PUD is approved. (Ordinance No. 20181101-055)

### 211 S. Lamar PUD ("Paggi House" PUD)

- The Landowner shall use rainwater harvesting and air conditioning condensate as the primary water sources for all landscape irrigation within the 218 South Lamar PUD. Potable and/or reclaimed water shall only be used as a backup supply if the primary sources are depleted. Reclaimed water shall not be used for irrigation within water quality controls.
- The Building will be constructed using a purple pipe system to allow acceptance of the reclaimed water supply from the City for non-potable water uses within the building. Additionally, the property will construct an extension of the future reclaimed line along the southwest frontage of the property on Toomey Road, extending approximately 200 feet from the southwest corner of the property.

Update: PUD is pending. Developer is working with staff on addressing comments.

### 218 S. Lamar PUD ("Schlotzsky's" PUD)

- The Landowner shall use rainwater harvesting and air conditioning condensate as the primary water sources for all landscape irrigation within the 218 South Lamar PUD. Potable and/or reclaimed water shall only be used as a backup supply if the primary sources are depleted. Reclaimed water shall not be used for irrigation within water quality controls.
- The Building will be constructed using a purple pipe system to allow acceptance of the reclaimed water supply from the City for non-potable water uses within the building. Additionally, the property will construct an extension of the future reclaimed line along the southwest frontage of the property on Toomey Road, extending approximately 200 feet from the southwest corner of the property.

Update: Briefing on the Project Assessment Report to Council, conducted 8/23/2018. Developer continues to work with staff on requirements and refinement of PUD. The rezoning case has been postponed to the May 14, 2019 Planning Commission hearing.

### Circuit of the Americas PUD ("COTA" PUD)

- The proposed buildings will be constructed using a dual distribution pipe system to allow all non-potable water uses within the buildings to be met by an alternative water supply (with provision for a potable back-up supply). The Landowner should consider constructing one or more onsite water reuse systems (collection and treatment of rainwater, graywater, stormwater, condensate water or pool backwash and drain water) as an alternative water supply to the buildings.
- The Landowner shall use an alternative water supply as the primary water source for all landscape irrigation within the COTA PUD. Potable water shall only be used as a backup supply if the primary sources are depleted.
- The Landowner will provide Austin Water Utility Development Services more detail on proposed land uses as soon as possible, especially regarding the potential water park on the site. Update: PUD has been closed, unaware if it is planned to be resubmitted at this time.

### **Austin Green PUD**

- All proposed commercial, industrial, and multi-family properties, street medians, public open space and parks, and private parks and recreational facilities shall use an approved alternate water source, including but not limited to rainwater harvesting, air conditioning condensate or reclaimed water, as the primary water sources for all landscape irrigation within the Austin Green PUD. Potable and/or reclaimed water shall only be used as a backup supply if the primary sources are depleted. Reclaimed water shall not be used for irrigation within water quality controls, critical water quality zones, erosion hazard zones, or other prohibited areas.
- All proposed commercial and multi-family properties within the Austin Green PUD will be constructed using a dual distribution pipe system to allow acceptance of an alternate water supply or the reclaimed water supply from the City for non-potable water uses within the building. Additionally, the developer agrees to construct, at no cost to the City, reclaimed water infrastructure concurrently with the phased development of the project to meet the reclaimed water needs for commercial and multifamily irrigation and indoor non-potable uses, public open space and parks, and private parks and recreational facilities for each phase of development within the project.
- Residential lot owners should be encouraged to implement rainwater harvesting. Austin Water currently offers rebate programs for installing residential rainwater harvesting systems. The developer should consider installing rainwater cisterns and roof downspouts at the time houses are constructed to be used for outdoor irrigation at residences.
- Thorough coordination with the Service Extension Request ("SER") process to ensure adequate capacity and meet infrastructure planning goals, the Landowner shall provide Austin Water more detail and coordinate the extensions of the future lines, including reclaimed water lines. Update: PUD is pending. Developer is working with staff on addressing comments.

April 1, 2019

Spencer Cronk, Austin City Manager

City of Austin 301 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Austin, Texas 78701

Dear City Manager Cronk,

As members of the Water Forward Task Force, we are writing to you today to express our concern regarding the slow-moving implementation efforts related to various water conservation ordinance revisions that were identified as part of the recently adopted Water Forward Integrated Water Resource Plan (Plan). Specifically, our concern is focused on the following specific tasks:

- Expansion of Current Centralized Reclaimed Water Connection Requirements
- Dual Plumbing Ordinance Development
- Alternative Water Ordinance Development
- Development Focused Water Use Benchmarking and Budgeting
- Alternative Water Incentive
- Landscape Transformation Incentive
- Irrigation Transformation Incentive

As we discussed at our recent Water Forward Task Force meeting on March 12, 2019, we believe that these ordinance revisions can and should be developed over a much shorter time frame than what Austin Water proposed to the Task Force at our March 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Austin City Council unanimously adopted Water Forward in November 2018. At that time City Council directed that the ordinance revisions be accomplished on a faster timeline than that included in the draft plan. The Mayor's direction read, "The City Manager should expedite the timelines of all codes and ordinances recommended by Water Forward, where feasible, to increase the City's resilience to the next drought". The specific direction adopted by Council Members and the Mayor with respect to fast-tracking of these ordinances and incentives is included herein as an attachment. The urgency felt by City Council to implement these incentives and ordinances reflects the same sentiments as the Task Force itself.

To put the pace of Austin Water's proposed development of these ordinances and incentives into perspective, the nearest-term ordinance to be delivered is projected for late 2021 – early 2022, some three years from now. The incredibly important programs of benchmarking and budgeting remain a work in progress for another 13 years. In contrast, the billion-dollar investment that Austin Water made in the Handcox Water Treatment Plant and associated lines and tunnels was constructed in approximately five years.

Our concern is that with robust economic growth, development projects are moving through the system without these revised ordinances in place—meaning that every day, we are losing opportunities to save water, not only now, but for the life of these new building projects. After more than five years of planning, the City of Austin is no more resilient to extreme drought today than in 2014. Enhanced water

conservation and developing alternative water resources deliver an immediate return on our city's drought resilience and should not be delayed.

We would appreciate if the City of Austin would reassess this matter and determine how these ordinance revisions could be accomplished in a shorter time frame, with initial roll out in 12-18 months. May we offer the following suggestions:

- Consider outsourcing the ordinance revision and community outreach activities to consultants or other experts within the City that have special expertise in this work, to alleviate city resource limitations.
- Consider implementing an interim ordinance that could capture some of the larger development projects immediately.
- Establish a special working group, including members of the Task Force, to guide and propel this ordinance revision work forward.
- Provide regular reports to the Task Force with metrics on development projects and opportunities captured to advance water conservation and alternative water use.

Given the importance of this work, we are requesting that you, the City Manager, organize a special meeting of affected City Departments and Task Force Members to develop a new schedule and program to get these water conservation ordinances and incentives in place at an accelerated timeline.

Thank you for your consideration.

-Sf

**Bill Moriarty** 

Perry Lorenz

Sharlene Leurig

Jennifer Walker

Lauren Ross

CC: Greg Meszaros, Director Austin Water

CC: Mayor and City Council Members

From: Alexander, Jason
Sent: Tuesday, April 16, 2019 11:09 AM
To: leurig@texaswatertrade.org
Cc: Cronk, Spencer <<u>Spencer.Cronk@austintexas.gov</u>>; Meszaros, Greg <<u>Greg.Meszaros@austintexas.gov</u>>;
lauren@glenrose.com; walkerj@nwf.org; Moriarty, William - BC <<u>bc-William.Moriarty@austintexas.gov</u>>;
pl@perrylorenz.com
Eubiact: BE: Accelerating adaption of Water Forward

### Subject: RE: Accelerating adoption of Water Forward

### Ms. Leurig,

Good morning. I wanted to take a moment to acknowledge and respond to your email below on behalf of the City Manager. We very much appreciate your feedback below, and the collective efforts of those copied, for their work with the Task Force and toward advancing the Water Forward plan. As a result of this good work, the community now has a robust plan before it, and we are committed to identifying reasonable opportunities to expedite the timeline of implementation of codes and incentives to make the Water Forward strategies a reality. The City Manager has spoken with Director Meszaros of Austin Water and the Utility shares this commitment.

Water Forward is a highly ambitious 100-year plan that contains a transformative vision of Austin's water future. With this vision in mind, we will continue to create opportunities for substantial public engagement during the plan implementation, to enhance social equity and affordability outcomes. We remain dedicated to completing the stakeholder engagement on ordinance concepts, and to develop draft ordinance language based on that input, by the end of this calendar year. In addition, the Utility will actively work to find opportunities to accelerate the timeline of the other near-term Water Forward strategies and enhance our proactive engagement with new development to identify potential onsite reuse, reclaimed, conservation efficiency opportunities in advance of code adoption.

While we do seek to accelerate timelines, it is paramount that we also develop the appropriate direction and guidance to mitigate unintended consequences. The City Manager's Office will be working closely with Austin Water to this end. As you may know, Austin Water is now a direct report of the City Manager, and part of the Manager's executive team. This provides the Utility with direct access to all Assistant City Managers and helps ensure that the City's executive management will have appropriate visibility and opportunities to engage in plan implementation efforts. The City Manager has instructed Austin Water to assign appropriate resources to ordinance development and community outreach activities to achieve an accelerated timeline, and will continue to support those activities with City resources as necessary.

Again, we are committed to Water Forward's successful implementation and look forward to our continued collaboration with you in this effort. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

(moved City Council to bcc line)

### **Jason Alexander**

Assistant to the City Manager City of Austin, Office of the City Manager 512 974 2306 | <u>Jason.Alexander@austintexas.gov</u> 301 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor | Austin, TX 78701