



COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT

Planning and Neighborhoods Committee

Date: September 21, 2015

Agenda Item #: 6

Discussion and possible action on recommendations related to water utility service to secondary dwelling units.

Vote The Committee voted to forward this item to the full Council without a recommendation on a 3-1 vote with Council Member Gallo off the dais.

Sponsors/Department: Greg Meszaros, Director, Austin Water Utility

Summary of Discussion

Mr. Greg Meszaros provided a brief overview regarding the Water Utilities approach of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU). The Austin Water Utility had a one-size fits all approach with regards to upgrading the service, the portion of the infrastructure between the main line and the street meter. Austin Water has refined the policy that if the ADU is a certain size from a water use perspective, 4 ½ bathrooms or 48 fixtures or less, AWU will allow the service to remain in place and don't require the upgrade. The other change that was made that AWU use to require all ADUs to have a second meter and that's a requirement that has been changed.

Public Comments

David King: is supportive of this item.

Gerald Kinney: very supportive of the item and thanked the department for issuing the memos.

Kimbrough Gray: spoke on the clarity regarding the upgrades taking six months and stated if you put in a duplex meter, the upgrade should be triggered based on the number of baths on the property. As the rules state now we are encouraging people to build the 5,000 square foot house because there's no tap update, but the ADU with the duplex meter, this is an upgrade.

Direction

Recommendation: The Committee voted to forward this item to the full Council without a recommendation on a 3-1 vote with Council Member Gallo off the dais.