



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Mayor and City Council

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

**Date:** August 14, 2018

**Reference:** Contract with the City of Dallas for Untreated Water

**2030:** Sustainable City Government, Goal 3  
Excellent and Well-maintained City Infrastructure and Facilities

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### General Information:

- The City has a contractual obligation to operate North Lake within a specified water elevation of a 1 foot “operating pool depth”
- The City has a contractual obligation to provide irrigation water for the property surrounding North Lake
- In 2017, the City completed a Northlake Water Supply Study with Brown & Gay Engineering (BGE) outlining three options for supplying water to meet these obligations.
- The three options included: using treated water; drilling wells; or pumping raw water.
- BGE recommended a raw water pumping solution via rehabilitation of the existing but inoperable intake pump station and existing 42” pipeline.
- Design is ongoing for an untreated water pumping solution to deliver water from the Elm Fork of the Trinity River into North Lake, on an as-needed basis.
- The City is pursuing change of ownership and use for water rights in North Lake.
- The City is proposing this Untreated Water Purchase Contract to secure raw water from the City of Dallas for the purposes of meeting its contractual obligations of providing irrigation water and maintaining the lake level.
- A separate agreement with Cypress Waters will be presented during a future Council meeting.
- Separate contracts will be presented in a future Council meeting to implement the North Lake untreated water pumping solution.

**Introduction:**

This agenda item is presented to approve an Untreated Water Purchase Contract with the City of Dallas. The contract will allow the City of Coppell to pump untreated or “raw” water from the Elm Fork of the Trinity River into North Lake for the purposes of maintaining the lake level of North Lake, and providing irrigation water for the property surrounding North Lake.

**History:**

North Lake was built in 1957 by Dallas Power and Light (later known as Luminant) as a cooling pond for a steam electric generating plant. In 2010, the power plant was decommissioned and by 2012, ownership was transferred to the City of Coppell. Cypress Waters soon began to develop around the lake. In the agreement with Cypress Waters, the City was responsible for lowering the pool elevation by 25 feet, constructing a new spillway, and lowering the elevations of the main and saddle dam. Construction of these modifications by the City was complete in 2014. Currently, North Lake has a normal pool elevation of 485'. The City has a commitment to maintain North Lake within a specified water elevation of a 1 foot “operating pool depth” by summer 2018. The City also has a commitment to provide up to 1250 acre-feet of water annually to Cypress Waters for irrigation purposes. Cypress Waters does not currently have facilities in place to pump irrigation water from North Lake. An analysis of water supply alternatives identified untreated water pumped from the Elm Fork of the Trinity River as the preferred alternative (compared to treated water or drilling water wells). The design of the raw water pumping system is in progress and the City is in the process of making formal changes to the water rights for North Lake.

**Analysis:**

The proposed contract with the City of Dallas defines or specifies the following:

- the diversion or take point for the pumping system;
- the “water year” as running from June 1 to May 31;
- the limits of the minimum, maximum and average annual untreated water purchase as 10 acre-feet, 3100 acre-feet, and 2500 acre-feet, respectively;
- that the City of Coppell will pay for the untreated water used at the regular service rate;
- that the rate for the untreated water is set by the City of Dallas (regular service rate is currently \$1.0225 per 1000 gallons);
- the City of Coppell is required to meter the untreated water pumped from North Lake;
- the contract duration is 30 years but includes cancellation clauses for both parties.

To summarize, this contract is for the purchase of untreated water from the City of Dallas. The purpose of the contract is to allow Coppell to meet its obligations under the terms of agreements regarding the operation of North Lake. Future agreements and contracts will be presented to implement the pumping system and establish terms of the irrigation water with Cypress Waters.

**Legal Review:**

The agreement was reviewed by the City Attorney.

**Fiscal Impact:**

The fiscal impact of this agenda item will depend on annual weather conditions, but on average, the City’s cost for untreated water is estimated at \$65,280.00.

**Recommendation:**

The Public Works Department recommends approval of this contract.