Thursday, February 25, 2010

Austin Water Utility RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 18

Subject: Approve an ordinance amending Chapter 15-9 of the City Code relating to Water and Wastewater Service Connections to Certain Lots and extensions of service lines for a maximum distance of 100 feet.

Amount and Source of Funding: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Alice Flora, 972-0041; Denise Avery 972-0104

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission.

Prior Council Action: August 20, 2009 - Council approved Ordinance 20090820-061 to amend chapter 25-9 of the City Code relating to Service Extension Requests and City Cost Participation and Cost Reimbursement in Water and Wastewater Facilities, to take effect on September 7, 2009.

On August 20, 2009 Council approved an amendment to the Land Development Code related to Water and Wastewater Service Extension Requests. The revised ordinance omitted two sections of the ordinance related to Development Compliance (known as the 100 foot rule) and Service Connections to Certain Lots. These omitted sections were intended to be moved from the Service Extension Section of the Land Development Code to the Utility Service Regulations, Chapter 15-9. However, these sections were not relocated to the Utility Service Regulations at the time they were removed from the Land Development Code. The attached ordinance submittal adds these omitted sections to the Utility Service Regulations to Chapter 15-9-157 and 15-9-158.

The section related to Service Connections to Certain lots provides that the City may extend at its cost a water or wastewater line of 8 inches or less in diameter, for a maximum distance of 100 feet to serve a legal tract in the full purpose boundaries of the City.

The section related to Development Compliance provides that the City shall install the water and wastewater service connection to lots located in the urban watershed when the lot is part of a resubdivision consisting of not more than four lots for which the construction of a street, utility main, manhole or hydrant is not required.

The two sections being added have been in place for many years prior to their removal in August 2009. These sections allow for Austin Water Utility to add new connections to the water and wastewater system where minimal extension of service is required. Also, the Service Connections to Certain Lots provision promotes infill in urban watersheds.