



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Kent Collins, P.E., Director of Public Works

Date: July 26, 2022

Reference: Amendment to Drought Contingency and Water Conservation Ordinance

2040: Pillar 0: Sustainable City Government
Goal 3: Well-maintained City Infrastructure

General Information:

- The existing Drought Contingency and Water Conservation Ordinance is attached.
- The plan includes 5 Stages of response based upon water system demand and operation.
- In general, Stages 2 through 4 prescribe a north-south watering scheme for customers, whereby customers living north of Sandy Lake water on certain days and customers living south of Sandy Lake water on certain days.
- Staff has concerns regarding the ease of implementation of the north-south scheme, as well as the potential of creating localized pressure issues.
- The intent of this ordinance change is to change the watering scheme from north-south to an odd-even address based plan.
- Staff expects customer understanding of this plan to be better, and localized pressure issues should be minimized.

Introduction:

This agenda item is to consider approval of an ordinance amending The Code of Ordinances, by Amending Chapter 3, “CITY DEPARTMENTS”, Article 3-1-12, “Drought Contingency and Water Conservation Plan”, To amend regulations and policies related to treated water use during drought weather conditions; adopting an “odd-even” address scheme for drought watering response; and authorize the Mayor to execute all necessary documents.

Analysis:

The City of Coppel is a wholesale water customer of Dallas Water Utilities (DWU). This means we purchase all our water from Dallas, and it is delivered to us already treated and ready for distribution

to our residents and business customers. Our distribution system includes two elevated storage tanks, 200 miles of water main, two ground storage tanks, and the Village Parkway Pump Station. Using these facilities, we purchase and pump more than 3 billion gallons of water annually. The Village Parkway Pump Station has a design capacity of 42 million gallons per day (MGD), however we currently have a contractual maximum delivery of 18.5 million gallons per day from DWU. If we were to increase the maximum water that we could purchase from 18.5 million gallons per day to 19.5 million gallons per day, the estimated charge for that increased demand is approximately \$320,000 annually.

To encourage the conservation of water and to prepare for responses during drought conditions, the City has a Drought Contingency and Water Conservation Ordinance. The existing ordinance is attached to this item. The ordinance identifies goals for the plan, triggers for enacting certain drought responses, and responses to those triggers. The triggers are based on continual use above certain thresholds as well as the ability to continue to operate the system in a manner that ensure safe drinking water and compliance with TCEQ regulations. The proposed ordinance amendments do not change the triggers.

The responses in the current ordinance would limit the number of days that a resident, business or institution can irrigate based upon their physical location north or south of Sandy Lake Road. The proposed ordinance amendment would not change the number of days that customers can irrigate, but the scheme would be based upon the property address ending in an odd or even number. Staff believes that this will be easier for customers to comply with (it is the common scheme used by cities, including the City of Dallas, our supplier), and will minimize any localized pressure concerns during high use times of the day.

Legal Review:

The proposed ordinance was prepared by the City Attorney.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this ordinance change.

Recommendation:

The Public Works Department recommends approval of this item.