TCEQ Interoffice Memorandum

TO: Office of the Chief Clerk
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

THRU: Chris Kozlowski, Team Leader
Water Rights Permitting Team

FROM: Sarah Henderson, Project Manager
Water Rights Permitting Team

DATE: September 4, 2025

SUBJECT: City of Austin
ADJ 5489
CN600135198, RN109252502
Application No. 14-5489C to Amend Certificate of Adjudication No. 14-5489
Texas Water Code § 11.122, No Notice Required
Decker Creek and the Colorado River, Colorado River Basin
Travis County

The application and fees were received on August 26, 2025. The application was declared administratively complete and accepted for filing with the Office of the Chief Clerk on September 4, 2025. No notice is required pursuant to House Bill 1964 and Title 30 Texas Administrative Code § 295.158(c)(2)(A).

All fees have been paid and the application is sufficient for filing.

Sarah E Henderson

Sarah Henderson, Project Manager
Water Rights Permitting Team
Water Rights Permitting and Availability Section

OCC Mailed Notice Required ☐YES ☒NO

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

September 4, 2025

Mr. Young-Hoon Jin, P.E. **VIA E-MAIL**
City of Austin
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, TX 78767-1088

RE: City of Austin
ADJ 5489
CN600135198, RN109252502
Application No. 14-5489C to Amend Certificate of Adjudication No. 14-5489
Texas Water Code § 11.122, No Notice Required
Decker Creek and the Colorado River, Colorado River Basin
Travis County

Dear Mr. Jin:

This acknowledges receipt, on August 26, 2025, of the referenced application and fees in the amount of $112.50 (Receipt No. M560519, copy attached).

The application was declared administratively complete and filed with the Office of the Chief Clerk on September 4, 2025. Staff will continue processing the application for consideration by the Executive Director.

If you have any questions concerning the application, please contact me via email at sarah.henderson@tceq.texas.gov or by telephone at (512) 239-2535.

Sincerely,

Sarah Henderson, Project Manager
Water Rights Permitting Team
Water Rights Permitting and Availability Section

Attachment

TCEQ 26-AUG-25 03:33 PM

TCEQ - A/R RECEIPT REPORT BY ACCOUNT NUMBER

Fee Description	Fee Code / Account# / Account Name	Ref#1 / Ref#2 / Paid In By	Check Number / Card Auth. / User Data	CC Type / Tran Code / Rec Code	Slip Key / Document#	Tran Date	Tran Amount
WTR USE PERMITS	WUP	M560519	4754081		BS00116593	26-AUG-25	-$112.50
	WUP	ADJ145489	082625	N	D5803469		
	WATER USE PERMITS	AUSTIN, CITY OF	RHDAVIS	CK			
				Total (Fee Code):			-$112.50
				Grand Total:			-$7,127.02

Received
Date: 08/26/2025
By: Water Availability Division

City of Austin | Austin Water

August 26, 2025

Ms. Sarah Henderson
Water Rights Permitting &
Availability Section, MC160
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Dear Ms. Henderson,

The City of Austin ("City") submits an application ("Application") to amend Certificate of Adjudication No. 14-5489 ("Certificate"). The City requests under this Application that municipal use, as listed in Texas Water Code §11.023, be included in the authorizations granted in Section 1 of the amendment to the Certificate, 14-5489B.

Please find one hard copy of the Application with TCEQ-10214B, TCEQ-10214C, a check for filing and recording fees of $112.50, TCEQ-20960, and Attachments. Water Conservation Plan, Drought Contingency Plan, and documentation of adoption of the plans are also attached. Electronic copies of the Application have been uploaded to TCEQ's FTP. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Young-Hoon Jin, Engineer
Systems Planning Division
Austin Water, City of Austin
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, Texas 78767

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

TCEQ WATER RIGHTS PERMITTING APPLICATION

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION CHECKLIST

Complete and submit this checklist for each application. See Instructions Page 5.

APPLICANT(S): City of Austin

Indicate whether the following items are included in your application by writing either Y (for yes) or N (for no) next to each item (all items are <u>not</u> required for every application).

Y/N		Y/N	
Y	**Administrative Information Report**	N	**Worksheet 3.0**
N	Additional Co-Applicant Information	N	Additional W.S. 3.0 for each Point
N	Additional Co-Applicant Signature Pages	N	Recorded Deeds for Diversion Points
Y	Written Evidence of Signature Authority	N	Consent for Diversion Access
Y	**Technical Information Report**	N	**Worksheet 4.0**
N	USGS Map (or equivalent)	N	TPDES Permit(s)
N	Map Showing Project Details	N	WWTP Discharge Data
N	Original Photographs	N	Groundwater Well Permit
N	Water Availability Analysis	N	Signed Water Supply Contract
Y	**Worksheet 1.0**	N	**Worksheet 4.1**
N	Recorded Deeds for Irrigated Land	N	**Worksheet 5.0**
N	Consent for Irrigated Land	N	Addendum to Worksheet 5.0
N	**Worksheet 1.1**	Y	**Worksheet 6.0**
N	Addendum to Worksheet 1.1	Y	Water Conservation Plan(s)
Y	**Worksheet 1.2**	Y	Drought Contingency Plan(s)
N	**Worksheet 2.0**	N	Documentation of Adoption
N	Additional W.S. 2.0 for Each Reservoir	N	**Worksheet 7.0**
N	Dam Safety Documents	N	Accounting Plan
N	Notice(s) to Governing Bodies	Y	**Worksheet 8.0**
N	Recorded Deeds for Inundated Land	Y	Fees
N	Consent for Inundated Land	Y	Public Involvement Plan

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION REPORT

The following information **is required** for **all** new applications and amendments.

****Applicants are REQUIRED to schedule a pre-application meeting with TCEQ Staff to discuss Applicant's needs prior to submitting an application. Call the Water Rights Permitting Team to schedule a meeting at* (512) 239-4600.**

1. TYPE OF APPLICATION (Instructions, Page. 6)

Indicate, by marking X, next to the following authorizations you are seeking.

_____New Appropriation of State Water

X_____Amendment to a Water Right *

_____Bed and Banks

If you are seeking an amendment to an existing water rights authorization, you must be the owner of record of the authorization. If the name of the Applicant in Section 2 does not match the name of the current owner(s) of record for the permit or certificate or if any of the co-owners is not included as an applicant in this amendment request, your application could be returned. If you or a co-applicant are a new owner, but ownership is not reflected in the records of the TCEQ, submit a change of ownership request (Form TCEQ-10204) prior to submitting the application for an amendment. See Instructions page. 6. Please note that an amendment application may be returned, and the Applicant may resubmit once the change of ownership is complete.

Please summarize the authorizations or amendments you are seeking in the space below or attach a narrative description entitled "Summary of Request."

The City of Austin ("City") seeks to amend its Certificate of Adjudication 14-5489 ("Application") to include an additional purpose of use to the existing authorizations. The City does not seek to amend the diversion points, annual authorized diversion volumes, diversion rates, or storage volume granted in 14-5489. A narrative description of the amendment, titled "Attachment 1 - Summary of Request", is attached to this application.

2. APPLICANT INFORMATION (Instructions, Page. 6)

a. Applicant

Indicate the number of Applicants/Co-Applicants 1
(Include a copy of this section for each Co-Applicant, if any)

What is the Full Legal Name of the individual or entity (applicant) applying for this permit?

City of Austin

(If the Applicant is an entity, the legal name must be spelled exactly as filed with the Texas Secretary of State, County, or in the legal documents forming the entity.)

If the applicant is currently a customer with the TCEQ, what is the Customer Number (CN)? You may search for your CN on the TCEQ website at http://www15.tceq.texas.gov/crpub/index.cfm?fuseaction=cust.CustSearch

CN : 600135198 (leave blank if you do not yet have a CN).

What is the name and title of the person or persons signing the application? Unless an application is signed by an individual applicant, the person or persons must submit written evidence that they meet the signatory requirements in *30 TAC § 295.14*.

First/Last Name: Shay Ralls Roalson

Title: Director, Austin Water

Have you provided written evidence meeting the signatory requirements in 30 TAC § 295.14, as an attachment to this application? **Y/N** Y

What is the applicant's mailing address as recognized by the US Postal Service (USPS)? You may verify the address on the USPS website at https://tools.usps.com/go/ZipLookupAction!input.action.

Name: City of Austin

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1088

City: Austin State: Texas ZIP Code: 78767

Indicate an X next to the type of Applicant:

___Individual	___Sole Proprietorship-D.B.A.
___Partnership	___Corporation
___Trust	___Estate
___Federal Government	___State Government
___County Government	X City Government
___Other Government	___Other_____

For Corporations or Limited Partnerships, provide:
State Franchise Tax ID Number: N/A SOS Charter (filing) Number: N/A

3. APPLICATION CONTACT INFORMATION (Instructions, Page. 9)

If the TCEQ needs additional information during the review of the application, who should be contacted? Applicant may submit their own contact information if Applicant wishes to be the point of contact.

First and Last Name: Young-Hoon Jin

Title: Engineer

Organization Name: City of Austin

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1088

City: Austin State: Texas ZIP Code: 78767

Phone Number: (512) 972-0171

Fax Number:

E-mail Address: [redacted]

4. WATER RIGHT CONSOLIDATED CONTACT INFORMATION (Instructions, Page. 9)

This section applies only if there are multiple Owners of the same authorization. Unless otherwise requested, Co-Owners will each receive future correspondence from the Commission regarding this water right (after a permit has been issued), such as notices and water use reports. Multiple copies will be sent to the same address if Co-Owners share the same address. Complete this section if there will be multiple owners and **all** owners agree to let one owner receive correspondence from the Commission. Leave this section blank if you would like all future notices to be sent to the address of each of the applicants listed in section 2 above.

I/We authorize all future notices be received on my/our behalf at the following:

First and Last Name: N/A

Title: N/A

Organization Name: N/A

Mailing Address: N/A

City: N/A State: N/A ZIP Code: N/A

Phone Number: N/A

Fax Number: N/A

E-mail Address: N/A

5. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION (Instructions, Page. 9)

a. The application will not be processed unless all delinquent fees and/or penalties owed to the TCEQ or the Office of the Attorney General on behalf of the TCEQ are paid in accordance with the Delinquent Fee and Penalty Protocol by all applicants/co-applicants. If you need assistance determining whether you owe delinquent penalties or fees, please call the Water Rights Permitting Team at (512) 239-4600, prior to submitting your application.

1. Does Applicant or Co-Applicant owe any fees to the TCEQ? **Yes / No** No

   If **yes**, provide the following information:

   Account number: N/A Amount past due: N/A

2. Does Applicant or Co-Applicant owe any penalties to the TCEQ? **Yes / No** No

   If **yes**, please provide the following information:

   Enforcement order number: N/A Amount past due: N/A

b. If the Applicant is a taxable entity (corporation or limited partnership), the Applicant must be in good standing with the Comptroller or the right of the entity to transact business in the State may be forfeited. See Texas Tax Code, Subchapter F. Applicant's may check their status with the Comptroller at https://mycpa.cpa.state.tx.us/coa/
   Is the Applicant or Co-Applicant in good standing with the Comptroller? **Yes / No** Yes

c. The commission will not grant an application for a water right unless the applicant has submitted all Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) surveys of groundwater and surface water use – if required. See TWC §16.012(m) and 30 TAC § 297.41(a)(5). Applicants should check survey status on the TWDB website prior to filing:
   https://www3.twdb.texas.gov/apps/reports/WU_REP/SurveyStatus_PriorThreeYears
   Applicant has submitted all required TWDB surveys of groundwater and surface water?
   Yes / No Yes

6. SIGNATURE PAGE (Instructions, Page. 11)

Applicant:

I, Shay Ralls Roalson, Director, Austin Water
(Typed or printed name) (Title)

certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

I further certify that I am authorized under Title 30 Texas Administrative Code §295.14 to sign and submit this document and I have submitted written evidence of my signature authority.

Signature: Shay Ralls Roalson Date: 8/20/2025
(Use blue ink)

Subscribed and Sworn to before me by the said Shay Ralls Roalson

on this 20th day of August, 20 25.

My commission expires on the 21st day of June, 20 29.

Deborah L. Ockletree
Notary Public

DEBORAH L. OCKLETREE
Notary Public, State of Texas
Comm. Expires 06-21-2029
Notary ID 5173787
[SEAL]

County, Texas

If the Application includes Co-Applicants, each Applicant and Co-Applicant must submit an original, separate signature page

TECHNICAL INFORMATION REPORT
WATER RIGHTS PERMITTING

This Report is required for applications for new or amended water rights. Based on the Applicant's responses below, Applicants are directed to submit additional Worksheets (provided herein). A completed Administrative Information Report is also required for each application.

Applicants are REQUIRED to schedule a pre-application meeting with TCEQ Permitting Staff to discuss Applicant's needs and to confirm information necessary for an application prior to submitting such application. Please contact the Water Availability Division at (512) 239-4600 or WRPT@tceq.texas.gov to schedule a meeting.

Date of pre-application meeting: 2/6/2025

1. New or Additional Appropriations of State Water. Texas Water Code (TWC) § 11.121 (Instructions, Page. 12)

State Water is: *The water of the ordinary flow, underflow, and tides of every flowing river, natural stream, and lake, and of every bay or arm of the Gulf of Mexico, and the storm water, floodwater, and rainwater of every river, natural stream, canyon, ravine, depression, and watershed in the state. TWC § 11.021.*

a. Applicant requests a new appropriation (diversion or impoundment) of State Water? **Y / N** N

b. Applicant requests an amendment to an existing water right requesting an increase in the appropriation of State Water or an increase of the overall or maximum combined diversion rate? **Y / N** N (If yes, indicate the Certificate or Permit number: N/A)

If Applicant answered yes to (a) or (b) above, does Applicant also wish to be considered for a term permit pursuant to TWC § 11.1381? **Y / N** N/A

c. Applicant requests to extend an existing Term authorization or to make the right permanent? **Y / N** N (If yes, indicate the Term Certificate or Permit number: N/A)

If Applicant answered yes to (a), (b) or (c), the following worksheets and documents are required:

- **Worksheet 1.0 – Quantity, Purpose, and Place of Use Information Worksheet**
- **Worksheet 2.0 - Impoundment/Dam Information Worksheet** (submit one worksheet for each impoundment or reservoir requested in the application)
- **Worksheet 3.0 - Diversion Point Information Worksheet** (submit one worksheet for each diversion point and/or one worksheet for the upstream limit and one worksheet for the downstream limit of each diversion reach requested in the application)
- **Worksheet 5.0 – Environmental Information Worksheet**
- **Worksheet 6.0 – Water Conservation Information Worksheet**
- **Worksheet 7.0 – Accounting Plan Information Worksheet**
- **Worksheet 8.0 – Calculation of Fees**
- **Fees calculated on Worksheet 8.0** – see instructions **Page. 34.**
- **Maps** – See instructions **Page. 15.**
- **Photographs** - See instructions **Page. 30.**

Additionally, if Applicant wishes to submit an alternate source of water for the project/authorization, see Section 3, Page 3 for Bed and Banks Authorizations (Alternate sources may include groundwater, imported water, contract water or other sources).

Additional Documents and Worksheets may be required (see within).

2. Amendments to Water Rights. TWC § 11.122 (Instructions, Page. 12)

This section should be completed if Applicant owns an existing water right and Applicant requests to amend the water right. ***If Applicant is not currently the Owner of Record in the TCEQ Records, Applicant must submit a Change of Ownership Application (TCEQ-10204) prior to submitting the amendment Application or provide consent from the current owner to make the requested amendment. If the application does not contain consent from the current owner to make the requested amendment, TCEQ will not begin processing the amendment application until the Change of Ownership has been completed and will consider the Received Date for the application to be the date the Change of Ownership is completed.*** **See instructions page. 6.**

Water Right (Certificate or Permit) number you are requesting to amend: 14-5489

Applicant requests to sever and combine existing water rights from one or more Permits or Certificates into another Permit or Certificate? **Y / N** N (if yes, complete chart below):

List of water rights to sever	Combine into this ONE water right
N/A	N/A

a. Applicant requests an amendment to an existing water right to increase the amount of the appropriation of State Water (diversion and/or impoundment)? **Y / N** N

If yes, application is a new appropriation for the increased amount, complete ***Section 1 of this Report (PAGE. 1) regarding New or Additional Appropriations of State Water****.*

b. Applicant requests to amend existing Term authorization to extend the term or make the water right permanent (remove conditions restricting water right to a term of years)? **Y / N** N

If yes, application is a new appropriation for the entire amount, complete ***Section 1 of this Report (PAGE. 1) regarding New or Additional Appropriations of State Water****.*

c. Applicant requests an amendment to change the purpose or place of use or to add an additional purpose or place of use to an existing Permit or Certificate? **Y / N** Y
If yes, submit:

- **Worksheet 1.0 – Quantity, Purpose, and Place of Use Information Worksheet**
- **Worksheet 1.2 - Notice: "Marshall Criteria"**

d. Applicant requests to change: diversion point(s); or reach(es); or diversion rate? **Y / N** N
If yes, submit:

- **Worksheet 3.0 - Diversion Point Information Worksheet** (submit one worksheet for each diversion point or one worksheet for the upstream limit and one worksheet for the downstream limit of each diversion reach)
- **Worksheet 5.0 – Environmental Information** (Required for <u>any</u> new diversion points that are not already authorized in a water right)

e. Applicant requests amendment to add or modify an impoundment, reservoir, or dam? **Y / N** N

If yes, submit: **Worksheet 2.0 - Impoundment/Dam Information Worksheet** (submit one worksheet for each impoundment or reservoir)

f. Other - Applicant requests to change any provision of an authorization not mentioned above? **Y / N** N *If yes, call the Water Availability Division at (512) 239-4600 to discuss.*

Additionally, all amendments require:

- **Worksheet 8.0 – Calculation of Fees; and Fees calculated – see instructions Page. 34**
- **Maps – See instructions Page. 15.**
- **Additional Documents and Worksheets may be required (see within).**

3. Bed and Banks. TWC § 11.042 (Instructions, Page 13)

a. Pursuant to contract, Applicant requests authorization to convey, stored or conserved water to the place of use or diversion point of purchaser(s) using the bed and banks of a watercourse? TWC § 11.042(a). **Y/N** N

If yes, submit a signed copy of the Water Supply Contract pursuant to 30 TAC §§ 295.101 and 297.101. Further, if the underlying Permit or Authorization upon which the Contract is based does not authorize Purchaser's requested Quantity, Purpose or Place of Use, or Purchaser's diversion point(s), then either:

1. *Purchaser must submit the worksheets required under Section 1 above with the Contract Water identified as an alternate source; or*
2. *Seller must amend its underlying water right under Section 2.*

b. Applicant requests to convey water imported into the state from a source located wholly outside the state using the bed and banks of a watercourse? TWC § 11.042(a-1). **Y / N** N

If yes, submit worksheets 1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 7.0, 8.0, Maps and fees from the list below.

c. Applicant requests to convey Applicant's own return flows derived from privately owned groundwater using the bed and banks of a watercourse? TWC § 11.042(b). **Y / N** N

If yes, submit worksheets 1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 7.0, 8.0, Maps, and fees from the list below.

d. Applicant requests to convey Applicant's own return flows derived from surface water using the bed and banks of a watercourse? TWC § 11.042(c). **Y / N** N

If yes, submit worksheets 1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, Maps, and fees from the list below.

Please note, if Applicant requests the reuse of return flows belonging to others, the Applicant will need to submit the worksheets and documents under Section 1 above, as the application will be treated as a new appropriation subject to termination upon direct or indirect reuse by the return flow discharger/owner.

e. Applicant requests to convey water from any other source, other than (a)-(d) above, using the bed and banks of a watercourse? TWC § 11.042(c). **Y / N** N

If yes, submit worksheets 1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 7.0, 8.0, Maps, and fees from the list below.

Worksheets and information:

- **Worksheet 1.0 – Quantity, Purpose, and Place of Use Information Worksheet**
- **Worksheet 2.0 - Impoundment/Dam Information Worksheet** (submit one worksheet for each impoundment or reservoir owned by the applicant through which water will be conveyed or diverted)
- **Worksheet 3.0 - Diversion Point Information Worksheet** (submit one worksheet for the downstream limit of each diversion reach for the proposed conveyances)

- **Worksheet 4.0 – Discharge Information Worksheet** (for each discharge point)
- **Worksheet 5.0 – Environmental Information Worksheet**
- **Worksheet 6.0 – Water Conservation Information Worksheet**
- **Worksheet 7.0 – Accounting Plan Information Worksheet**
- **Worksheet 8.0 – Calculation of Fees; and Fees calculated – see instructions Page. 34**
- **Maps** – See instructions **Page. 15.**
- **Additional Documents and Worksheets may be required (see within).**

4. General Information, Response Required for all Water Right Applications (Instructions, Page 15)

a. Provide information describing how this application addresses a water supply need in a manner that is consistent with the state water plan or the applicable approved regional water plan for any area in which the proposed appropriation is located or, in the alternative, describe conditions that warrant a waiver of this requirement (*not required for applications to use groundwater-based return flows*). Include citations or page numbers for the State and Regional Water Plans, if applicable. Provide the information in the space below or submit a supplemental sheet entitled "Addendum Regarding the State and Regional Water Plans":

The current Region K and State Water Plans assume that the City will exercise, to the extent water is available, all of its water rights to meet current and future demands. This Application is consistent with that the assumption or with either plan. We note that, at the time of this application, the draft 2026 Region K IPP indicates that Lake Walter E. Long is an off channel reservoir. However, the lake is on channel. This discrepancy will be corrected in the final 2026 Region K Plan to remove all off channel references.

b. Did the Applicant perform its own Water Availability Analysis? **Y / N** N

If the Applicant performed its own Water Availability Analysis, provide electronic copies of any modeling files and reports.

c. Does the application include required Maps? (**Instructions Page. 15**) **Y / N** N

WORKSHEET 1.0
Quantity, Purpose and Place of Use

1. New Authorizations (Instructions, Page. 16)

Submit the following information regarding quantity, purpose and place of use for requests for new or additional appropriations of State Water or Bed and Banks authorizations:

Quantity (acre-feet) (*Include losses for Bed and Banks*)	**State Water Source (River Basin) or Alternate Source** *each *alternate source* (*and new appropriation based on return flows of others*) *also requires completion of Worksheet 4.0*	**Purpose(s) of Use**	**Place(s) of Use** **requests to move state water out of basin also require completion of Worksheet 1.1 Interbasin Transfer*
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

N/A Total amount of water (in acre-feet) to be used annually (*include losses for Bed and Banks applications*)

If the Purpose of Use is Agricultural/Irrigation for any amount of water, provide:

a. Location Information Regarding the Lands to be Irrigated

i) Applicant proposes to irrigate a total of N/A acres in any one year. This acreage is all of or part of a larger tract(s) which is described in a supplement attached to this application and contains a total of N/A acres in N/A County, TX.

ii) Location of land to be irrigated: In the N/A Original Survey No. N/A, Abstract No. 78767.

A copy of the deed(s) or other acceptable instrument describing the overall tract(s) with the recording information from the county records must be submitted. Applicant's name must match deeds.

If the Applicant is not currently the sole owner of the lands to be irrigated, Applicant must submit documentation evidencing consent or other documentation supporting Applicant's right to use the land described.

Water Rights for Irrigation may be appurtenant to the land irrigated and convey with the land unless reserved in the conveyance. 30 TAC § 297.81.

2. Amendments - Purpose or Place of Use (Instructions, Page. 12)

a. Complete this section for each requested amendment changing, adding, or removing Purpose(s) or Place(s) of Use, complete the following:

Quantity (acre-feet)	Existing Purpose(s) of Use	Proposed Purpose(s) of Use*	Existing Place(s) of Use	Proposed Place(s) of Use**
16,156 from river	Recreational, Industrial (cooling)	Municipal, Recreational, Industrial (cooling)	Travis	Travis
16,156 from reservoir	Recreational, Industrial (cooling)	Municipal, Recreational, Industrial (cooling)	Travis	Travis

**If the request is to add additional purpose(s) of use, include the existing and new purposes of use under "Proposed Purpose(s) of Use."*

***If the request is to add additional place(s) of use, include the existing and new places of use under "Proposed Place(s) of Use."*

Changes to the purpose of use in the Rio Grande Basin may require conversion. 30 TAC § 303.43.

b. For any request which adds Agricultural purpose of use or changes the place of use for Agricultural rights, provide the following location information regarding the lands to be irrigated:

i. Applicant proposes to irrigate a total of N/A acres in any one year. This acreage is all of or part of a larger tract(s) which is described in a supplement attached to this application and contains a total of N/A acres in _____ County, TX.

ii. Location of land to be irrigated: In the N/A Original Survey No. N/A, Abstract No. N/A.

A copy of the deed(s) describing the overall tract(s) with the recording information from the county records must be submitted. Applicant's name must match deeds. If the Applicant is not currently the sole owner of the lands to be irrigated, Applicant must submit documentation evidencing consent or other legal right for Applicant to use the land described.

Water Rights for Irrigation may be appurtenant to the land irrigated and convey with the land unless reserved in the conveyance. 30 TAC § 297.81.

c. Submit Worksheet 1.1, Interbasin Transfers, for any request to change the place of use which moves State Water to another river basin.

d. See Worksheet 1.2, Marshall Criteria, and submit if required.

e. See Worksheet 6.0, Water Conservation/Drought Contingency, and submit if required.

WORKSHEET 1.1
INTERBASIN TRANSFERS, TWC § 11.085

Submit this worksheet for an application for a new or amended water right which requests to transfer State Water from its river basin of origin to use in a different river basin. A river basin is defined and designated by the Texas Water Development Board by rule pursuant to TWC § 16.051.

Applicant requests to transfer State Water to another river basin within the State? **Y / N** N

1. Interbasin Transfer Request (Instructions, Page. 20)

a. Provide the Basin of Origin. N/A

b. Provide the quantity of water to be transferred (acre-feet). N/A

c. Provide the Basin(s) and count(y/ies) where use will occur in the space below:

N/A

2. Exemptions (Instructions, Page. 20), TWC § 11.085(v)

Certain interbasin transfers are exempt from further requirements. Answer the following:

a. The proposed transfer, which in combination with any existing transfers, totals less than 3,000 acre-feet of water per annum from the same water right. **Y/N** N/A

b. The proposed transfer is from a basin to an adjoining coastal basin? **Y/N** N/A

c. The proposed transfer from the part of the geographic area of a county or municipality, or the part of the retail service area of a retail public utility as defined by Section 13.002, that is within the basin of origin for use in that part of the geographic area of the county or municipality, or that contiguous part of the retail service area of the utility, not within the basin of origin? **Y/N** N/A

d. The proposed transfer is for water that is imported from a source located wholly outside the boundaries of Texas, except water that is imported from a source located in the United Mexican States? **Y/N** N/A

3. Interbasin Transfer Requirements (Instructions, Page. 20)

For each Interbasin Transfer request that is not exempt under any of the exemptions listed above Section 2, provide the following information in a supplemental attachment titled "Addendum to Worksheet 1.1, Interbasin Transfer":

a. the contract price of the water to be transferred (if applicable) (also include a copy of the contract or adopted rate for contract water);

b. a statement of each general category of proposed use of the water to be transferred and a detailed description of the proposed uses and users under each category;

c. the cost of diverting, conveying, distributing, and supplying the water to, and treating the water for, the proposed users (example - expert plans and/or reports documents may be provided to show the cost);

d. describe the need for the water in the basin of origin and in the proposed receiving basin based on the period for which the water supply is requested, but not to exceed 50 years (the need can be identified in the most recently approved regional water plans. The state and regional water plans are available for download at this website: (http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/swp/index.asp);

e. address the factors identified in the applicable most recently approved regional water plans which address the following:

(i) the availability of feasible and practicable alternative supplies in the receiving basin to the water proposed for transfer;
(ii) the amount and purposes of use in the receiving basin for which water is needed;

(iii) proposed methods and efforts by the receiving basin to avoid waste and implement water conservation and drought contingency measures;

(iv) proposed methods and efforts by the receiving basin to put the water proposed for transfer to beneficial use;

(v) the projected economic impact that is reasonably expected to occur in each basin as a result of the transfer; and

(vi) the projected impacts of the proposed transfer that are reasonably expected to occur on existing water rights, instream uses, water quality, aquatic and riparian habitat, and bays and estuaries that must be assessed under Sections 11.147, 11.150, and 11.152 in each basin *(if applicable*). If the water sought to be transferred is currently authorized to be used under an existing permit, certified filing, or certificate of adjudication, such impacts shall only be considered in relation to that portion of the permit, certified filing, or certificate of adjudication proposed for transfer and shall be based on historical uses of the permit, certified filing, or certificate of adjudication for which amendment is sought;

f. proposed mitigation or compensation, if any, to the basin of origin by the applicant; and

g. the continued need to use the water for the purposes authorized under the existing Permit, Certified Filing, or Certificate of Adjudication, if an amendment to an existing water right is sought.

WORKSHEET 1.2
NOTICE. "THE MARSHALL CRITERIA"

This worksheet assists the Commission in determining notice required for certain **amendments** that do not already have a specific notice requirement in a rule for that type of amendment, and *that do not change the amount of water to be taken or the diversion rate*. The worksheet provides information that Applicant **is required** to submit for amendments such as certain amendments to special conditions or changes to off-channel storage. These criteria address whether the proposed amendment will impact other water right holders or the on- stream environment beyond and irrespective of the fact that the water right can be used to its full authorized amount.

*This worksheet is **not required for Applications in the Rio Grande Basin** requesting changes in the purpose of use, rate of diversion, point of diversion, and place of use for water rights held in and transferred within and between the mainstems of the Lower Rio Grande, Middle Rio Grande, and Amistad Reservoir. See 30 TAC § 303.42.*

*This worksheet is **not required for amendments which are only changing or adding diversion points, or request only a bed and banks authorization or an IBT authorization**. However, Applicants may wish to submit the Marshall Criteria to ensure that the administrative record includes information supporting each of these criteria*

1. The "Marshall Criteria" (Instructions, Page. 21)

Submit responses on a supplemental attachment titled "Marshall Criteria" in a manner that conforms to the paragraphs (a) – (g) below:

a. Administrative Requirements and Fees. Confirm whether application meets the administrative requirements for an amendment to a water use permit pursuant to TWC Chapter 11 and Title 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapters 281, 295, and 297. An amendment application should include, but is not limited to, a sworn application, maps, completed conservation plan, fees, etc.

b. Beneficial Use. Discuss how proposed amendment is a beneficial use of the water as defined in TWC § 11.002 and listed in TWC § 11.023. Identify the specific proposed use of the water (e.g., road construction, hydrostatic testing, etc.) for which the amendment is requested.

c. Public Welfare. Explain how proposed amendment is not detrimental to the public welfare. Consider any public welfare matters that might be relevant to a decision on the application. Examples could include concerns related to the well-being of humans and the environment.

d. Groundwater Effects. Discuss effects of proposed amendment on groundwater or groundwater recharge.

e. State Water Plan. Describe how proposed amendment addresses a water supply need in a manner that is consistent with the state water plan or the applicable approved regional water plan for any area in which the proposed appropriation is located or, in the alternative, describe conditions that warrant a waiver of this requirement. The state and regional water plans are available for download at: http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/swp/index.asp.

f. Waste Avoidance. Provide evidence that reasonable diligence will be used to avoid waste and achieve water conservation as defined in TWC § 11.002. Examples of evidence could include, but are not limited to, a water conservation plan or, if required, a drought contingency plan, meeting the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 288.

g. Impacts on Water Rights or On-stream Environment. Explain how the proposed amendment will not impact other water right holders or the on-stream environment beyond and irrespectiveof the fact that the water right can be used to its full authorized amount.

WORKSHEET 2.0
Impoundment/Dam Information

This worksheet **is required** for any impoundment, reservoir and/or dam. Submit an additional Worksheet 2.0 for each impoundment or reservoir requested in this application.

If there is more than one structure, the numbering/naming of structures should be consistent throughout the application and on any supplemental documents (e.g., maps).

1. Storage Information (Instructions, Page. 21)

a. Official USGS name of reservoir, if applicable: N/A

b. Provide amount of water (in acre-feet) impounded by structure at normal maximum operating level: N/A.

c. The impoundment is on-channel N/A or off-channel N/A (mark one)

i. Applicant has verified on-channel or off-channel determination by contacting Surface Water Availability Team at (512) 239-4600? **Y / N** N/A

ii. If on-channel, will the structure have the ability to pass all State Water inflows that Applicant does not have authorization to impound? **Y / N** N/A

d. Is the impoundment structure already constructed? **Y / N** N/A

i. For already constructed **on-channel** structures:

1. Date of Construction: N/A

2. Was it constructed to be an exempt structure under TWC § 11.142? **Y / N** N/A
   a. If Yes, is Applicant requesting to proceed under TWC § 11.143? **Y / N** N/A
   b. If No, has the structure been issued a notice of violation by TCEQ? **Y / N** N/A

3. Is it a U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) (formerly Soil Conservation Service (SCS)) floodwater-retarding structure? **Y / N** N/A
   a. If yes, provide the Site No. N/A and watershed project name N/A;
   b. Authorization to close "ports" in the service spillway requested? **Y / N** N/A

ii. For **any** proposed new structures or modifications to structures:

1. Applicant **must** contact TCEQ Dam Safety Section at (512) 239-0326, *prior to submitting an Application.* Applicant has contacted the TCEQ Dam Safety Section regarding the submission requirements of 30 TAC, Ch. 299? **Y / N** N/A
   Provide the date and the name of the Staff Person N/A

2. As a result of Applicant's consultation with the TCEQ Dam Safety Section, TCEQ has confirmed that:
   a. No additional dam safety documents required with the Application. **Y / N** N/A
   b. Plans (with engineer's seal) for the structure required. **Y / N** N/A
   c. Engineer's signed and sealed hazard classification required. **Y / N** N/A
   d. Engineer's statement that structure complies with 30 TAC, Ch. 299 Rules required. **Y / N** N/A

3. Applicants **shall** give notice by certified mail to each member of the governing body of each county and municipality in which the reservoir, or any part of the reservoir to be constructed, will be located. (30 TAC § 295.42). Applicant must submit a copy of all the notices and certified mailing cards with this Application. Notices and cards are included? **Y / N** N/A

iii. Additional information required for **on-channel** storage:

1. Surface area (in acres) of on-channel reservoir at normal maximum operating level: N/A.

2. Based on the Application information provided, Staff will calculate the drainage area above the on-channel dam or reservoir. If Applicant wishes to also calculate the drainage area they may do so at their option.
Applicant has calculated the drainage area. **Y/N** N/A
If yes, the drainage area is N/A sq. miles.
(*If assistance is needed, call the Surface Water Availability Team prior to submitting the application, (512) 239-4600).*

2. Structure Location (Instructions, Page. 23)

a. On Watercourse (if on-channel) (USGS name): N/A

b. Zip Code: N/A

c. In the N/A Original Survey No. N/A, Abstract No. N/A, N/A County, Texas.

* ***A copy of the deed(s) with the recording information from the county records must be submitted describing the tract(s) that include the structure and all lands to be inundated.***

*****If the Applicant is not currently the sole owner of the land on which the structure is or will be built and sole owner of all lands to be inundated, Applicant must submit documentation evidencing consent or other documentation supporting Applicant's right to use the land described.***

d. A point on the centerline of the dam (on-channel) or anywhere within the impoundment (off-channel) is:

Latitude N/A °N, Longitude N/A °W.

****Provide Latitude and Longitude coordinates in decimal degrees to at least six decimal places***

i. Indicate the method used to calculate the location (examples: Handheld GPS Device, GIS, Mapping Program): N/A

ii. Map submitted which clearly identifies the Impoundment, dam (where applicable), andthe lands to be inundated. See instructions Page. 15. **Y / N** N/A

WORKSHEET 3.0
DIVERSION POINT (OR DIVERSION REACH) INFORMATION

This worksheet **is required** for each diversion point or diversion reach. Submit one Worksheet 3.0 for **each** diversion point and two Worksheets for **each** diversion reach (one for the upstream limit and one for the downstream limit of each diversion reach).

The numbering of any points or reach limits should be consistent throughout the application and on supplemental documents (e.g., maps).

1. Diversion Information (Instructions, Page. 24)

a. This Worksheet is to add new (select 1 of 3 below):

1. N/A Diversion Point No.
2. N/A Upstream Limit of Diversion Reach No.
3. N/A Downstream Limit of Diversion Reach No.

b. Maximum Rate of Diversion for **this new point** N/A cfs (cubic feet per second) or N/A gpm (gallons per minute)

c. Does this point share a diversion rate with other points? **Y / N** N/A
*If yes, submit Maximum **Combined** Rate of Diversion for all points/reaches* N/A cfs or N/A gpm

d. For amendments, is Applicant seeking to increase combined diversion rate? **Y / N** N/A

*** An increase in diversion rate is considered a new appropriation and would require completion of Section 1, New or Additional Appropriation of State Water.*

e. Check (√) the appropriate box to indicate diversion location and indicate whether the diversion location is existing or proposed):

Check one		Write: Existing or Proposed
☐	Directly from stream	N/A
☐	From an on-channel reservoir	N/A
☐	From a stream to an on-channel reservoir	N/A
☐	Other method (explain fully, use additional sheets if necessary)	N/A

f. Based on the Application information provided, Staff will calculate the drainage area above the diversion point (or reach limit). If Applicant wishes to also calculate the drainage area, you may do so at their option.

Applicant has calculated the drainage area. **Y / N** N/A

If yes, the drainage area is N/A sq. miles.
(*If assistance is needed, call the Surface Water Availability Team at (512) 239-4600, prior to submitting application*)

2. Diversion Location (Instructions, Page 25)

a. On watercourse (USGS name): N/A

b. Zip Code: N/A

c. Location of point: In the N/A Original Survey No. N/A, Abstract No. N/A, N/A County, Texas.

A copy of the deed(s) with the recording information from the county records must be submitted describing tract(s) that include the diversion structure.

For diversion reaches, the Commission cannot grant an Applicant access to property that the Applicant does not own or have consent or a legal right to access, the Applicant will be required to provide deeds, or consent, or other documents supporting a legal right to use the specific points when specific diversion points within the reach are utilized. Other documents may include, but are not limited to a recorded easement, a land lease, a contract, or a citation to the Applicant's right to exercise eminent domain to acquire access.

d. Point is at:
Latitude N/A °N, Longitude N/A °W.
Provide Latitude and Longitude coordinates in decimal degrees to at least six decimal places

e. Indicate the method used to calculate the location (examples: Handheld GPS Device, GIS, Mapping Program): N/A

f. Map submitted must clearly identify each diversion point and/or reach. See instructions Page. 15.

g. If the Plan of Diversion is complicated and not readily discernable from looking at the map, attach additional sheets that fully explain the plan of diversion.

WORKSHEET 4.0
DISCHARGE INFORMATION

This worksheet required for any requested authorization to discharge water into a State Watercourse for conveyance and later withdrawal or in-place use. Worksheet 4.1 is also required for each Discharge point location requested. **Instructions Page. 26.** ***Applicant is responsible for obtaining any separate water quality authorizations which may be required and for insuring compliance with TWC, Chapter 26 or any other applicable law.***

a. The purpose of use for the water being discharged will be N/A.

b. Provide the amount of water that will be lost to transportation, evaporation, seepage, channel or other associated carriage losses N/A (% or amount) and explain the method of calculation: N/A

c. Is the source of the discharged water return flows? **Y / N** N/A If yes, provide the following information:

1. The TPDES Permit Number(s). N/A (attach a copy of the **current** TPDES permit(s))
2. Applicant is the owner/holder of each TPDES permit listed above? **Y / N** N/A

PLEASE NOTE: If Applicant is not the discharger of the return flows, or the Applicant is not the water right owner of the underlying surface water right, or the Applicant does not have a contract with the discharger, the application should be submitted under Section 1, New or Additional Appropriation of State Water, as a request for a new appropriation of state water. If Applicant is the discharger, the surface water right holder, or the contract holder, then the application should be submitted under Section 3, Bed and Banks.

3. Monthly WWTP discharge data for the past 5 years in electronic format. (Attach and label as "Supplement to Worksheet 4.0").
4. The percentage of return flows from groundwater N/A, surface water N/A?
5. If any percentage is surface water, provide the base water right number(s) N/A.

d. Is the source of the water being discharged groundwater? **Y / N** N/A If yes, provide the following information:

1. Source aquifer(s) from which water will be pumped: N/A
2. If the well has not been constructed, provide production information for wells in the same aquifer in the area of the application. See http://www.twdb.texas.gov/groundwater/data/gwdbrpt.asp. Additionally, provide well numbers or identifiers N/A.
3. Indicate how the groundwater will be conveyed to the stream or reservoir.

N/A

4. A copy of the groundwater well permit if it is located in a Groundwater Conservation District (GCD) or evidence that a groundwater well permit is not required.

di. Is the source of the water being discharged a surface water supply contract? **Y / N** N/A If yes, provide the signed contract(s).

dii. Identify any other source of the water N/A

WORKSHEET 4.1
DISCHARGE POINT INFORMATION

This worksheet is required for **each** discharge point. Submit one Worksheet 4.1 for each discharge point. If there is more than one discharge point, the numbering of the points should be consistent throughout the application and on any supplemental documents (e.g., maps). **Instructions, Page 27.**

For water discharged at this location provide:

a. The amount of water that will be discharged at this point is N/A acre-feet per year. The discharged amount should include the amount needed for use and to compensate for any losses.

b. Water will be discharged at this point at a maximum rate of N/A cfs or N/A gpm.

c. Name of Watercourse as shown on Official USGS maps: N/A

d. Zip Code N/A

e. Location of point: In the N/A Original Survey No. N/A, Abstract No. N/A, N/A County, Texas.

f. Point is at:
Latitude N/A °N, Longitude N/A °W.
Provide Latitude and Longitude coordinates in decimal degrees to at least six decimal places

g. Indicate the method used to calculate the discharge point location (examples: Handheld GPS Device, GIS, Mapping Program): N/A

Map submitted must clearly identify each discharge point. See instructions Page. 15.

WORKSHEET 5.0
ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

1. Impingement and Entrainment

This section is required for any new diversion point that is not already authorized. Indicate the measures the applicant will take to avoid impingement and entrainment of aquatic organisms (ex. Screens on any new diversion structure that is not already authorized in a water right). **Instructions, Page 28.**

N/A

2. New Appropriations of Water (Canadian, Red, Sulphur, and Cypress Creek Basins only) and Changes in Diversion Point(s)

This section is required for new appropriations of water in the Canadian, Red, Sulphur, and Cypress Creek Basins and in all basins for requests to change a diversion point. **Instructions, Page 30.**

Description of the Water Body at each Diversion Point or Dam Location. (Provide an Environmental Information Sheet for each location),

a. Identify the appropriate description of the water body.

☐ Stream

☐ Reservoir

Average depth of the entire water body, in feet: N/A

☐ Other, specify: N/A

b. Flow characteristics

If a stream, was checked above, provide the following. For new diversion locations, check one of the following that best characterize the area downstream of the diversion (check one).

☐ Intermittent – dry for at least one week during most years

☐ Intermittent with Perennial Pools – enduring pools

☐ Perennial – normally flowing

Check the method used to characterize the area downstream of the new diversion location.

☐ USGS flow records

☐ Historical observation by adjacent landowners

☐ Personal observation

☐ Other, specify: N/A

c. Waterbody aesthetics

Check one of the following that best describes the aesthetics of the stream segments affected by the application and the area surrounding those stream segments.

☐ Wilderness: outstanding natural beauty; usually wooded or unpastured area; water clarity exceptional

☐ Natural Area: trees and/or native vegetation common; some development evident (from fields, pastures, dwellings); water clarity discolored

☐ Common Setting: not offensive; developed but uncluttered; water may be colored or turbid

☐ Offensive: stream does not enhance aesthetics; cluttered; highly developed; dumping areas; water discolored

d. Waterbody Recreational Uses

Are there any known recreational uses of the stream segments affected by the application?

☐ Primary contact recreation (swimming or direct contact with water)

☐ Secondary contact recreation (fishing, canoeing, or limited contact with water)

☐ Non-contact recreation

e. Submit the following information in a Supplemental Attachment, labeled Addendum to Worksheet 5.0:

1. Photographs of the stream at the diversion point or dam location. Photographs should be in color and show the proposed point or reservoir and upstream and downstream views of the stream, including riparian vegetation along the banks. Include a description of each photograph and reference the photograph to the mapsubmitted with the application indicating the location of the photograph and the direction of the shot.

2. If the application includes a proposed reservoir, also include:

   i. A brief description of the area that will be inundated by the reservoir.

   ii. If a United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) 404 permit is required, provide the project number and USACE project manager.

   iii. A description of how any impacts to wetland habitat, if any, will be mitigated if the reservoir is greater than 5,000 acre-feet.

3. Alternate Sources of Water and/or Bed and Banks Applications

This section is required for applications using an alternate source of water and bed and banks applications in any basins. **Instructions, page 31.**

a. For all bed and banks applications:

i. Submit an assessment of the adequacy of the quantity and quality of flows remaining after the proposed diversion to meet instream uses and bay and estuary freshwater inflow requirements.

b. For all alternate source applications:

i. If the alternate source is treated return flows, provide the TPDES permit number N/A

ii. If groundwater is the alternate source, or groundwater or other surface water will be discharged into a watercourse provide:
Reasonably current water chemistry information including but not limited to the following parameters in the table below. Additional parameters may be requested if there is a specific water quality concern associated with the aquifer from which water is withdrawn. If data for onsite wells are unavailable; historical data collected from similar sized wells drawing water from the same aquifer may be provided. However, onsite data may still be required when it becomes available. Provide the well number or well identifier. Complete the information below for each well and provide the Well Number or identifier.

Parameter	Average Conc.	Max Conc.	No. of Samples	Sample Type	Sample Date/Time
Sulfate, mg/L	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Chloride, mg/L	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Dissolved Solids, mg/L	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
pH, standard units	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Temperature*, degrees Celsius	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

* Temperature must be measured onsite at the time the groundwater sample is collected.

iii. If groundwater will be used, provide the depth of the well N/A and the name of the aquifer from which water is withdrawn N/A.

WORKSHEET 6.0
Water Conservation/Drought Contingency Plans

This form is intended to assist applicants in determining whether a Water Conservation Plan and/or Drought Contingency Plans is required and to specify the requirements for plans. **Instructions, Page 31.**

The TCEQ has developed guidance and model plans to help applicants prepare plans. Applicants may use the model plan with pertinent information filled in. For assistance submitting a plan call the Resource Protection Team (Water Conservation staff) at 512-239-4600, or e-mail wras@tceq.texas.gov. The model plans can also be downloaded from the TCEQ webpage. ***Please use the most up-to-date plan documents available on the webpage.***

1. Water Conservation Plans

a. The following applications must include a completed Water Conservation Plan (30 TAC § 295.9) for each use specified in 30 TAC, Chapter 288 (municipal, industrial or mining, agriculture – including irrigation, wholesale):

1. Request for a new appropriation or use of State Water.

2. Request to amend water right to increase appropriation of State Water.

3. Request to amend water right to extend a term.

4. Request to amend water right to change a place of use.
**does not apply to a request to expand irrigation acreage to adjacent tracts.*

5. Request to amend water right to change the purpose of use.
**applicant need only address new uses.*

6. Request for bed and banks under TWC § 11.042(c), when the source water is State Water.
**including return flows, contract water, or other State Water.*

b. If Applicant is requesting any authorization in section (1)(a) above, indicate each use for which Applicant is submitting a Water Conservation Plan as an attachment:

1. __Y__ Municipal Use. See 30 TAC § 288.2. **

2. __N/A__ Industrial or Mining Use. See 30 TAC § 288.3.

3. __N/A__ Agricultural Use, including irrigation. See 30 TAC § 288.4.

4. __N/A__ Wholesale Water Suppliers. See 30 TAC § 288.5. **

If Applicant is a water supplier, Applicant must also submit documentation of adoption of the plan. Documentation may include an ordinance, resolution, or tariff, etc. See 30 TAC §§ 288.2(a)(1)(J)(i) and 288.5(1)(H). Applicant has submitted such documentation with each water conservation plan? **Y / N__Y__

c. Water conservation plans submitted with an application must also include data and information which: supports applicant's proposed use with consideration of the plan's water conservation goals; evaluates conservation as an alternative to the proposed

appropriation; and evaluates any other feasible alternative to new water development. See 30 TAC § 288.7.
Applicant has included this information in each applicable plan? **Y / N** N/A

2. Drought Contingency Plans

a. A drought contingency plan is also required for the following entities if Applicant is requesting any of the authorizations in section (1) (a) above – indicate each that applies:

1. Y Municipal Uses by public water suppliers. See 30 TAC § 288.20.
2. N/A Irrigation Use/ Irrigation water suppliers. See 30 TAC § 288.21.
3. N/A Wholesale Water Suppliers. See 30 TAC § 288.22.

b. If Applicant must submit a plan under section 2(a) above, Applicant has also submitted documentation of adoption of drought contingency plan (*ordinance, resolution, or tariff, etc. See 30 TAC § 288.30*) **Y / N** Y

WORKSHEET 7.0
ACCOUNTING PLAN INFORMATION WORKSHEET

The following information provides guidance on when an Accounting Plan may be required for certain applications and if so, what information should be provided. An accounting plan can either be very simple such as keeping records of gage flows, discharges, and diversions; or, more complex depending on the requests in the application. Contact the Surface Water Availability Team at 512-239-4600 for information about accounting plan requirements, if any, for your application. **Instructions, Page 34.**

1. Is Accounting Plan Required

Accounting Plans are generally required:

- For applications that request authorization to divert large amounts of water from a single point where multiple diversion rates, priority dates, and water rights can also divert from that point;
- For applications for new major water supply reservoirs;
- For applications that amend a water right where an accounting plan is already required, if the amendment would require changes to the accounting plan;
- For applications with complex environmental flow requirements;
- For applications with an alternate source of water where the water is conveyed and diverted; and
- For reuse applications.

2. Accounting Plan Requirements

a. A **text file** that includes:

1. an introduction explaining the water rights and what they authorize;
2. an explanation of the fields in the accounting plan spreadsheet including how they are calculated and the source of the data;
3. for accounting plans that include multiple priority dates and authorizations, a section that discusses how water is accounted for by priority date and which water is subject to a priority call by whom; and
4. Should provide a summary of all sources of water.

b. A **spreadsheet** that includes:

1. Basic daily data such as diversions, deliveries, compliance with any instream flow requirements, return flows discharged and diverted and reservoir content;
2. Method for accounting for inflows if needed;
3. Reporting of all water use from all authorizations, both existing and proposed;
4. An accounting for all sources of water;
5. An accounting of water by priority date;
6. For bed and banks applications, the accounting plan must track the discharged water from the point of delivery to the final point of diversion;
7. Accounting for conveyance losses;
8. Evaporation losses if the water will be stored in or transported through a reservoir. Include changes in evaporation losses and a method for measuring reservoir content resulting from the discharge of additional water into the reservoir;
9. An accounting for spills of other water added to the reservoir; and
10. Calculation of the amount of drawdown resulting from diversion by junior rights or diversions of other water discharged into and then stored in the reservoir.

WORKSHEET 8.0
CALCULATION OF FEES

This worksheet is for calculating required application fees. Applications are not Administratively Complete until all required fees are received. **Instructions, Page. 34**

1. NEW APPROPRIATION

	Description	Amount ($)
Filing Fee	Circle fee correlating to the total amount of water* requested for any new appropriation and/or impoundment. Amount should match total on Worksheet 1, Section 1. Enter corresponding fee under **Amount ($).** In Acre-Feet a. Less than 100 $100.00 b. 100 - 5,000 $250.00 c. 5,001 - 10,000 $500.00 d. 10,001 - 250,000 $1,000.00 e. More than 250,000 $2,000.00	N/A
Recording Fee		$25.00
Agriculture Use Fee	*Only for those with an Irrigation Use.* Multiply 50¢ x N/A Number of acres that will be irrigated with State Water. **	N/A
Use Fee	*Required for all Use Types, **excluding Irrigation Use**.* Multiply $1.00 x N/A Maximum annual diversion of State Water in acre-feet. **	N/A
Recreational Storage Fee	*Only for those with Recreational Storage.* Multiply $1.00 x N/A acre-feet of in-place Recreational Use State Water to be stored at normal max operating level.	N/A
Storage Fee	*Only for those with Storage, **excluding Recreational Storage.*** Multiply 50¢ x N/A acre-feet of State Water to be stored at normal max operating level.	N/A
Mailed Notice	Cost of mailed notice to all water rights in the basin. Contact Staff to determine the amount (512) 239-4600.	N/A
	TOTAL	$ N/A

2. AMENDMENT *OR* SEVER AND COMBINE

	Description	Amount ($)
Filing Fee	Amendment: $100	$100.00
	OR Sever and Combine: $100 x U of water rights to combine	$0.00
Recording Fee		$12.50
Mailed Notice	Additional notice fee to be determined once application is submitted.	
	TOTAL INCLUDED	$ 112.50

3. BED AND BANKS

	Description	Amount ($)
Filing Fee		$100.00
Recording Fee		$12.50
Mailed Notice	Additional notice fee to be determined once application is submitted.	N/A
	TOTAL INCLUDED	$ N/A

CHECK DATE 03/27/2025 [redacted] CHECK NO: [redacted]

INVOICE NUMBER	INVOICE DATE	PURCHASE ORDER	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
14-5489-NEW APPT.	03/12/2025		CERTIFICATE OF ADJUDICATIO	112.50
			Page TOTAL:	112.50
			TOTAL:	112.50

THIS CHECK IS VOID WITHOUT A BLUE AND RED BACKGROUND AND AN ARTIFICIAL WATERMARK ON THE BACK - HOLD AT AN ANGLE TO VIEW

Check Date 03/27/2025

City of Austin
Austin, Texas

Check Number [redacted]

JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A.
Dallas, TX

88-88/1113

AMOUNT
$*********112.50

ONE HUNDRED TWELVE AND 50/100 DOLLARS

Void 180 Days from Date of Issue

PAY TO THE ORDER OF

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
TCEQ
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATIVE DIV REVENUE OPERATIONS SEC
MC-214 - PO BOX 13088
AUSTIN TX 78711-3088

Earl Van Evoo

BORDER CONTAINS MICROPRINTING

[redacted]

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Public Involvement Plan Form for Permit and Registration Applications

The Public Involvement Plan is intended to provide applicants and the agency with information about how public outreach will be accomplished for certain types of applications in certain geographical areas of the state. It is intended to apply to new activities; major changes at existing plants, facilities, and processes; and to activities which are likely to have significant interest from the public. This preliminary screening is designed to identify applications that will benefit from an initial assessment of the need for enhanced public outreach.

All applicable sections of this form should be completed and submitted with the permit or registration application. For instructions on how to complete this form, see TCEQ-20960-inst.

Section 1. Preliminary Screening

☐ New Permit or Registration Application

☒ New Activity – modification, registration, amendment, facility, etc. (see instructions)

If neither of the above boxes are checked, completion of the form is not required and does not need to be submitted.

Section 2. Secondary Screening

☐ Requires public notice,

☐ Considered to have significant public interest, **and**

☒ Located within any of the following geographical locations:

- Austin
- Dallas
- Fort Worth
- Houston
- San Antonio
- West Texas
- Texas Panhandle
- Along the Texas/Mexico Border
- Other geographical locations should be decided on a case-by-case basis

If all the above boxes are not checked, a Public Involvement Plan is not necessary. Stop after Section 2 and submit the form.

☒ Public Involvement Plan not applicable to this application. Provide **brief** explanation.

Section 3. Application Information

Type of Application (check all that apply):

Air ☐ Initial ☐ Federal ☐ Amendment ☐ Standard Permit ☐ Title V

Waste ☐ Municipal Solid Waste ☐ Industrial and Hazardous Waste ☐ Scrap Tire
☐ Radioactive Material Licensing ☐ Underground Injection Control

Water Quality

☐ Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES)

- ☐ Texas Land Application Permit (TLAP)
- ☐ State Only Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO)
- ☐ Water Treatment Plant Residuals Disposal Permit

☐ Class B Biosolids Land Application Permit

☐ Domestic Septage Land Application Registration

Water Rights New Permit

☐ New Appropriation of Water

☐ New or existing reservoir

Amendment to an Existing Water Right

☐ Add a New Appropriation of Water

☐ Add a New or Existing Reservoir

☐ Major Amendment that could affect other water rights or the environment

Section 4. Plain Language Summary

Provide a brief description of planned activities.

Section 5. Community and Demographic Information

Community information can be found using EPA's EJ Screen, U.S. Census Bureau information, or generally available demographic tools.

Information gathered in this section can assist with the determination of whether alternative language notice is necessary. Please provide the following information.

(City)

(County)

(Census Tract)
Please indicate which of these three is the level used for gathering the following information.

☐ City ☐ County ☐ Census Tract

(a) Percent of people over 25 years of age who at least graduated from high school

(b) Per capita income for population near the specified location

(c) Percent of minority population and percent of population by race within the specified location

(d) Percent of Linguistically Isolated Households by language within the specified location

(e) Languages commonly spoken in area by percentage

(f) Community and/or Stakeholder Groups

(g) Historic public interest or involvement

Section 6. Planned Public Outreach Activities

(a) Is this application subject to the public participation requirements of Title 30 Texas Administrative Code (30 TAC) Chapter 39?

☐ Yes ☐ No

(b) If yes, do you intend at this time to provide public outreach other than what is required by rule?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, please describe.

If you answered "yes" that this application is subject to 30 TAC Chapter 39, answering the remaining questions in Section 6 is not required.

(c) Will you provide notice of this application in alternative languages?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Please refer to Section 5. If more than 5% of the population potentially affected by your application is Limited English Proficient, then you are required to provide notice in the alternative language.

If yes, how will you provide notice in alternative languages?

☐ Publish in alternative language newspaper

☐ Posted on Commissioner's Integrated Database Website

☐ Mailed by TCEQ's Office of the Chief Clerk

☐ Other (specify)

(d) Is there an opportunity for some type of public meeting, including after notice?

☐ Yes ☐ No

(e) If a public meeting is held, will a translator be provided if requested?

☐ Yes ☐ No

(f) Hard copies of the application will be available at the following (check all that apply):

☐ TCEQ Regional Office ☐ TCEQ Central Office

☐ Public Place (specify)

Section 7. Voluntary Submittal

For applicants voluntarily providing this Public Involvement Plan, who are not subject to formal public participation requirements.

Will you provide notice of this application, including notice in alternative languages?

☐ Yes ☐ No

What types of notice will be provided?

☐ Publish in alternative language newspaper

☐ Posted on Commissioner's Integrated Database Website

☐ Mailed by TCEQ's Office of the Chief Clerk

☐ Other (specify)

ATTACHMENT 1
SUMMARY OF REQUEST

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF THE
APPLICATION TO AMMEND
CERTIFICATE OF ADJUDICATION No.14-5489

PURSUANT TO
TEXAS WATER CODE § 11.122

CITY OF AUSTIN, TEXAS

This summary contains a description of the City of Austin's ("City") application to amend ("Application") Certificate of Adjudication No. 14-5489 ("Certificate"). Specifically, the City seeks only to include an additional purpose of use for two of the authorizations granted in the existing Certificate.

I. Description of the Certificate

Section 1 of the Certificate grants authorization for a reservoir on Decker Creek ("Lake Walter E. Long") with a storage capacity to not exceed 33,940 acre-feet. An amendment to the Certificate, 14-5489A, authorized an increase in the normal pool elevation of the reservoir.

Section 2 of the Certificate grants the following diversion authorizations from the Colorado River and purposes of use:

2A. **Municipal use** for an authorization to not exceed 20,300 acre-feet per year ("AFY") from the Colorado River,
2B. **Industrial (cooling) use** for an authorization not to exceed 16,156 AFY from the Colorado River,
2C. **Industrial (cooling) use** for an authorization to divert, circulate, and recirculate water in the reservoir provided that not more than 16,156 AFY is consumptively used, and
2D. **Recreational use** of the water impounded in the reservoir.

Section 1 of the amendment to the Certificate, 14-5489B, grants the following diversion authorization from the Colorado River and purposes of use:

1A. **Recreational and industrial (cooling) purposes** for an authorization not to exceed 16,156 acre-feet of water per year from the Colorado River,
1B. **Recreational and industrial (cooling) purposes** for an authorization to divert 16,156 acre-feet of consumptive use water per year.

II. Description of the Application

The reservoir and purposes of use 2B, 2C, and 2D of the Certificate and 1A and 1B of the amendment to the Certificate, 14-5489B, are currently utilized by the City of Austin

for industrial and recreational operations at the Decker Creek Power Station on Lake Walter E. Long, and these operations will continue to the extent that the Decker Creek Power Station remains in operation. The City seeks to add municipal use to the authorization to divert water from the Colorado River. The City also seeks to add municipal use to the authorization to divert and consumptively use water from the reservoir. However, the City **does not** seek to add municipal use to the authorization to circulate and recirculate the water impounded in the reservoir.

The City requests under this Application that municipal use, as listed in § 11.023, be included in the authorizations granted in Section 1 of the amendment to the Certificate, 14-5489B.

The purposes of use being requested in Section 1 include:

1A. Request the addition of **municipal use** to the existing authorization for recreational and industrial (cooling) use not to exceed 16,156 AFY from the Colorado River on a combined basis for all four purposes of use.

1B. Request the additional **municipal use** to the existing authorization for recreational and industrial (cooling) use of not more than 16,156 AFY of consumptive use from the water impounded in the reservoir on a combined basis for both purposes of use. No change is requested regarding the authorization for industrial circulation and recirculation.

The City does not request changes to the storage capacity or normal pool level of Lake Walter E. Long. Furthermore, the City does not request changes to the annual authorized diversion volumes from the Colorado River or water impounded within the reservoir, the locations of diversion points, or maximum diversion rates of the Certificate.

ATTACHMENT 2
AUTHORITY TO SIGN TCEQ WATER RIGHTS APPLICATION

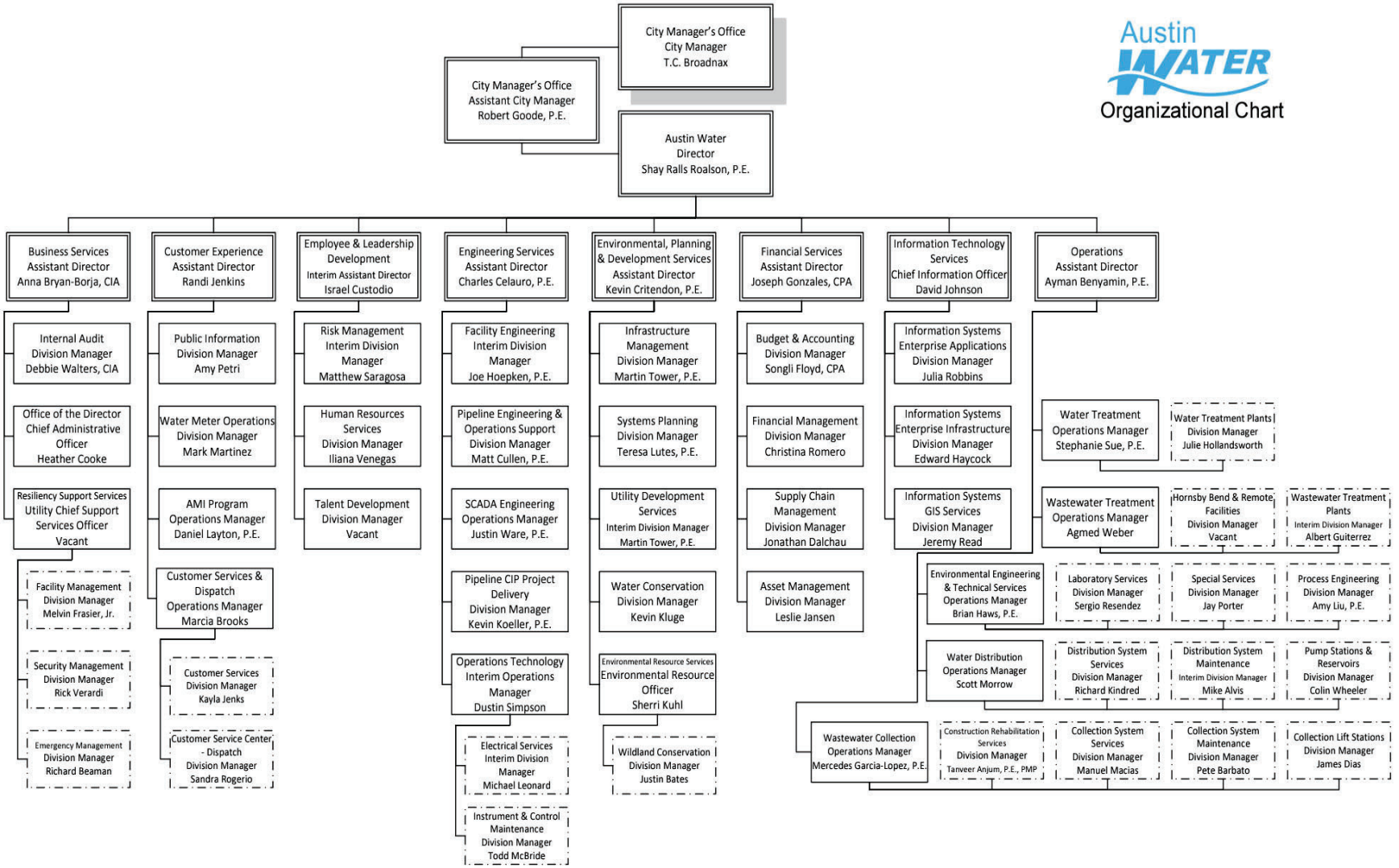
CITY OF AUSTIN, TEXAS

The application signatory is a duly authorized official of the City of Austin in accordance with requirements of 30 TAC 295.14(5) as evidenced in the Charter of the City of Austin Article V, Section 4. Consistent with the evidence of authority to sign a water rights application provided in prior water rights applications submitted by the City of Austin and accepted the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), the City provides below Article V, Section 4, of the City of Austin City Charter, which provides the requisite authority to City of Austin Department Directors to sign on behalf of the City a water rights application to the TCEQ as an exercise of the Director's supervision and control over their department and the operations or related matters thereunder.

CHARTER OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN, ARTICLE V. ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION, § 4. - DIRECTORS OF DEPARTMENTS.

At the head of each department there shall be a director who shall be appointed, and who may be removed, by the city manager. Such directors shall have supervision and control over their respective departments, and may serve as chiefs of divisions within their respective departments. Two or more departments may be headed by the same individual, and the city manager may head one or more departments.

Austin Water Organizational Chart



Revised 9/05/2024

ATTACHMENT 3
MARSHALL CRITERIA

APPLICATION TO AMMEND
CERTIFICATE OF ADJUDICATION No.14-5489

CITY OF AUSTIN, TEXAS

A. Administrative Requirements and Fees

The City confirms that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, that this permit application for a water right amendment ("Application") meets the administrative requirements for a water right amendment pursuant to Texas Water Code Chapter 11 and 30 Texas Administrative Code Chapters 281, 295, and 297. A sworn application and a check for fees are included.

B. Beneficial Use

This proposed Application is for beneficial use under Texas Water Code §§11.002(4) and 11.023. Specifically, the proposed Application addresses water supply needs of the City of Austin to meet municipal needs.

C. Public Welfare

The proposed Application is beneficial to the overall public welfare of water users of the Lower Colorado River basin. Allowing an additional purpose of use within Certificate of Adjudication 14-5489 provides the City with a mechanism to utilize available state water in a flexible and efficient manner which may help reduce unnecessary uses of alternative water sources, including the use of municipal potable water.

D. Groundwater Effects

There are no potential groundwater effects involved with the proposed Application. The total amount of water diverted after issuance of the water right amendment will be the same as it would have been if the City had exercised its water rights under the existing authorizations of 14-5489. Therefore, diversions under this Application will have no greater effect on the groundwater resources or groundwater recharge than diversions under the original permit.

E. State Water Plan

The current plans, the 2021 Regional Water Plan by the Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group ("Region K"), the 2026 Region K Initially Prepared Plan (IPP), and the 2022 State Water Plan, assume that the City will exercise, to the extent water is available, all of its water rights to meet current and future demands. This Application is consistent with that assumption or with either plan.

F. Waste Avoidance

The City has adopted and is implementing a water conservation plan, consistent with the definitions of §11.002, and a drought contingency plan that meets and exceeds state requirements pursuant to 30 TAC Chapter 288.

G. Impacts on Water Rights or On-stream Environment

The City is not seeking any increase in the appropriation of water as part of this Application, nor is it seeking to change the authorized diversion rate or storage capacity of the existing reservoir under this Application. Use of state water under this Application will have no adverse impact on any existing water right holders or the environment of any greater magnitude than if the water right were fully exercised for use according to the existing terms and conditions.

The City does not intend to utilize state water under this Application in a manner that will degrade water quality of the Colorado River, Decker Creek, or the water impounded in Lake Walter E. Long.

Currently, the City coordinates with the Lower Colorado River Authority ("LCRA") River Operations Center ("ROC") for scheduling of river pump operations for the Decker Creek Power Station. Coordination ensures the City's diversion activity is not resulting in injury to downstream senior water rights or environmental flow levels managed by LCRA. The City will continue to coordinate and communicate with the LCRA ROC under this amendment, if granted.

RESOLUTION NO. 20241121-004

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

Council adopts the City of Austin Water Conservation Plan, attached as Exhibit A, as required by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

Austin Water will utilize a quarterly report to share its progress and the progress of our community in achieving our desired water savings, including gallons per capita per day (GPCD) by residential, industrial, and commercial customer classes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

Council repeals Resolution No. 20240502-005, which adopted the Utility Profile & Water Conservation Plan for Municipal and Wholesale Water Use.

ADOPTED: November 21, 2024 **ATTEST:** GBrady for
Myrna Rios
City Clerk

CITY OF AUSTIN
WATER CONSERVATION PLAN

NOVEMBER 21, 2024

DEVELOPED TO MEET REQUIREMENTS
OUTLINED IN 30 TAC §288.2 AND §288.5

Message from the Director

Thank you for your interest in Austin's most precious natural resource: water. The city was founded in the mid-1800s on the banks of the Colorado River to take advantage of that abundant water resource. Our water supply is just as critical today, but now we face unprecedented challenges: record high temperatures, record low flows into the Highland Lakes, water quality concerns, and continued rapid population growth.

Together, we can meet these challenges. The City of Austin's 100-year Water Forward Integrated Water Resources Plan is focused on water conservation and water use efficiency, as well as strategies to strengthen the diversity of Austin's water supply. Austin has come a long way over the last decade – in 2023, we used essentially the same amount of water as we did in 2011, despite having 140,000 more residents. But the impacts from climate change require us to become even more water-wise and water-efficient.

The update of this Water Conservation Plan is required by the State of Texas every five years to provide short-term strategies to address changing conditions. While Austin Water completed the required plan update in May 2024, we are now providing this November 2024 update to incorporate additional water conservation strategies. Even more importantly, the update is a necessary part of the city's future sustainability. This document describes Austin Water's conservation initiatives, programs, and projects to help residents and businesses increase their water use efficiency. In addition, it describes how Austin Water is maximizing our water supply from the Highland Lakes through conservation and water reuse. Learn more about what you can do to conserve our most precious resource at AustinWater.org.

Shay Ralls Roalson, P.E.
Austin Water Director

Table of Contents

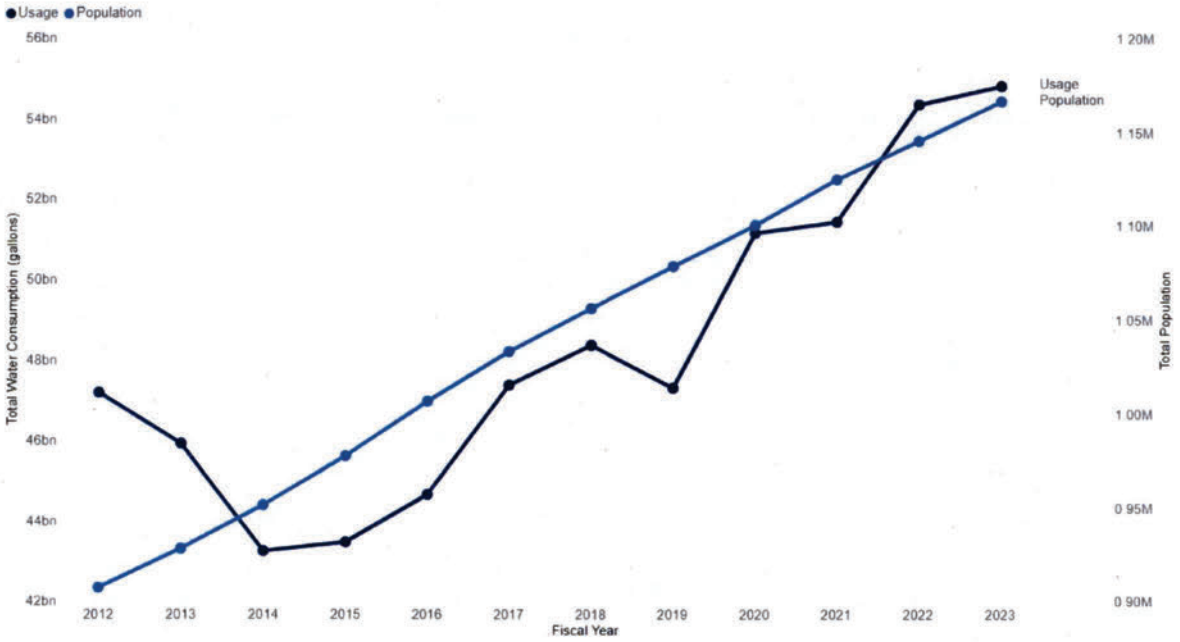
Executive Summary

Since 1983, Austin Water (AW) has demonstrated a strong history of adopting and implementing water conservation strategies to meet the growing and dynamic challenges of Austin's water needs. These challenges include rapid population growth, increasing frequency of extreme weather events due to climate change, and periods of ongoing drought. Current water conservation activities include incentive programs for residential, commercial, and multi-family customers; commercial regulatory programs; water-use restrictions; water reuse; and water loss control.

Current incentive programs offered to residential customers include rebates for ten different indoor and outdoor water conservation activities. The most popular are rainwater harvesting, drought survival tools, irrigation upgrades, and waterwise landscape conversion. AW offers similar incentives for the commercial and multi-family sector, but the most utilized program with the greatest savings for these customers is the performance-based incentive, Bucks for Business.

Figure 1 illustrates the effect watering restrictions have had on lowering the increase in water consumption relative to population growth. Beginning in 2012, mandatory one day per week irrigation restrictions went into effect, which pushed water use downward. In 2016, Austin left drought stages, but the irrigation restrictions were approved to continue at all times. As rains returned to the area in 2015 and the drought receded, the City's water use grew relative to population.

FIGURE 1. AUSTIN WATER RETAIL POPULATION SERVED AND WATER CONSUMPTION



First offered by AW in 1974, reclaimed water helps provide a low-priced source of non-potable water for irrigation, cooling, and toilet flushing. At present, over 185 metered properties use more than 1.4 billion gallons of reclaimed water annually. In March 2024, AW launched a new GoPurple program to increase the use of reclaimed water in and around Austin to make potable water usage more sustainable. Austin City Council approved additional requirements for large developments to connect to the reclaimed system or develop onsite water reuse systems.

To help manage water loss from leaks and aging infrastructure, AW conducts annual water loss audits. Other efforts to control water loss include AW's use of acoustic technology to inspect over 500 miles of water lines annually, implementation of "Renewing Austin" to replace aging water lines, and the full-scale deployment of the My ATX Water advanced metering system. AW also contracted a water loss consulting firm to review the utility's water loss program, validate system input volume and meter accuracy, and provide recommendations for improvements.

Beginning in 2020, the My ATX Water program has been replacing analog water meters with more accurate digital meters, offering water savings through leak notifications, customer awareness about water use, and the opportunity for the implementation of heightened water loss strategies in the future. In 2025, the My ATX Water meter replacement program will be complete.

As one of the fastest-growing metropolitan areas in the nation, Austin faces unique challenges to its water supply. Austin has successfully reduced peak water demand and continues to delay

renewal of the Lower Colorado River Authority contract, resulting in numerous benefits to AW and cost savings to its customers.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the Texas Water Development Board require an update to the City of Austin's Water Conservation Plan every five years. This document provides additional water conservation goals to the plan that was adopted by Council in May 2024 and how these goals will be met, implemented, and enforced by the City.

Looking forward to the next five and ten years, the City's goal is to decrease our total per-person water use from the five-year average of 127 gallons per day to 119 gallons per day by 2029, reducing our potable water use by almost three billion gallons per year. In addition, our goal is to reduce our per-person water loss from the five-year average of 21 gallons per day in 2024 to 19 gallons per day by 2029. The strategies to achieve these goals are described on page 31.

Conservation Program History

Austin's water conservation program was established in 1983 following adoption of an ordinance allowing the City to implement temporary water use restrictions to address increasing infrastructure constraints. At that time, Austin primarily utilized water demand management as a crisis response tool rather than an ongoing conservation strategy. Since then, and as water demand increased with significant population growth and development, Austin shifted its focus to using water conservation measures as a means of extending the available water supply, lowering greenhouse gas emissions, and extending infrastructure capacity.

Initially, Austin's conservation program focused on rebates and incentives to achieve high volumes of water savings and to provide customers with education about water use. Over time, certain measures such as toilet retrofits and clothes washer rebates reached market saturation and were phased out. Other major milestones for Austin's conservation program include:

2007 – Austin strengthened and prioritized its conservation focus with the adoption of strategies recommended by a City Council-created water conservation task force aimed at reducing peak day water use by one percent per year for ten years. These strategies were anticipated to result in a 25-million-gallon-per-day reduction from peak use by 2017.

2010 – A second task force proposed additional water use reduction measures beyond the 2007 recommendations. This led to City Council adoption of a resolution to reduce water use to no more than 140 gallons per capita per day by 2020.

2012 – The City's Conservation Code was repealed and replaced, restricting outdoor watering to twice a week and establishing commercial assessment programs.

2016 – The City's Conservation Code was again revised following years of drought, restricting automatic irrigation to once a week. During this period, auxiliary water ordinances and Plumbing Code revisions were implemented to improve fixture efficiencies and offset potable water consumption.

2018 – The Austin City Council adopted the 100-year Water Forward Integrated Water Resources Plan. The plan is updated every five years and serves as a demand management strategy roadmap for water conservation.

2020 – The City adopted an ordinance to regulate the collection, treatment, and use of alternative water sources for non-potable uses in multi-family and commercial buildings.

2024 – The Austin City Council adopted the GoPurple program to increase use of reclaimed water and onsite water reuse systems in and around Austin.

Austin continues to explore innovative ways to leverage existing and new technologies to better inform customers, conduct analysis, and achieve water-savings breakthroughs. The new My ATX Water smart meters, digital rebate application forms, and alternative water technologies are helping advance water conservation in Austin to a level never imagined in 1983.

In addition to this Water Conservation Plan, water conservation efforts integral to City planning efforts include:

Water Forward Integrated Water Resource Plan: Water Forward is Austin's 100-year integrated water resource plan. It's an adaptive plan updated on a 5-year cycle, evaluating water supply and demand management strategies for the City of Austin within a regional water supply context. A significant portion of near-term strategies include conservation activities. The initial Water Forward Plan was adopted in 2018 and is currently being updated, with completion anticipated by the end of 2024.

Austin Climate Equity Plan: Austin's Climate Equity Plan was created with input from nearly 200 community members and focused on engaging racially and economically diverse residents about challenges, barriers, and opportunities facing historically excluded groups. A goal for sustainable buildings is to achieve a community-wide water demand of 152,000 acre-feet per year by implementing strategies outlined in the Water Forward Plan.

Drought Contingency Plan: The state-mandated Drought Contingency Plan specifies how the City will respond and manage the water system during drought, as well as during demand or infrastructure events that constrain water supply. The most recent plan was approved in conjunction with the Water Conservation Plan in 2024 (See Appendix B).

Public Education and Information

With one of the most extensive water conservation programs in the nation, AW plays a leadership role at the regional, state, and national levels, sharing experiences and resources with other water providers to promote conservation innovation and effectiveness. AW utilizes public education and community outreach to encourage participation in water conservation programs and incentives, as well as to raise awareness about water use restrictions.

Community Events & Education Programs

AW offers the Dowser Dan School Assembly Program, a musical and theatrical program targeting kindergarten through fourth-grade students in public and private schools served by AW. Since 1990, this program has been a valuable resource for teachers, reaching hundreds of thousands of students in Austin and surrounding communities with educational content about how to conserve water through everyday actions. Although requests for in-person presentations declined during the global pandemic, 2023 saw a resurgence in requests for Dowser Dan performances. During the period of decreased in-person assemblies, AW kept Dowser Dan and his message of water conservation relevant by producing several music videos and downloadable educational worksheets, which are available online and distributed via AW social media channels. These resources remain available for teachers and parents to share with students and families in our community.

In 2015, the Texas Colorado River Rolling Exhibit, also known as the Mobile River, was developed, and launched in partnership with the Austin Independent School District, AW, and the Colorado River Alliance. Housed inside a 40-foot trailer, the Mobile River functions as a mobile science museum featuring interactive exhibits and hands-on activities targeted at middle school-aged students. The program is still active and popular at community events throughout the Austin area and the Lower Colorado River basin.

AW also participates in community festivals, school events, and informational fairs, providing knowledgeable staff to answer common questions and materials to promote water conservation. In 2009, AW developed a Water Conservation Speakers Bureau to provide presentations to local organizations on topics such as conservation, irrigation, leak detection, and water waste.

Advertising and Marketing

Marketing and advertising campaigns are used to disseminate information about water conservation programs, rebates, and incentives through print, radio, and digital outlets; websites; and social media platforms. Strategic ad placements are designed to reach a broad demographic through a variety of formats and languages. Additionally, information is provided to customers through messaging on customer bills and the City of Austin Utilities Now! newsletter that is included in every monthly billing cycle.

AW links digital advertising and social media posts directly to the web page providing information about all available rebates to support water conservation. Clear information about program requirements and checklists were developed to help customers meet all program requirements. The rebate application process has also been improved to be more accessible; customers can complete an application form online or directly from their mobile phone.

AW uses its My ATX Water customer portal and its social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and NextDoor to share conservation messaging and program information to the community on a weekly basis and monitor engagement. Graphics, photography, and videos enhance messaging and increase engagement.

Workshops and Presentations

AW provides both in-person and virtual educational workshops about water conservation and available programs at no cost. These are adapted to the specific needs of residential and commercial customers. Beginning in 2024, AW will introduce on-demand videos designed to help residential customers efficiently manage their irrigation controllers, detect toilet leaks, and navigate the online billing portal.

The WaterWise Irrigation Professionals Seminar includes information on water-efficient irrigation systems, water conservation programs, the mandatory watering schedule, electrical troubleshooting, irrigation auditing, and turf grass watering requirements. This seminar provides continuing education credits toward license renewal for irrigation professionals.

AW actively participates in the Central Texas Water Efficiency Network, a coalition of regional water agencies and advocacy groups that meet to share information and promote water efficiency education, legislation, programs, and technologies. This network organizes the annual Central Texas Water Conservation Symposium, a one-day regional event aimed at providing conservation education to over 100 water professionals.

Residential Customer Programs

Digital Garden Hose Meters and Sunlight Calculators

AW has partnered with the Austin Public Library to provide digital garden hose meters and Sunlight Calculators through the library check-out system. The meters, which attach to standard outdoor hoses, spray nozzles, and faucets, enable customers to track their water usage for activities such as watering lawns and washing cars and adjust to conserve. Sunlight calculators determine daylight levels in specific areas outdoors so that appropriate plants can be selected and placed to minimize water consumption.

Household Material Distribution

AW distributes complimentary water-saving tools to residential customers, as well as to households that receive water from one of the other water utilities that Austin sells water to wholesale. These include showerheads, kitchen/bathroom aerators, soil moisture meters, toilet leak detection tablets, and a "Practical Plumbing Handbook." Historically, customers were required to pick up the items at AW's headquarters. However, due to challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, participation declined. Beginning in May 2023, materials are now mailed directly to eligible customers upon request, which has resulted in a surge of participation of over 600 percent.

TABLE 1. HOUSEHOLD MATERIAL DISTRIBUTION
Historical program performance

Fiscal Year 2019	Fiscal Year 2020	Fiscal Year 2021	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023
1,479 items	95 items	74 items	780 items	5,923 items

Residential Irrigation Audits

AW offers a free irrigation system evaluation to residential customers who experience unusually high water bills. To qualify, customers must exceed 20,000 gallons of water used in one month or 15,000 gallons for two consecutive months. The residential irrigation audit, conducted by a licensed irrigator from AW, involves examining the system in operation to identify leaks, assess water application rates, and ensure adequate coverage. The irrigator also assists in establishing an efficient watering schedule and making controller adjustments. Finally, the evaluation includes an assessment of equipment adequacy and recommendations for component replacement if necessary.

In Fiscal Year 2023, the number of requests for residential irrigation audits declined substantially. This reduction corresponds with a rise in telephone and online assistance, where customer service staff supported customers through the online My ATX Water customer portal to assess their irrigation system. The new portal provides insights into irrigation usage frequency and the volume of water consumed per irrigation cycle.

TABLE 2. RESIDENTIAL IRRIGATION AUDIT

Historical program performance and estimated water savings

Fiscal Year 2019	Fiscal Year 2020	Fiscal Year 2021	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023	Estimated Water Savings
214 audits	234 audits	122 audits	215 audits	140 audits	30,331 gallons per year per audit

Plumbing Program

For over a decade, AW has been helping customers in need with assistance with plumbing repairs. In 2019, AW partnered with the Austin Housing Department's Go Repair! program to support eligible low-income customers of AW by covering qualified large and costly repairs. Repairs covered as part of this program include toilets, showers, plumbing, sinks, and faucets.

In 2022, the Go Repair! plumbing component became a stand-alone program, entitled the Plumbing Program, administered by the Austin Housing Department and funded by AW. The program can be combined with other assistance programs, can fund larger and costlier repairs, and offers broader eligibility requirements to provide greater assistance to eligible low-income customers. To be eligible, customers must have an AW account, maintain an income less than or equal to 100% of Austin's Median Family Income, and reside in a single-family home or duplex.

TABLE 3. GO REPAIR! AND PLUMBING PROGRAM

Historical number of homes that received repairs.

Fiscal Year 2019	Fiscal Year 2020	Fiscal Year 2021	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023
18	55	40	20	11

Austin Energy All-Star Conservation Kits
As a participant in this program since 2022, AW offers energy-saving and water-saving tips and products to educate 6th-grade students within the Austin Energy service area about conservation. This educational initiative involves in-class curriculum and take-home kits provided to teachers, students, and their families at no expense.

Residential Incentive Programs
AW provides opportunities for customers to offset costs and conserve water through rebates and incentives. These programs aim to motivate eligible customers to adopt water-saving measures such as installing high-efficiency fixtures, enhancing the effectiveness of existing irrigation systems, and rainwater harvesting.

Irrigation Upgrade Rebate
Homeowners can receive incentives of up to $1,000 to upgrade irrigation systems to reduce water usage and waste. Eligible upgrades include rain/soil moisture sensors, pressure reduction valves, and converting from spray to multi-stream multi-trajectory rotor nozzles.

Landscape Survival Tools
Rebates are offered to homeowners for water-saving items such as mulch, compost, and core aeration services to facilitate moisture retention, nutrient replenishment, and turf grass health.

Laundry to Landscape
Homeowners can receive incentives of up to $150 for installing a laundry-to-landscape system, which allows the reuse of graywater from laundry activities for landscape irrigation.

Pressure Regulating Valves
A rebate of up to $150 is offered for the purchase and installation of pressure regulating valves to reduce indoor water pressure and prevent water waste and damage to pipes and fixtures.

Pool Cartridge Filter Rebate
Homeowners can receive up to $250 for replacing a sand or diatomaceous earth pool filter with a cartridge pool filter that requires less frequent backwashing.

Pool Cover Rebate
An incentive of up to $200 is offered towards the purchase of a new swimming pool cover to reduce water loss due to evaporation.

Rainwater Harvesting Rebate
Homeowners can receive an incentive of up to $5,000 for the installation of rainwater collection tanks to supplement or offset reliance on potable water for outdoor watering activities.

Water Timer Rebate and Instant Savings
Up to 50% of the pre-tax purchase price for up to two hose timers, for a maximum rebate of $40, is offered to homeowners. Additionally, an instant savings of $5.00 off the cost of a water timer is provided at select retail stores.

WaterWise Landscape Rebate
A rebate is offered for up to $100 for every 100 square feet of turf areas converted to water-efficient landscapes, with a cap of $3,000.

WaterWise Rainscape
A rebate of $0.50 per square foot is offered for the installation of features that direct and retain rainwater for on-site irrigation and other beneficial purposes. An additional $0.50 bonus per square foot is provided for the removal of healthy turf grass. The total rebate, including the bonus, has a lifetime limit of $1,500.

TABLE 4. RESIDENTIAL INCENTIVE PROGRAMS
Historical number of rebate applications and the estimated average water savings

Residential Incentive Program	Fiscal Year 2019	Fiscal Year 2020	Fiscal Year 2021	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023	Annual water savings per activity
Landscape Survival Tools	108	69	66	72	55	Undetermined*
Laundry to Landscape	-	0	0	0	0	Undetermined*
Pressure Regulating Valves	19	13	4	1	7	37,213 gallons per year
Pool Cartridge Filter Rebate	-	0	2	1	3	6,023 gallons per year
Pool Cover Rebate	0	0	8	5	4	27,153 gallons per year
Rainwater Harvesting Rebate	119	122	163	117	93	4.38 gallons per gallon capacity per year
Watering Timer Instant Savings	-	-	-	3,778	3,384	Undetermined*
Watering Timer Rebate	12	15	8	28	22	Undetermined*
WaterWise Landscape Rebate	11	6	10	3	19	11 gallons per sq. ft. per year

WaterWise Rainscape Rebate	2	5	5	6	7	1.5 gallons per sq. ft. per year

*Potential water savings have varied significantly in different analyses.

Commercial Customer Programs

With almost 16,000 accounts comprising roughly 30 percent of AW's annual customer volume, there is significant potential for water savings through commercial conservation initiatives. AW partners with commercial customers by offering financial incentives, educational resources, and personalized support. We assist businesses in their efforts to seamlessly incorporate sustainable water practices into their operations.

Bucks for Business

AW collaborates with industrial, commercial, and institutional customers to promote water conservation through the Bucks for Business performance-based incentive program. Bucks for Business supports the installation of water-efficient equipment and adoption of process upgrades that offset non-potable water demand. Examples include replacing single-pass cooling with highly efficient systems or air cooling, reusing high-quality rinse water, recovering and using air conditioning condensate, and utilizing stormwater for landscape irrigation and other non-potable purposes. Additionally, incentives are available for installation of water-saving equipment for commercial laundry facilities and car washes. AW provides a rebate of $1.00 for every 1,000 gallons saved annually over a ten-year equipment lifespan or 50 percent of the cost, whichever is lower, with a maximum cap of $100,000.

Participation in Bucks for Business has fluctuated over the years. Some incomplete applications have been due to construction delays. The highest level of participation was due to Austin Independent School District utilizing bond money to upgrade multiple facilities. While the number of applications may be low, the amount of savings for each project can be substantial. Two completed projects in 2023 are estimated to save 920,000 gallons each year.

While the number of the applications for the Bucks for Business program has been low over the last five years, the program saw a significant resurgence in Fiscal Year 2024 with approximately 20 applications from commercial customers. Generally, the applications have come from multi-family facilities replacing fixtures and appliances with more efficient models, but AW has received inquiries from a wider range of commercial facilities, including movie theaters, restaurants, and car washes.

TABLE 5. BUCKS FOR BUSINESS
Historical participation by fiscal year

Fiscal Year 2019	Fiscal Year 2020	Fiscal Year 2021	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023
1	54*	3	0	2

*One applicant – Austin Independent School District – and 54 unique facilities and activities

Cartridge Pool Filter Rebate Program

AW provides an incentive of up to $250 to homeowner associations and multi-family properties with pools to replace sand or diatomaceous earth pool filters with cartridge pool filters. This high-efficiency filtration technology consumes twelve times less water compared to conventional filters.

Commercial, Institutional, and Industrial Water Efficiency Audit Rebate

AW offers up to $10,000 rebate for a limited number of water efficiency audits of industrial, commercial, and institutional facilities, and up to $5,000 for addition audits. The audit is used to recommend strategies for reducing water use and assess eligibility for applicable AW rebates to enhance and upgrade equipment. Eligibility applies to each separately metered facility surpassing an annual threshold of 100,000 gallons per year.

Commercial Kitchen Equipment Rebate

Commercial and institutional customers can apply for rebates to replace eligible food service equipment with more efficient, cost-saving Energy Star-rated models. Rebate amounts range from $40 to $5,000, depending on the type of equipment. Eligible equipment includes pre-rinse spray valves, spring-loaded food pedal controls for kitchen faucets, boiler less steam cookers, and various dishwashers.

Irrigation System Improvement Rebate

Commercial and multi-family customers can receive incentives for eligible irrigation system improvements, such as central computer irrigation controller systems, pressure regulating components, flow sensors, and conversion to multi-stream, multi-trajectory rotor nozzles.

Pressure Regulating Valve Rebate

Multi-family customers can apply for a rebate of $150 per rental unit, up to a maximum of $750 per property, for the installation of pressure reduction valves to lower indoor water pressure and help reduce water waste. Eligibility requirements include water pressure of 80 pounds per square

inch or higher without a pressure reduction valve, installation by a licensed plumber, and compliance with all permitting requirements.

Rainwater Harvesting Rebate

Commercial customers are eligible for incentives of up to $5,000 for installing rainwater collection tanks for outdoor watering. The rebate amount is determined by the overall capacity of the rainwater system with different rates for pressurized and non-pressurized systems.

Voluntary Reclaimed Water Connection Pilot Rebate

First introduced in 2021, this rebate helps commercial and multi-family customers located along a reclaimed water main to connect voluntarily. Rebates are offered for cooling tower conversions, landscape irrigation conversions, and other uses.

WaterWise Landscape Rebate

This rebate supports the conversion of healthy turf areas to native beds, permeable hardscapes, rock gardens, mulching, or non-irrigated beds. Commercial customers may receive up to $100 for every 100 square feet, with a maximum amount of $3,000. Applicants must comply with planting specifications to ensure the use of native and adaptive plants.

Regulatory Programs

Water Use Restrictions

AW's Conservation Division implements and enforces a comprehensive Water Conservation Code (Chapter 6-4 of the City Code of Ordinances) that applies to all retail water customers. This code includes a year-round Conservation Stage with baseline water use restrictions. In times of drought, additional stages and restrictions are described in the Drought Contingency Plan and Chapter 6-4 of the City Code.

One of the largest water savings and peak day water use reduction measures was adopted in 2016 with year-round Conservation Stage restrictions. It established a watering schedule that limits the use of automatic irrigation systems to no more than once a week for up to fifteen hours. Hose-end (manual) sprinklers are limited to no more than twice a week for up to thirty hours. In 2024, restrictions on drip irrigation were adopted in the Conservation Stage, as well as all Drought Stages. See the 2024 Drought Contingency Plan for additional information regarding irrigation restrictions in Drought Stages.

Conservation Stage also includes time-of-day restrictions that allow irrigation to occur only before 10:00 a.m. or after 7:00 p.m. on designated outdoor water use days unless a hand-held hose or bucket is used. Hand-held watering is permissible anytime.

TABLE 6. LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION RESTRICTIONS IN CONSERVATION STAGE

Property and Irrigation Type	Address	Watering Day
Public Schools, College/University, Homeowner Associations & Golf Course Fairways - Automatic & Manual	ALL	Monday
Public Schools, College/University, Homeowner Associations & Golf Course Fairways - Drip	ALL	Monday and Thursday
Commercial/Multi-family - Drip	ALL	Tuesday and Friday
Commercial/Multi-family - Automatic & Manual	EVEN	Tuesday
Commercial/Multi Family - Automatic & Manual	ODD	Friday
Residential - Automatic & Manual	ODD	Wednesday
Residential Property - Hose-end & Drip Irrigation	ODD	Wednesday and Saturday
Residential - Automatic & Manual	EVEN	Thursday
Residential Property - Hose-end & Drip Irrigation	EVEN	Sunday and Thursday

The Water Conservation Code also contains prohibitions on water waste, which include failing to repair a controllable leak, operating an irrigation system with excessive pressure that creates misting, allowing water to spray onto or over an impervious surface, and allowing irrigation water to run off into the street or pond in parking lots or impervious surface.

If customers have a newly installed landscape (not required by governmental permit) that needs additional watering days to become established, they can apply for a variance from the mandatory watering schedule. To qualify for this variance, the landscape must be xeriscape, and the installed plants must be low or very low water-use xeric varieties selected from AW's approved plant list.

Additional water use restrictions during the Conservation Stage include commercial power/pressure washing equipment efficiency requirements, time-of-day limits on operating commercial patio misters, restaurants may serve water only upon request, and lodging facilities must offer towel/linen reuse programs.

Water Restrictions Enforcement

AW enforces the Water Conservation Code through routine patrols and investigating water waste reports received through the Austin 3-1-1 hotline.

Customers who have been issued a citation with associated penalties are given an opportunity to dispute the violation. The customer may request a Supervisor Review of case details to determine whether to uphold or dismiss the violation. Customers who do not agree with the outcome of the Supervisor Review will be scheduled for an Administrative Hearing. The Administrative Hearing is reviewed by a third-party hearing officer who determines whether to uphold or dismiss the violation. All citations are reviewed at an Administrative Hearing unless the customer waives their right to a hearing. Customers may have assessed penalties added to their utility bill or request separate billing.

AW has a progressive penalty structure for water waste violations, with penalty amounts increasing with drought stages and violation frequency. In 2023, AW implemented a City Council-approved equity-based penalty structure with increased penalties for high water users. When assessing a water conservation fine, staff review the customer's average water usage for the three most recent summer months to determine which tier the customer falls into:

- Top 1% of average usage
- Top 3% of average usage
- Top 5% of average usage
- Top 10% of usage
- Below the 90th percentile of use

For more information regarding the enforcement process and current penalties, please visit www.austintexas.gov/department/find-your-watering-day.

Water-Use Efficiency Assessment Programs

Commercial facilities comprise roughly 30 percent of the city's overall water consumption. Efficient water use by the commercial sector is vital to future sustainability. AW administers three programs that require the submission of mandatory water efficiency reports:

Commercial Facility Irrigation Assessment

Since 2014, industrial, commercial, and institutional facilities situated on one acre or larger must assess permanently installed irrigation systems once every two years. Third-party AW Authorized Irrigation Inspectors conduct these station-by-station inspections to identify potential water waste violations. In Fiscal Year 2023, nearly 3,500 facilities were required to submit biannual assessments with an average compliance rate of 93 percent.

Cooling Tower Efficiency Program

Established in 2017, this program ensures that cooling towers operate in a manner that promotes water conservation. Facilities must adhere to baseline cycle-of-concentration standards and include efficiency components. Annual inspections confirm compliance. In Fiscal Year 2023, more than 300 facilities were required to submit their annual assessments with an average compliance rate of 80 percent.

Commercial Facility Wash Assessment

This program, initiated in 2012, sets water-efficient standards for vehicle wash equipment for commercial, multi-family, and municipal facilities. Facilities must conduct annual efficiency evaluations. In Fiscal Year 2023, more than 200 facilities with vehicle washes were required to submit annual assessments with an average compliance rate of 83 percent.

Commercial customers failing to submit required compliance documentation may face a Water Conservation Fee of $758 assessed to their utility account for each month they are out of compliance.

Metering and Water Loss

Metering Devices

AW meters all customer water connections and our meters meet American Water Works Association accuracy standards. Before each meter is delivered to AW, it is tested by the manufacturer. Upon delivery, all meters 3-inch and larger are tested a second time by AW's Water Meter Operations (WMO) division. Any meter that fails accuracy testing before installation is returned to the manufacturer. For meters 2-inches and smaller, a sample from the pallet of meters from each shipment is tested. If the testing sample of smaller meters fails the accuracy test, the entire shipment is rejected and returned to the manufacturer. Additionally, post-installation meter testing failures are expeditiously repaired or replaced. After installation, large meters are tested annually by WMO or through a contracted service provider.

Water Loss Control

Annual water loss totals fluctuate with weather and demand conditions, with some variation due to data collection. AW conducts annual Water Loss Audits following the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) methodology and has made significant progress in improving data validity scores while implementing comprehensive water loss strategies.

To enhance water loss management, AW contracted with a consulting firm to review the water loss program, perform a Level 1 Validation of the 2022 Water Loss Audit, review system meter accuracy validation, and provide recommendations for improvement. Recommendations identified in the final report have been incorporated into an implementation plan that is underway.

AW's efforts to control water loss include managing leaks, reducing non-revenue water, and improving data quality. The table below shows water loss volumes over the past five years.

TABLE 7. HISTORICAL WATER LOSS VOLUMES

Year	Water Loss (million gallons)	Water Loss GPCD (Gallons Per Capita Daily)[1]	Infrastructure Leakage Index (ILI)[2]
2019	7,468	18.88	3.71
2020	8,864	23.05	4.44
2021	8,029	20.42	3.86
2022	8,498	21.55	4.09
2023	8,661	21.64	4.18

[1]Austin Water acknowledges that Gallons Per Capita Daily is a metric used throughout this planning document under direction of the State, but also understands that water loss is not dependent on population and therefore this is an imperfect performance measure. Water loss is driven by miles of pipes, number of connections, system operating pressure, accuracy of meters, and by programs to reduce leakage and apparent loss, regardless of the numbers or actions of the population served by the system.

[2] Infrastructure Leak Index (ILI) is a performance measure that expresses system real losses as a multiple of the calculated Unavoidable Real Losses.

Leak Detection and Repair

AW conducts comprehensive leak detection to locate subsurface leaks in the water distribution system. Acoustic technology is utilized to inspect over 500 miles of water lines annually, while smart ball technology is employed to search for leaks inside large transmission mains. Austin Water has budgeted contracts for approximately $2 million per year for these leak detection projects.

The "Renewing Austin" program targets aging water lines for replacement to enhance system reliability, focusing on mains with a history of leakage incidents. This program's purpose is to prevent future leaks before they happen, which reduces losses and service outages. Over 60 Renewing Austin projects have been proposed for the Fiscal Years 2025-2029 Capital Improvement Plan. In addition, there is an ongoing service line replacement program, targeting polybutylene lines that have the highest failure rate.

To ensure that known leaks are addressed promptly, Austin Water has an accelerated leak response and repair program, with approximately 90 percent of emergency leaks responded to within three hours and most being repaired in one day or less, faster than the recommended industry standard of two days.

Non-Revenue Water Use

AW has implemented a comprehensive plan to reduce non-revenue retail water use by routinely analyzing consumption data for zero-reads and suspicious usage patterns. Coordination with the City of Austin Utilities Revenue Measurement Control staff is conducted to investigate meter

tampering and water theft. Reporting of theft from City hydrants is facilitated through the Austin 3-1-1 system.

My ATX Water, Austin's Smart Metering System

My ATX Water began deployment in 2020 to replace analog meters with digital meters citywide. The new meters report near real-time water use and provide information to both AW and customers through a customer portal. In the coming years, My ATX Water will allow AW to implement robust water loss strategies, including district metering, remote leak detection, and pressure monitoring. As part of the My ATX Water deployment process, AW has identified and repaired hundreds of small meter and cut-off valve leaks, while alerting customers to pre-existing leaks on their service lines. Full deployment of My ATX Water is expected in 2025.

The My ATX Water customer portal allows customers to access their water usage data and sign up for customized notifications, including leak alerts and bill forecasting. Customers can also sign up for daily water use updates and water budgeting. In 2023, over 123,000 leak alerts and 81,000 bill-forecast notifications were sent out to customers; repairs and behavior modifications through these notifications are estimated to have saved 495.5 million gallons of water. Customers are also alerted to continuous flow events via email, text, or traditional mail.

Water Reuse

Reclaimed Water System

AW initiated its reclaimed water program in 1974, primarily to dispose of wastewater effluent. The program's objectives evolved over time to include providing a cost-effective source of non-potable water to conserve treated potable water, delay the need for treatment plant construction and expansions, postpone water contract payments, and address environmental concerns. Today, reclaimed water is utilized for irrigation of golf courses, ballfields, parks, and commercial properties. It is also utilized in cooling towers, manufacturing processes, and toilet flushing.

The reclaimed water system comprises four pump stations, two pressure zones, 72.8 miles of main pipelines, and six water storage facilities with a total storage capacity of 6.2 million gallons in the distribution system and 1.58 million gallons at the plants. Additionally, three public bulk water filling stations facilitate reclaimed water distribution. Currently, there are 185 metered properties with an annual demand exceeding 1.4 billion gallons. An additional 14.6 miles of reclaimed main pipelines are either in the design phase or under construction.

TABLE 8. HISTORICAL USE OF RECLAIMED WATER (MILLION GALLONS)

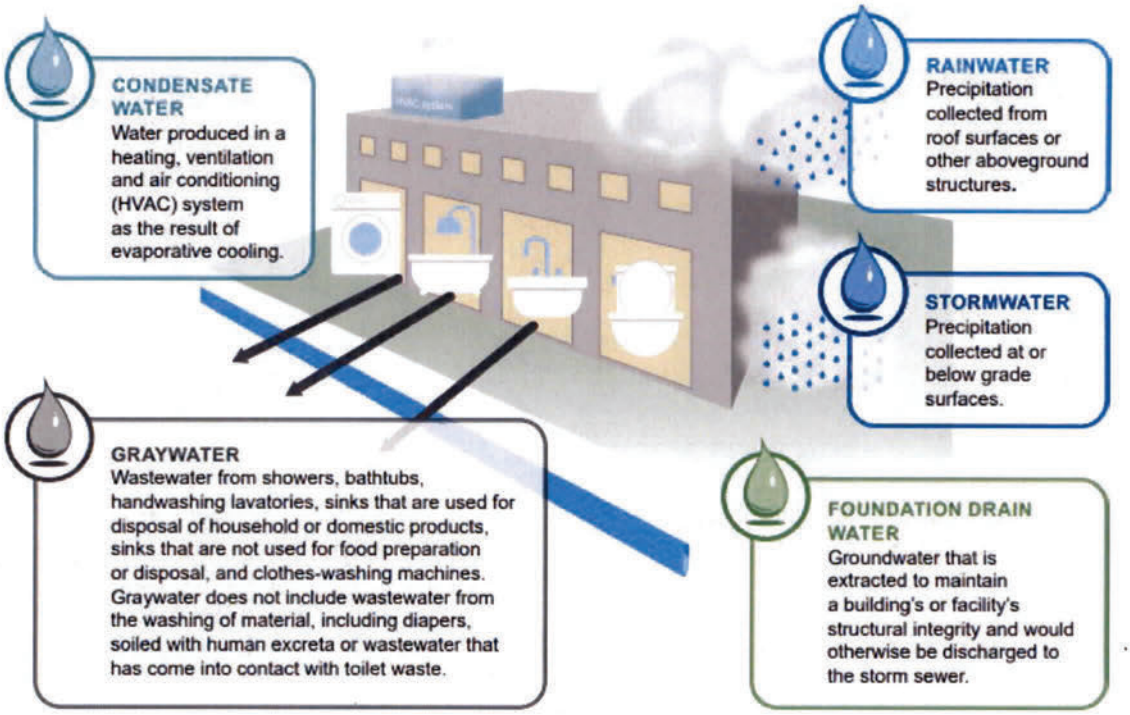
FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
1,493	1,569	1,606	1,689	1,634

The Reclaimed Water Mandatory Connection Ordinance, adopted by Austin City Council in September 2021, mandates that any development project within 250 feet of a reclaimed water line must connect to the reclaimed water system for irrigation, cooling, toilet flushing, and other significant non-potable water uses. For large developments with 250,000 square feet or more of gross floor area, the connection mandate extends to 500 feet. In April of 2024, Austin City Council updated the ordinance to exempt certain affordable housing projects but directed staff to look at the feasibility of fully subsidizing the cost of reclaimed connections and dual plumbing for these projects by April 2025.

Onsite Water Reuse

AW has been promoting onsite water reuse for over a decade, encouraging the utilization of non-potable water sources like rainwater, graywater, reclaimed water, and others for irrigation, cooling, and toilet flushing. Several changes to City Codes and Ordinances have facilitated this while ensuring public health and safety. Since September of 2017, new commercial and multi-family projects with cooling towers have been required to reuse condensate or utilize non-potable water to compensate for evaporative losses.

The Onsite Water Reuse System (OWRS) Program was initiated to implement code changes adopted in December 2020 that regulate the collection, treatment, and use of alternative water sources for non-potable uses in multi-family and commercial buildings. Effective April 1, 2024, the collection and treatment of rainwater and condensate for reuse in commercial and multi-family developments of 250,000 gross square feet or greater is required. Additionally, the Onsite Water Reuse Incentive Program provides project reimbursements of up to $500,000 for voluntarily incorporating onsite water reuse systems. Similar to the Reclaimed Water Mandatory Connection Ordinance, certain affordable housing projects are exempt from onsite water reuse requirements, but staff is looking at the feasibility to fully subsidize onsite water reuse for these projects.



GoPurple Program

In March of 2024 AW launched a new GoPurple program to increase use of reclaimed water and onsite water reuse systems in and around Austin. The program aims to support various measures like cost-sharing, grants, and other incentives for reuse. It is funded through a new Community Benefit Charge for AW customers and a voluntary rate dedicated to water reuse. Any new commercial or multi-family development that is connecting to the reclaimed water system or installing an onsite water reuse system is eligible to participate in the program and receive financial incentives from AW to reduce the cost of installing water reuse piping or treatment systems. For more information regarding the Go Purple requirements, incentives, and funding sources, please visit the Go Purple website at www.austintexas.gov/page/go-purple.

Water Benchmarking

Water benchmarking, a strategy derived from the 2018 Water Forward Plan, assists in reducing water demand in new commercial development projects by identifying conservation opportunities. Since 2021, applicants for commercial or multi-family projects must submit a Water Benchmarking Application to assess water usage and identify conservation opportunities. Applicants of large developments with 250,000 gross square feet or greater are also required to meet with AW staff to review their Water Benchmarking Application and available incentives for conservation and reuse. This initiative aims to establish annual water budgets for commercial development projects, with 439 applicants having undergone this process by December 31, 2023. Eventually, AW may institute excess usage charges for commercial projects that exceed an annual water budget.

Following the effective date of the mandatory onsite reuse requirement, water benchmarking meetings will shift focus to ensuring compliance with onsite water reuse and reclaimed water connection ordinances.

Water Rates

AW implements a five-tiered inclining block rate structure for single-family residential customers, aiming to maintain affordability for essential water use while discouraging excessive consumption. This structure is one of the steepest in the nation and has successfully led to a significant decrease in water consumption at the highest tiers. Additionally, reduced rates are provided to customers eligible for the utility's Customer Assistance Programs (CAP).

For multi-family, commercial, and large volume customers, water conservation during irrigation season is promoted through peak and off-peak rates. These rates are designed to incentivize water conservation during times of high demand.

TABLE 9. AUSTIN WATER VOLUMETRIC RATE STRUCTURE BY RETAIL CUSTOMER CLASS (Effective November 1, 2024)

Amount Used	Volumetric Unit Charge (per 1,000 gallons)	
	Single Family Residential	Residential Customer Assistance Program
0-2,000 gallons	$3.13	$1.31
2,001-6,000 gallons	$5.26	$3.84
6,001-11,000 gallons	$9.52	$7.14
11,001-20,000 gallons	$15.05	$13.24
Over 20,000 gallons	$18.06	$17.52
	Multi-Family	**Commercial**
Off Peak (November-June)	$4.67	$5.46
Peak (July-October)	$5.37	$6.22

Water Drought Rate Surcharge

During Stage 3 and Stage 4 drought-response, an additional fee is implemented for all retail and wholesale customer classes, except qualified Customer Assistance Program (CAP) customers.

The Water Drought Surcharge is enacted for all retail and wholesale customer classes during Stage 3, Stage 4, and Stage 5 of drought-response water restrictions to ensure financial stability to Austin Water. These surcharges will take effect the next monthly billing cycle following the

declaration of Stage 3, Stage 4, or Stage 5 water restrictions, and will continue until directed by the City Manager. CAP Customers will be exempt from the Water Drought Rate Surcharge.

Stage 5 is an emergency stage that may be determined by the City Manager due to system outage, equipment failure, contamination of water source, or other emergencies. The goal of Stage 5 is to reduce water use to levels deemed necessary. Actions during Stage 5 may include Emergency Stage Four Regulations or Additional Restrictions, and a prohibition on irrigation. The end condition for Stage 5 is determined by the City Manager based on daily water demand or the end of supply constraints.

TABLE 10. DROUGHT SURCHARGE

Drought Stage	Surcharge
Stage 3	$1.00 per 1,000 gallons
Stage 4	$2.00 per 1,000 gallons
Stage 5	$3.00 per 1,000 gallons

Goals for Water Use and Water Loss

A required component of water conservation plans by the State of Texas are five and 10-year goals for Total Gallons Per Capita Daily (GPCD), Residential GPCD, Water Loss GPCD, and Infrastructure Leakage Index. These four common metrics can vary significantly between cities and utility due to climate, city size, customer composition, and age of system.

Historical water use and loss goals

When the 2019 Water Conservation Plan was adopted, the City of Austin was just emerging from what has been determined to be the drought of record and in 2018 the City Council adopted the Water Forward Integrated Water Resource Plan. Projections and conservation strategies from the 2018 Water Forward Plan were incorporated into the 2019 Water Conservation Plan's Goals (Table 11).

TABLE 11. 2019 WATER CONSERVATION PLAN WATER USE AND LOSS GOALS

	Historic 5-year Average	Baseline	2024 Goal	2029 Goal
Total GPCD[1]	126	126	119	106
Residential GPCD[2]	67	65	61	55
Water Loss GPCD[3]	19.8	19.3	11.0	11.0
Infrastructure Leakage Index[4]	3.68	3.84	2.6	2.4

[1]Total GPCD = (Total Gallons in System ÷ Permanent Population) ÷ 365

[2]Residential GPCD = (Gallons Used for Residential Use ÷ Residential Population) ÷ 365

[3]Water Loss GPCD = (Total Water Loss ÷ Permanent Population) ÷ 365

[4]Infrastructure Leak Index (**ILI**) is a performance measure that expresses system real losses as a multiple of the calculated Unavoidable Real Losses

Despite the water conservation efforts of the community and AW between 2019 and 2023, the five-year averages of water use and water loss did not meet the goals for the year 2024. See Table 7 for historical water loss values and Table 12 for historical water use values.

Various factors contributed to the 2019-2023 average Total GPCD (127) being higher than the 2024 goal in the 2019 Water Conservation Plan (119):

- **Under-projected demands**. The projected water demands in the 2018 Water Forward Plan and the 2019 Water Conservation Plan were based on three years – 2013, 2014, and 2015 – which projected low water use and a downward trend that did not continue when drought restrictions were lifted and the weather moderated.

- **Pandemic impacts.** During the COVID pandemic, many workers and students were required to work and study virtually from their homes, which increased the 2020 residential water use. At the time, this residential water use was largely offset by a decline in commercial water use. However, after the pandemic restrictions were lifted and commercial water use rebounded, residential water use did not have a corresponding decline. The failure to see a corresponding water use decline may be related to workers that have continued to work from home, and the increased installation and use of water-dependent amenities, such as new landscapes and pools installed during and in the years following the pandemic.

- **Extreme weather**. Over the last five years, there have been a number of extreme weather events that have affected Austin's water use. Many customers lost trees and landscapes during Winter Storm Uri in 2021 and Winter Storm Mara in 2022, which required replanting and additional water use for establishment. In addition, the summers of 2022 and 2023 experienced record high temperatures, which contributed significantly to outdoor landscape water use. Climate change modeling shows increasing average and maximum monthly temperatures and greater variability in precipitation. This will likely result in more frequent, longer-duration, and more severe droughts as well as more intense rainfall events.

- **Over-projected strategies.** The 2018 Water Forward Plan included six strategies which were projected to produce 5,300 acre feet (1.7 billion gallons) of new water savings. Of the six, water reuse and water loss mitigation were expected to save 28 and 44 percent of the total savings. In general, the water savings were projected to occur sooner than actual implementation produced, thus leading to a shortfall in anticipated water use reduction.

- **Growth of customers and water use.** Between 2019 and 2023, Austin added new residential (single family and multi-family) and commercial customers and the corresponding water use by residential and commercial customers increased. (See NEW RETAIL CONNECTIONS table on page 48 and HISTORICAL WATER SALES table on page 49.) Changes in population and water use can impact Austin's primary water use metric, gallons per capita per day or GPCD.

GPCD = Total System Water Use (includes all customer types – residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional) / Population Served

Growth in residential water use is accompanied by a corresponding growth in population and generally does not cause major changes in GPCD as long as the per capita water use for those new customer is in line with Austin's water use patterns. Growth in commercial, industrial, and institutional use has a greater impact on GPCD calculations because there is increased water use but no corresponding population growth.

TABLE 12. HISTORICAL TOTAL AND RESIDENTIAL GALLONS PER CAPITA DAILY (GPCD) VALUES

Calendar Year	Total GPCD	Residential GPCD
2019	126	60
2020	127	64
2021	124	64
2022	131	67
2023	129	65
Average	127	64

Future water use and loss goals

AW has set new water use goals (Table 13) and water loss goals (Table 14) that AW believes can be achieved. Reducing GPCD from the baseline of 127 to 119 will require saving an additional 3.74 billion gallons (11,480* acre feet) of water annually by 2029 through the reduction of water loss, the increased reuse of water, and reducing the water use of Austin residents and businesses.

TABLE 13. FIVE AND TEN-YEAR GOALS FOR WATER USE

	Historic 5-year Average	Baseline	2029 Goal	2034 Goal
Total GPCD[1]	127	127	119	112
Residential GPCD[2]	64	64	60	56

[1]Total GPCD = (Total Gallons in System ÷ Permanent Population) ÷ 365

[2]Residential GPCD = (Gallons Used for Residential Use ÷ Residential Population) ÷ 365

TABLE 14. FIVE AND TEN-YEAR GOALS FOR WATER LOSS

	Historic 5-year Average	Baseline	2029 Goal	2034 Goal
Water Loss GPCD[1]	21	21	19	17
Infrastructure Leakage Index[2]	4.06	4.06	3.57	3.31

[1]Water Loss GPCD = (Total Water Loss ÷ Permanent Population) ÷ 365

[2]Infrastructure Leak Index is a performance measure that expresses system real losses as a multiple of the calculated Unavoidable Real Losses. 5-year average is from 2019-2023

Future Water Use and Loss Activities

The specific activities that AW will implement to achieve these savings are described below with major implementation milestones. The projected annual yields of potable water savings are shown in Table 23.

Water loss reduction

While AW employs industry best practices related to water loss control and performs well when compared to peer utilities, our water loss and water use goals can only be achieved if we build upon current efforts. AW contracted with the engineering firm Black and Veatch, experts in water loss mitigation, to review AW's metrics and programs and identify where improvements could be made. The Black and Veatch *Water Loss Program Review, Analysis, and Optimization* report identified over 20 recommendations for improvement and additional investment. The significant implementation milestones for these recommendations are shown in Table 15. Austin Water has launched a cross-department Effective Utility Management team to execute the recommendations and will regularly report on the status of each.

TABLE 15. WATER LOSS REDUCTION IMPLEMENTATION MILESTONES

Implementation Activity Milestone	Fiscal Year Target
Launch a cross-functional AW Water Loss Team to implement the recommendations of the water loss report	2024
Continue replacement of polybutylene service lines through the Renewing Austin Program.	2024
Develop an AW Leak Detection Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for leak detection practices, data management, and continuous training requirements.	2025
Update AW operations response procedures to improve management of service line failures.	To Be Determined
Update AW asset management program to improve management of service line failures.	To Be Determined
Develop an AW Production Meter SOP which include production meter measurement improvement recommendations.	2025
Update the AW Meter Testing SOPs for meter testing, sizing, and replacement.	2025
Create dashboards to integrate SCADA, AMI, pressure monitoring and leak detection data.	To Be Determined
Develop an AW Unauthorized Consumption Mitigation SOP.	2025
Develop an AW Data Handling Errors Mitigation SOP	2025

Implementation Activity Milestone	Fiscal Year Target
Pilot the implementation of two District Metering Areas (DMAs) to reduce water loss through pressure management.	2025
Expand the use of District Management Areas across the city and consider partial conversion to Pressure Management Areas (PMAs).	2026

Drip irrigation restrictions

Since 2016, automatic, manual, and hose-end irrigation has been restricted to one day (for automatic) or two days (for hose-end) per week year-round in the non-drought Conservation Stage, with tightening restrictions during drought stages. However, drip irrigation has had no restrictions in terms of days of the week or time windows.

Drip irrigation systems are typically installed below ground or mulch and consist of porous piping that allows the application of water at a slow and constant rate. A drip irrigation system can be a very efficient way to deliver supplemental irrigation close to the root zone of plants, while avoiding losses to evaporation and wind, which is sometimes the case in automatic spray or hose-end irrigation.

However, if drip irrigation systems were poorly installed, are poorly maintained, run too long, or are installed extensively in an area, then the overall water use can be equivalent to the use of traditional spray irrigation systems. To provide reasonable restrictions on the use of drip irrigation, AW staff met with interested stakeholders to better understand: the investments already made, the need for flexibility for large irrigated areas, and the use of drip for trees, nursery stock, and vegetable gardens.

The additional restrictions listed below provide effective water savings while allowing for reasonable exceptions and variances. The days of use for drip irrigation can be found in Table 6 on page 17, as well as in the Drought Contingency Plan and City Code Chapter 6-4.

- Restrict the use of drip irrigation to two days per week in Conservation Stage and Drought Stages 1-2.
- Restrict the use of drip irrigation to one day per week in Drought Stage 3 (750,000 acre feet, 38% of storage).
- Restrict the use of drip irrigation to one day per week for beds and functional turf in Drought Stage 4 (600,000). No irrigation of nonfunctional turf by any type of irrigation system is permitted.

- Exemptions from the watering schedule related to drip irrigation include:
  - Use of tree bubblers for the establishment of new trees outside of the irrigation schedule.
  - Use of drip irrigation or soaker hoses for trees within the drip line of the tree.
  - Irrigation of commercial nursery stock, including by drip irrigation.
  - Use of drip irrigation or soaker hoses for vegetable gardens.

- Variances from the watering schedule related to drip irrigation include:
  - Large property variance – If property needs additional time to irrigate due to system size and flow constraints, additional days/time may be approved.
  - New xeriscape landscape establishment – additional irrigation time for an establishment period.
  - Commercially applied lawn & tree treatments.
  - Athletic field irrigation during Drought Stages 3 and 4.

Commercial conservation incentives

Significant potential water savings exist for commercial, institutional, and industrial (CII) buildings using water efficient fixtures and appliances, as well as other building-specific water savings devices. AW intends to expand the use of the Bucks for Business performance-based water efficiency program. See page 14 for more information regarding Bucks for Business.

TABLE 16. COMMERCIAL CONSERVATION INCENTIVES IMPLEMENTATION MILESTONES

Implementation Activity Milestone	Fiscal Year Target
Pilot an increased rebate for commercial water use audits.	2025
Develop data regarding CII customer categorization to assist in benchmarking and the identification of facilities for water conservation outreach.	2025
Identify opportunities for CII facility owners/managers to benefit from the My ATX Water alerts and information.	2026

New single family landscape transformation

AW has identified activities to transform the landscape of new homes such that less potable water is use for irrigation that include:

- Enforcement of soil depth and composition requirements for home builders.
- Required pressure-reduction devices on new irrigation systems.
- Limiting the area of automatic irrigation systems to 50 percent of the landscape area for new homes.
- Inspecting all new automatic irrigation systems for state and local requirements.
- Offering irrigation checkups for new homeowners.
- Requiring new homes to install laundry to landscape-ready plumbing (exceptions apply).

TABLE 17. NEW SINGLE FAMILY LANDSCAPE TRANSFORMATION IMPLEMENTATION MILESTONES

Implementation Activity Milestone	Fiscal Year Target
Coordinate with COA Development Services Department to increase inspections of new-development soil inspections.	Ongoing
Council adoption and implementation of local amendments to the 2024 Uniform Plumbing Code (pressure-reduction devices, irrigation area, laundry to landscape).	2025
Austin Water inspection of all new residential irrigation systems and offering new homeowners follow-up checkups.	2025

My ATX Water

The My ATX Water smart meter system will complete deployment to residential and commercial customers by the end of 2025, allowing AW staff to focus on utilizing the system to communicate directly with all customers and identify water saving opportunities. These opportunities will require gathering and analyzing data and building off of current customer interaction processes in order to realize significant and quantifiable savings.

- **Customer water saving opportunities** – AW will continue to educate customers on the opportunities to save water through leak alerts, high-usage alerts, and the use of the My ATX Portal.

- **Commercial customer engagement** - AW will identify and pursue opportunities to allow commercial property owners and managers to benefit from the My ATX Water alerts and information.

- **Customer irrigation engagement** – AW will identify and pursue opportunities to engage with both residential and commercial irrigators to reduce landscape irrigation water use.

Austin Water will work with the My ATX Water software vendor to develop reporting to identify customers with My ATX Water meters installed who are irrigating outside of the mandatory watering schedule and deliver courtesy notices to those customers. Austin Water will seek to use this system in advance of pursuing the enforcement actions allowed under Article 5 of Austin City Code, Chapter 6-4.

TABLE 18. MY ATX WATER IMPLEMENTATION MILESTONES

Implementation Activity Milestone	Fiscal Year Target
Develop data regarding CII customer categorization to assist in benchmarking and the identification of facilities for water conservation outreach.	2025
Expand My ATX Water reporting to better understand customer engagement through the portal.	2025
Investigate additional methods to encourage residential customers to use the My ATX Water portal and water-saving alerts.	2025/2026
Conduct pilot outreach activities to learn the best ways to encourage customers to save water.	2025/2026
Investigate effective methods of contacting CII owners/managers regarding water saving opportunities.	2026

Water use benchmarking and budgeting

AW has begun benchmarking projected water and non-potable water use for new commercial development through a required survey. The results are then used to identify water-saving development actions and the potential for reclaimed or onsite water reuse. Future efforts of benchmarking and budgeting will involve all existing AW customers.

- **Benchmarking** – Future phases will focus on categorizing commercial customers in order to benchmark water use for different types of business. This information can then identify water-efficient businesses, as well those with potential water-saving opportunities. Similar activities will be undertaken for residential customers.

- **Budgeting** – AW will investigate the potential for mandatory water budgeting based upon the benchmarking data in the non-drought Conservation Stage, as well as drought stages.

TABLE 19. WATER USE BENCHMARKING AND BUDGETING IMPLEMENATION MILESTONES

Implementation Milestone Activity	Fiscal Year Target
Develop data regarding CII customer categorization to assist in benchmarking and the identification of facilities for water conservation outreach.	2025
Conduct pilot outreach activities to learn the best ways to encourage customers to set and strive towards voluntary water budgets.	2026
Host public and stakeholder engagement opportunities to collect input on potential residential and commercial mandatory water budgets.	2027

Reclaimed and reuse water

Continue to expand the number of customers who convert to the use of reclaimed water and new developments that connect to the centralized reclaimed water system, one of the decentralized reclaimed water systems, or utilize onsite water reuse. See page 24 for more information regarding the GoPurple program and the various reclaimed/reuse activities. Below are implementation activities for centralized and decentralized reclaimed water systems, as well as for onsite water reuse activities.

TABLE 20. CENTRALIZED RECLAIMED WATER IMPLEMENTATION MILESTONES

Implementation Activity Milestone	Fiscal Year Target
Implement new projects to increase supply and extend the centralized service area.	Ongoing
Conduct water benchmarking with all new commercial and industrial customers to identify uses appropriate for reclaimed water and require connection to the reclaimed system in accordance with development requirements.	Ongoing
Implement projects to Complete the Core.	2024 - 2027
Complete Reclaimed Water Long Range Plan update.	To Be Determined

TABLE 21. DECENTRALIZED RECLAIMED WATER IMPLEMENTATION MILESTONES

Implementation Activity Milestone	Fiscal Year Target
Collaborate with new developments through the service extension request (SER) process to identify opportunities for decentralized reclaimed and appropriate cost participation by Austin Water.	Ongoing
Complete Wastewater Collection System Long Range Plan, including identifying existing and future wastewater treatment plants and sites.	2025
Develop infrastructure planning and design guidance.	To Be Determined

TABLE 22. ONSITE WATER REUSE IMPLEMENTATION MILESTONES

Implementation Activity Milestone	Fiscal Year Target
Determine the feasibility of fully subsidizing the cost of reclaimed connections, onsite water reuse systems, and dual plumbing for deeply affordable housing projects.	2025
Begin planning for expansion of onsite reuse requirements to include new medium-sized developments.	To Be Determined

Public outreach and marketing

AW is committed to building on its outreach and marketing successes, which include community tabling and educational outreach, advertising, social media engagement, website management, and customer leak notifications. Drought messaging and conservation messaging is integral and foundational to AW. AW's conservation messaging garners millions of impressions and reaches thousands of customers in person and virtually through:

- **Outreach**
  - Fix a Leak Week
  - Water Conservation Outreach at Utility Bill Payment Centers, Lunch & Learns, and Virtual Sessions
  - Ongoing community events
  - Dowser Dan for K-5 education

- **Advertising**
  - Water Wise Landscapes
  - Rebates
  - Irrigation and Outdoor Watering Schedules
  - My ATX Water

- **Social media engagement**

- **Special engagement activities**
  - Summer marketing campaigns, including traditional and digital advertising.
  - Additional infographics regarding the conservation incentive applications will provide customers with a better understanding of incentive requirements. In addition, a new online conservation tracking system will provide rebate applicants with updates regarding where their application is in the approval and payment process.
  - Conservation staff will increase engagement with landscapers and nurseries and investigate the potential for landscaper trainings.

Community partnership grants

To amplify the message of water conservation at the grass roots level, AW will explore the development of partnership grants to local non-profit organizations to support community-led projects furthering water conservation. Similar community grant programs within the City of Austin include:

- **Food and Climate Equity Grants** - administered by the Offices of Sustainability and Resilience to support community-led projects addressing food justice, climate equity, and community resilience. In 2023, the offices awarded a total of $150,000 to 51 unique projects. Additional information can be found at: https://www.austintexas.gov/news/combined-grant-program-offers-funding-food-climate-equity-and-resilience-projects

- **Bright Green Future School Grants** – administered by the Office of Sustainability, providing up to $3,000 in grants to schools that undertake projects that inspire students to become lifelong environmental learners. AW currently contributes to the funding of the Bright Green Future School Grants. Additional information can be found at https://www.austintexas.gov/department/bright-green-future-school-grants

During Fiscal Year 2025, AW will investigate and develop a program to provide $3,000 grants to community organizations to expand outreach of water conservation messaging. The development of the grants will include the eligible entities, the intended focus of activities, grant scoring and reporting criteria, and the necessary city processes. If determined feasible, AW will undertake a pilot program for water conservation grants in Fiscal Year 2026.

Projected Water Saving Yields from Water Use and Loss Activities

Estimated water-saving yields for the activities above are listed in Table 23. Estimates for some activities are not available, and it is not currently known to what degree the projected savings for an activity may be affected by concurrent implementation of other activities. AW recognizes that

the total anticipated water saving yields, expressed as GPCD, do not sum to the calculated decline from the baseline Total GPCD and the 2029 and 2034 Total GPCD goals (Table 13). Total GPCD goals will be achieved through a combination of achievable savings from proposed activities and unknown future activities.

TABLE 23. PROJECTED ADDITIONAL WATER-SAVING YIELDS FROM FUTURE WATER USE AND LOSS ACTIVITIES

Activity	2029 Annual Yield Acre feet / GPCD[1]	2034 Annual Yield Acre feet / GPCD[2]
Water loss reduction	2,240 / 1.6	4,680 / 3.0
Water use reduction		
Drip irrigation restrictions	87 / 0.1	522 / 0.3
Commercial conservation incentives	181 / 0.1	366 / 0.2
New single family landscape transformation	564 / 0.4	1,074 / 0.7
My ATX Water		
Residential water saving opportunities	165 / 0.1	345 / 0.2
Commercial engagement and water saving opportunities	192 / 0.1	432 / 0.3
Customer irrigation engagement	574 / 0.4	703 / 0.5
Water use benchmarking and budgeting	708 / 0.4	2,480 / 1.6
Reclaimed and reuse water		
Centralized reclaimed	880 / 0.6	3,940 / 2.5
Decentralized reclaimed	0 / 0	80 / 0.1
Onsite water reuse	880 / 0.6	2,260 / 1.4
Public outreach and marketing	-[3]	-[3]
Total estimated savings	**6,471 / 4.4**	**16,882 / 10.8**

[1]2029 projection of population served = 1,281,037

[2]2034 projection of population served = 1,391,528

[3]Outreach and marketing activities are widely recognized as water-savings measures that promote all other activities that cannot be quantified at time of the adoption of the Water Conservation Plan.

Program Tracking

To effectively track, evaluate, and quantify the impact of conservation activities and incentive programs, AW determines actual or estimated water savings for each program. While some estimates are based on national studies and utility research, AW increasingly relies on a statistical method (regression analysis) specific to Austin's data for more accurate assessments.

AW utilizes business intelligence tools to monitor performance in achieving conservation goals. These provide staff with dashboards and reports for real-time insights. Through annual audits of incentive programs, AW evaluates various aspects such as application trends, approved projects, estimated savings, cost-effectiveness, market saturation, administrative efficiency, and equity considerations. This information guides decisions on program optimization, expansion, or termination to ensure maximum impact and efficiency in water conservation efforts.

Beyond internal tracking and evaluation, AW will undertake additional reporting of conservation-related metrics and activities to relevant City boards, commissions, and task forces. Currently, AW provides a quarterly water conservation update to the Resource Management Commission which includes information regarding water conservation incentives and enforcement, as well as reclaimed water volumes. Staff will revise those updates to be more focused on the performance of conservation measures and offer it to all interested City bodies. In addition, AW will produce an annual report that describes the implementation progress of conservation activities.

Utility Profile

Contact Information

Name:	City of Austin Water Utility
Address:	625 East 10th Street, Suite 615, Austin, TX 78701
Telephone:	512-972-1000
Water right:	14-5471
Regional Water Planning Group:	Region K, Lower Colorado
Conservation Coordinator:	Kevin Kluge, Water Conservation Division Manager
Contact Information:	512-972-0400, kevin.kluge@austintexas.gov

Population and Service Area Data

The service area for the City of Austin includes both retail customers and wholesale customers. Within this service area, there are several wholesale customer service areas that extend beyond the city's boundaries. These extensions occur due to various factors such as infrastructure design and layout, operational limitations, or specific water supply demands.

CURRENT SERVICE AREA SIZE IN SQUARE MILES

Retail	Wholesale	Total
548	Wholesale Service: 33 Emergency Service Only: 13 Total: 46	592

HISTORICAL SERVICE AREA POPULATION

	Retail	Wholesale	Total
Water service	1,096,486	53,770	1,150,256
Wastewater service	1,075,255	44,367	1,054,662

HISTORICAL POPULATION SERVED

Year	Water - Retail	Water - Wholesale	Wastewater*
2019	1,083,596	54,966	917,416
2020	1,053,756	56,822	947,943
2021	1,077,269	58,540	977,053
2022	1,080,270	59,686	1,003,476
2023	1,096,486	53,770	1,054,662

*Wastewater-served population includes retail and wholesale estimates

PROJECTED SERVICE AREA POPULATION

Year	Water Retail	Water Wholesale	Wastewater*
2030	1,247,528	55,558	1,272,000
2040	1,466,473	57,742	1,494,790
2050	1,687,533	62,117	1,719,567
2060	1,913,291	66,280	1,948,809
2070	2,147,291	70,190	2,186,021

*Wastewater-served population includes retail and wholesale estimates

Sources and Methods Used for Estimates

The size of AW's service area was determined through a Geographic Information System (GIS) process, which identified parcels served by the utility. Historical and current population served by AW is estimated by the City Demographer in conjunction with other city departments, including Austin Water, who provides periodic updates on the population within the city's limited and full-purpose jurisdictions, as well as the population of surrounding counties. These estimates are based on demographic, billing, and consumption data and other relevant factors to provide an accurate representation of the population served by AW. Projected population served by AW is estimated using growth rate projections developed by Austin Water in close consultation with the City Demographer. These projections are typically based on historical population trends, demographic factors, and anticipated changes in the service area. The growth rate projections developed for the Water Forward planning project in 2024 serve as the basis for estimating the future population served by AW. Appendix C includes a map that illustrates AW's retail service area, emergency water service area, wholesale service area, and areas covered by the Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN).

Water Supply and Demand

SYSTEM INPUT

Year	Water produced (gallons)	Purchased or Imported (gallons)	Exported Water (gallons)	Total System Input
2023	54,899,509,000	0	2,731,521,000	52,167,988,000
2022	55,991,985,393	0	3,010,560,408	52,981,424,985
2021	51,744,870,440	0	2,653,337,857	49,091,532,583
2020	52,290,058,519	1,175,510	2,592,908,265	49,698,325,764
2019	50,495,469,807	867,000	2,544,498,300	47,951,838,507
Historic Average	53,084,378,632	408,502	2,706,565,166	50,378,221,968

Water Supply System

Designed capacity of system (gallons): 335 MGD
Storage capacity
Elevated storage (gallons): 15.5 MG
Ground storage (gallons): 156.6 MG

PROJECTED WATER DEMAND

Year	Population	Pumpage (gallons)
2025	1,193,506	56,270,751,407
2026	1,215,276	57,234,218,172
2027	1,237,128	58,197,684,937
2028	1,259,052	59,161,151,701
2029	1,281,037	60,124,618,466
2030	1,303,086	61,088,085,231
2031	1,325,144	62,051,551,996
2032	1,347,244	63,015,018,761
2033	1,369,376	63,978,485,525
2034	1,391,528	64,941,952,290

Source Data for Projected Water Demand

Projected water supply demands for the City's service area over the next ten years are based on population trends, historical water use, economic growth, and expected conservation savings. Projected diversions were estimated using baseline future water demands and estimated Water Forward strategy savings. Baseline future water demands were developed from an average water consumption for 2015 through 2020 and represent future conditions based on demographic projections of population, housing, and employment in Austin along with projected passive conservation. A climate adjustment factor was applied to the baseline future water demands. Savings from Water Forward strategies, which would be expected to reduce demand for potable water, were subtracted from the climate-adjusted baseline demand to generate projected diversions.

High Volume Customers

ANNUAL TREATED WATER USE FOR TOP FIVE HIGHEST VOLUME RETAIL CUSTOMERS IN 2023

Customer Name	Usage (gallons)
Samsung	2,438,050,700
University of Texas	829,212,600
NXP USA, INC	732,270,900
Cypress Semiconductor	389,030,200
Tesla Inc.	329,646,500

ANNUAL TREATED WATER USE FOR WHOLESALE CUSTOMERS IN 2023

Water & Wastewater Customers	Contract Amount (acre-feet)	Usage (acre-feet)
City of Manor	1,680	Less than 1
City of Rollingwood	1,120	355
City of Sunset Valley	716	343
Shady Hollow MUD	554	622
North Austin MUD #1	No contractual limitation	1,029
Northtown MUD	No contractual limitation	950
Southwest Water Company – Mid-Tex	1,274	265
Wells Branch MUD	No contractual limitation	1,245
Water Only Customer	**Contract Amount** (acre-feet)	**Usage** (acre-feet)
Aqua Texas – Morningside	52	5
Aqua Texas - Nighthawk WSC	43	41
Aqua Texas - Rivercrest	1,120	474
Creedmoor-Maha WSC	839	251
High Valley WSC	683	15
Marsha WSC	55	37
Travis County WCID #10	3,360	2,743
Village of San Leanna	325	14
Water Emergency	**Contract Amount** (acre-feet)	**Usage** (acre-feet)
Travis County MUD #4	No contractual limitations	0
Travis County WCID 17	No contractual limitations	0
Southwest Water Company – Windermere	No contractual limitations	0

System Data

CURRENT NUMBER OF ACTIVE RETAIL CONNECTIONS

	Metered	Non-metered	Total
Residential	233,511	0	233,511
Single-Family	*226,679*	*0*	*226,679*
Multi-Family	*6,832*	*0*	*6,832*
Commercial	18,151	0	18,151
Industrial	10	0	10
Institutional	700	0	700
Agriculture	0	0	0
Other (*Wholesale*)	50	0	50

NUMBER OF NEW RETAIL CONNECTIONS FOR THE PAST FIVE CALENDAR YEARS

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Residential					
Single-Family	4,273	4,266	3,065	2,791	1,878
Multi-Family	101	120	92	31	132
Commercial	278	286	175	103	166
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0
Institutional	0	0	0	0	0
Agriculture	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	4,652	4,672	3,332	2,925	2,176

The customer types shown in the table above are defined by TWDB in their guidance for the preparation for Water Conservation Plans which can be found online.

HISTORICAL WATER SALES (GALLONS)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Residential	24,625,694,500	26,485,611,800	25,806,553,700	28,320,264,200	27,809,231,000
Single-Family	14,660,931,000	15,833,103,100	14,824,750,200	16,574,970,200	16,058,699,400
Multi-Family	9,964,763,500	10,652,508,700	10,981,803,500	11,745,294,000	11,750,531,600
Commercial	11,101,200,600	9,953,614,400	10,806,494,300	11,262,707,700	11,529,513,600
Industrial	3,382,623,800	3,423,463,400	3,291,878,400	3,601,480,900	3,607,375,300
Institutional	1,216,558,500	857,728,200	1,388,446,600	1,106,477,700	1,125,001,500
Wholesale	2,544,498,300	2,541,050,100	2,600,271,100	2,950,349,200	2,731,630,163
Agricultural	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	42,870,575,700	43,261,467,900	43,893,644,100	47,241,279,700	46,802,751,563

Water Use Data

MONTHLY DIVERSIONS FOR ALL WATER USES (ACRE-FEET)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
January	10,496	11,390	11,266	11,817	12,257
February	9,875	10,634	11,670	10,880	10,988
March	11,335	11,564	12,144	12,675	13,236
April	11,476	11,274	12,652	13,660	12,864
May	12,453	13,086	12,515	14,939	13,657
June	12,471	14,518	13,785	16,654	15,337
July	15,036	16,376	14,486	18,938	18,370
August	17,772	17,178	15,302	17,735	19,576
September	16,610	13,686	16,068	15,988	16,962
October	14,993	14,664	14,192	16,080	14,997
November	11,878	13,106	12,560	12,733	12,687
December	11,627	11,865	12,334	12,676	12,251
Total	**156,021**	**159,342**	**158,974**	**174,777**	**173,181**

TOTAL AMOUNT OF WATER DIVERTED FOR MUNICIPAL USE (ACRE-FEET)

Year	Total Water Pumpage
2019	156,021
2020	159,342
2021	158,974
2022	174,777
2023	172,911

Water Supply Sources

AW receives 100 percent surface water from the Colorado River through a combination of run-of-river water rights granted by the State of Texas and a water supply contract with the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA). In 1999, the City of Austin secured a firm water supply totaling 325,000 acre-feet per year (AF/yr) through a key water supply contract with LCRA, utilizing stored water in the Highland Lakes and other sources to support Austin's run-of-river water rights, which are among the oldest in the basin. Under this 1999 agreement, which amended a previous 1987 agreement, Austin prepaid the LCRA for reservation and use fees. Future water use payments to LCRA will be triggered when Austin's annual average use for two consecutive calendar years exceeds 201,000 AF/yr. This has provided a conservation incentive for Austin, as the year after this trigger is reached the City will begin paying for water diversion amounts above 150,000 AF/yr. The term of the 1999 agreement extends through the year 2050, with an option for the City to renew the agreement for an additional 50-year period through the year 2100. In 2007, the City entered into a supplemental water supply agreement with LCRA for an additional 250,000 AF/yr of firm water to be planned and purchased at a future time, likely incrementally, to meet future needs.

Treatment and Distribution System

For over a century, AW has remained dedicated to delivering clean, safe, reliable, high-quality, sustainable, and affordable water to its customers. The utility owns and operates three major surface water treatment plants (WTPs) – Davis and Ullrich, which draw water from Lake Austin, and Handcox, which draws water from Lake Travis. Currently, these WTPs have a combined water treatment capacity of 335 million gallons per day (MGD), including 14 MG of elevated and 158 MG of ground storage capacity. Less than 3 percent of filter backwash is recycled to the head of the plants. The system comprises 3,929 miles of water mains, 9 major pressure zones, 47 water pumping stations and local boosters, and 38 city-maintained reservoirs with 176 million gallons of effective storage capacity.

Austin Water Treatment Plants and Capacity

Plant	Year Constructed	Treatment Capacity (MGD)
Davis	1954	118
Ullrich	1969	167
Handcox	2014	50
Total		335

Wastewater System Data

AW's wastewater system serves approximately 97 percent of the people served by Austin's water system. The treated volume includes those wholesale customers that receive wastewater service by the City. The table below shows the monthly volume of wastewater treated at Walnut Creek and South Austin Regional Wastewater Treatment Plants over the past five years.

MONTHLY VOLUME OF WASTEWATER TREATED (IN THOUSAND GALLONS)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
January	3,708,765	2,800,844	3,044,414	2,899,674	2,999,137
February	2,680,303	2,861,340	2,836,168	3,240,818	2,997,903
March	2,965,722	3,058,785	3,155,101	3,051,613	3,014,295
April	3,323,406	2,974,798	3,020,344	3,055,210	3,353,414
May	4,032,151	3,260,018	3,871,683	3,177,750	3,619,955
June	3,116,667	2,832,939	3,827,024	2,919,609	3,137,860
July	2,997,113	2,726,402	3,283,108	2,953,290	2,932,356
August	2,791,708	2,829,107	3,195,987	3,100,582	2,934,889
September	2,689,971	3,128,329	2,858,197	2,969,567	2,970,899
October	2,811,429	2,638,340	3,286,881	2,860,915	3,274,428
November	2,554,556	2,593,189	3,035,373	3,082,337	3,162,091
December	2,739,583	2,751,468	3,016,548	3,181,447	3,208,378
Total	**36,411,374**	**34,455,558**	**38,430,828**	**36,492,812**	**37,605,605**

Use of Treated Effluent

Walnut Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant uses approximately 2.2 million gallons per day of treated effluent for plant washdown and chlorination/dechlorination. The South Austin Regional (SAR) Wastewater Treatment Plant uses approximately 1.2 million gallons per day of treated effluent for plant washdown and chlorination/dechlorination. Hornsby Bend uses an additional 0.5 million gallons per day of treated effluent from SAR. Irrigation at Hornsby is drawn from an on-site pond system, not treated effluent.

TYPE OF WATER REUSE AND RECYCLING ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED, 2023

Type of reuse activity	Total annual volume (in thousand gallons)
On-site irrigation	666.2
Plant wash down	0
Chlorination/de-chlorination	0
Industrial	601,593.8
Landscape irrigation (park, golf courses)	903,159.7
Agriculture	0
Discharge to surface water	359.2
Evaporation Pond	0
Other	46,897.3
Total	1,552,676.2

Appendix A. Water Conservation Plan Requirement Checklist

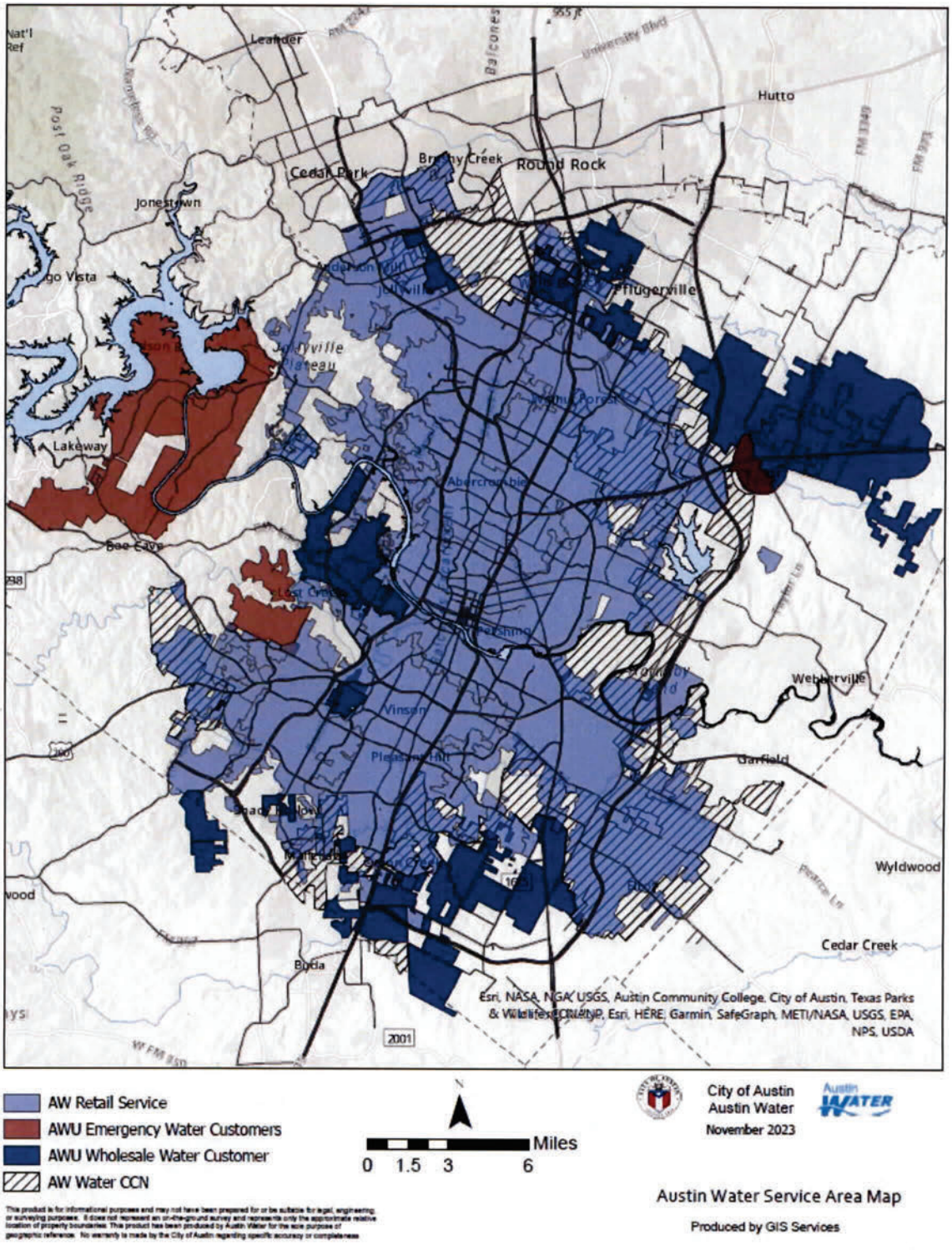
AW prepared this Water Conservation Plan and Utility Profile for Municipal and Wholesale Water Use to comply with Title 30 Texas Administrative Code §§ 288.2 and 288.5. This plan provides an overview of Austin's current and future water conservation initiatives within the framework recommended by forms TCEQ-10218 and 20162. In addition, the utility profile is used to convey information about the City of Austin's water and wastewater system to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

Water Conservation Plan Requirements	Report Location
Water Conservation Utility Profile, TWDB-1965	Page 31
Conservation Coordinator	Page 31
5- and 10-year goals in GPCD	Page 28
Achieving Targets	Page 27
Tracking Targets and Goals	Page 29
Production Meter(s)	Page 21
Universal Metering Program	Page 21
Water Loss Control Program	Page 22
Leak Detection Program	Page 22
Public Education and Information	Page 10
Water Rate Structure	Page 26
Signed Official Ordinance	Page 153, Appendix H
Regional Water Planning Group Notification	Page 155, Appendix I

Appendix B. Drought Contingency Plan

UPDATE ONCE AVAILABLE

Appendix C. Water Service Area Map



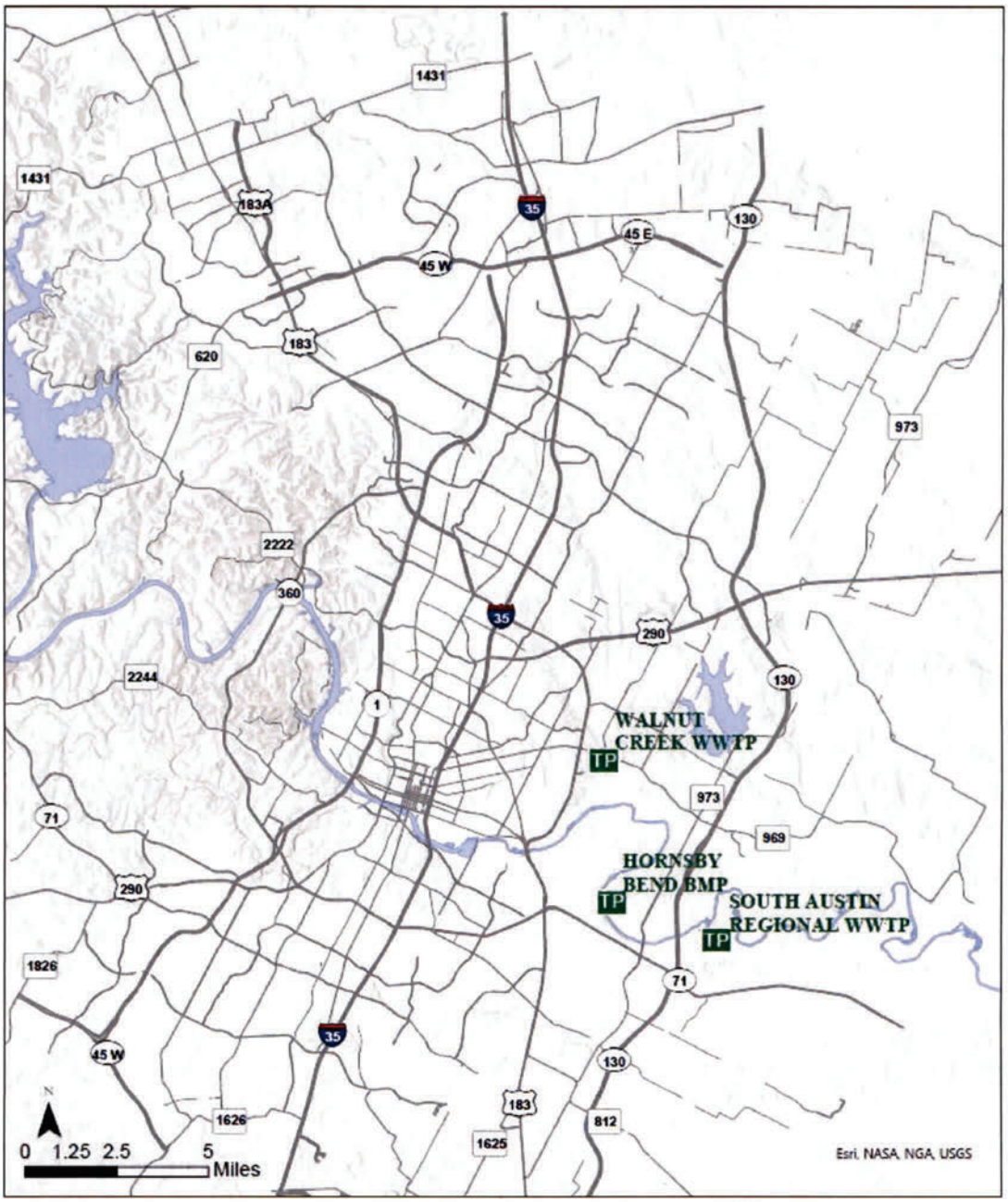
Appendix D. Wastewater Treatment Plants and Permits

Plants 1 through 8 are permitted to discharge to a stream. Plants 9 through 12 are not permitted to discharge to the waters of the state.

Permitted flows are expressed as monthly averages unless specified otherwise. Effluent quality is expressed as monthly average (unless specified otherwise) and written after the permitted average flow in the following order: 5-day Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD5)/Total Suspended Solids (TSS)/Ammonia-Nitrogen (NH3-N)/Total Phosphorus (TP), when applicable. For Balcones, Onion Creek, Lost Creek, River Place and Thoroughbred Farms, the effluent limit is on 5-Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD_5), and not on $CBOD_5$.

1) Walnut Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant, TPDES Permit No. WQ0010543011, EPA ID No. TX0046981, RN101607901, 75 MGD (annual average), 10/15/2 (monthly average) and 5/5/2 (annual average) to the Colorado River
2) South Austin Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant, TPDES Permit No. WQ0010543012, EPA ID No. TX0071889, RN101607794, 75 MGD (annual average), 10/15/2 (monthly average) and 5/5/2 (annual average) to the Colorado River
3) Wild Horse Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant, TPDES Permit No. WQ0010543013, EPA ID No. TX0124800, RN103014577, 0.75 MGD, 5/5/2/1 to a tributary of Gilleland Creek
4) Taylor Lane Wastewater Treatment Plant, TPDES permit No. WQ0010543014, EPA ID No. TX0129950, RN105331755, 0.1 MGD, 5/5/2/1 to Gilleland Creek
5) Pearce Lane Wastewater Treatment Plant, TPDES Permit No. WQ0010543015, EPA ID No.TX0132934, RN106066715, 0.15 MGD, 5/5/2/1 to a tributary of Dry Creek
6) Thoroughbred Farms Wastewater Treatment Plant, TPDES Permit No. WQ0014459001, EPA ID No. TX0067466, RN101265254, 0.065 MGD, 20/20 to Dry Creek
7) Dessau Wastewater Treatment Plant, TPDES Permit No. WQ0012971001, EPA ID No. TX0097870, RN102077328, 0.5 MGD, 10/15/3 to a tributary of Harris Branch
8) Brushy Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant (Co-permittee with City of Round Rock, City of Cedar Park, and Brazos River Authority), TPDES Permit No. WQ010264002, EPA ID No. TX0101940, RN10082260, 21.5 MGD (annual average), 10/15/2, to Brushy Creek
9) Balcones Water Reclamation Plant, TCEQ Permit No. WQ0011363001, RN102095114, no discharge, irrigation of golf course, 0.292 MGD/10
10) Lost Creek Water Reclamation Plant, TCEQ Permit No. WQ0011319001, RN100641653, no discharge, irrigation of golf course, 0.42 MGD, 10/15
11) River Place Water Reclamation Plant, TCEQ Permit No. WQ0011514001, RN100843283, no discharge, irrigation of golf course, 0.207 MGD, 5/5
12) Hornsby Bend Biosolids Management Plant, TCEQ Permit No. WQ0003823000, EPA ID No. TXL0050005, RN100816685, biosolids treatment plant, no discharge

Appendix E. Map of Large Wastewater Treatment Plants



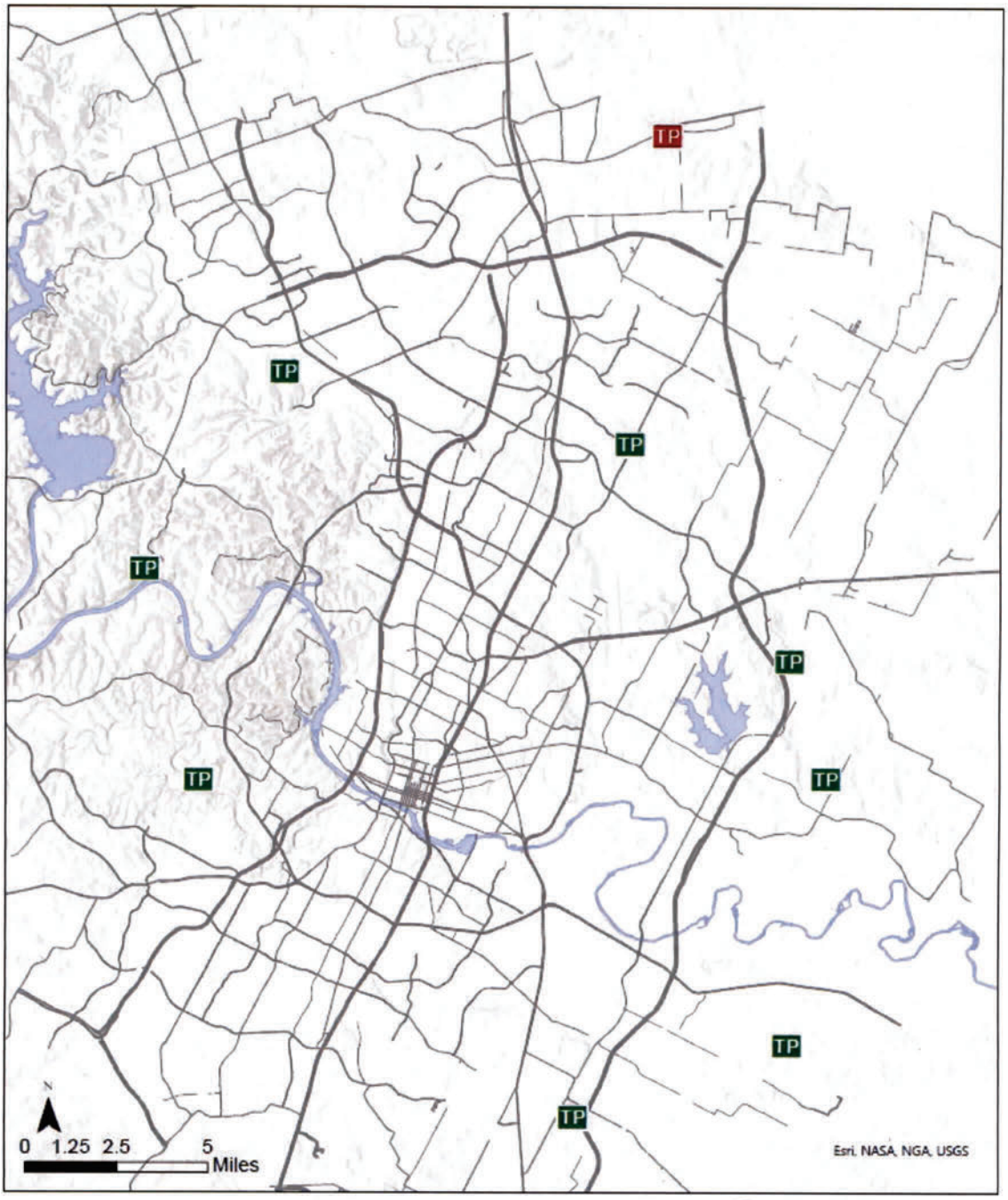
Austin's Large WWTP

City of Austin
Austin Water

November 2023

Produced by GIS Services

Appendix F. Map of Small Wastewater Treatment Plants



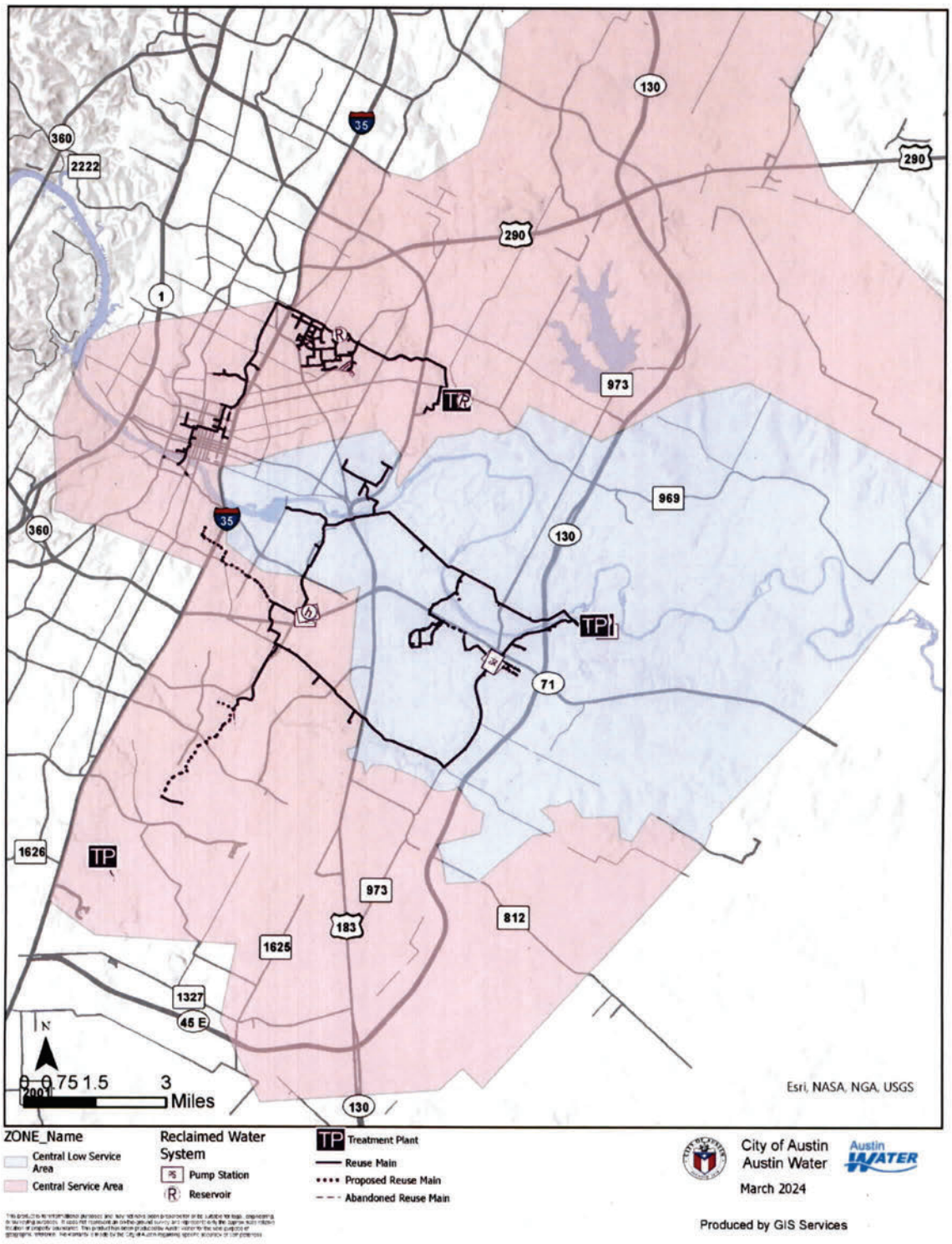
Austin's Small WWTP

City of Austin
Austin Water

November 2023

Produced by GIS Services

Appendix G. Reclaimed Water System Map



Appendix H. Signed Resolution Showing Plan Adoption

UPDATE ONCE AVAILABLE

Appendix I. Notification of the Lower Colorado River Authority and Region K Water Planning Group

UPDATE ONCE AVAILABLE

RESOLUTION NO. 20241121-005

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

Council adopts the City of Austin Drought Contingency Plan, attached as Exhibit A, as required by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

Council repeals Resolution No. 20240502-004, which adopted a revised Drought Contingency Plan.

ADOPTED: November 21, 2024 **ATTEST:** G Brady for
Myrna Rios
City Clerk

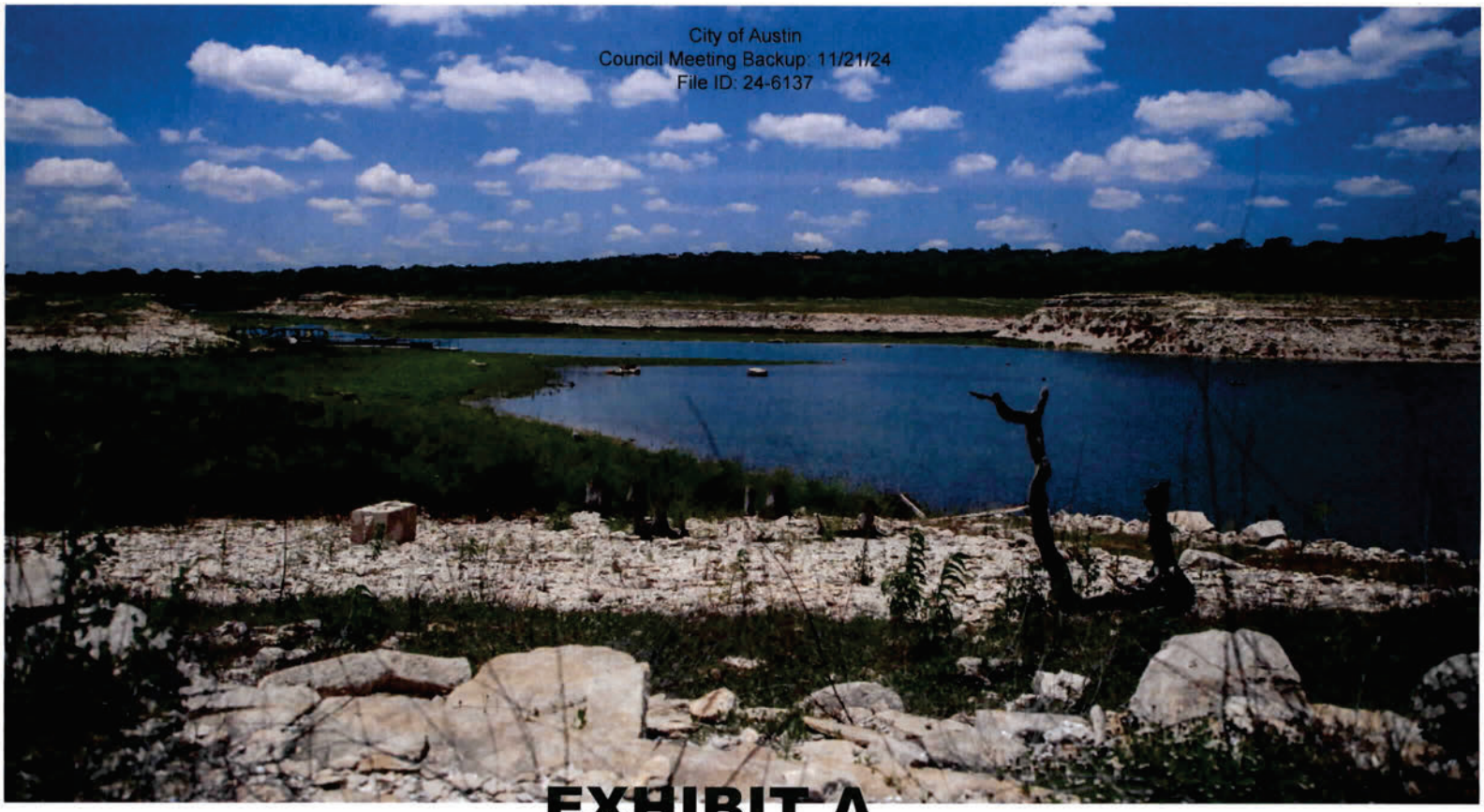


EXHIBIT A

CITY OF AUSTIN DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN

Developed to Meet Requirements Outlined in 30 TAC § 288.20 and § 288.22

Austin WATER

Water Conservation Division
City of Austin, Texas
PWS # 2270001

November 21, 2024

Table of Contents

Section I: Declaration of Policy, Purpose, and Intent

The City of Austin (the City) maintains a decades-long commitment to ensuring a sustainable water supply through demand management measures. The latest update to Austin's Drought Contingency Plan (the Plan) builds upon this legacy. This iteration of the Plan retains all measures from previous versions while incorporating new strategies to better address droughts in the future.

Designed as a comprehensive strategy, the Plan focuses on addressing water shortages and emergencies, with specific attention to domestic water use, sanitation, fire protection, and public well-being. In accordance with Section 11.1272 of the Texas Water Code and Chapter 288 of Title 30 of the Texas Administrative Code, the City regularly updates this plan, underscoring the importance of adaptability to evolving water supply dynamics.

This document outlines the City's strategic response to challenges posed by demand surges, infrastructure constraints, and droughts, including historical critical droughts. Through coordination with the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA), the Drought Contingency Plans of both the LCRA and the City are consistent in terms of targets and goals. The City's plan is more proactive, including the implementation activities necessary to conserve water.

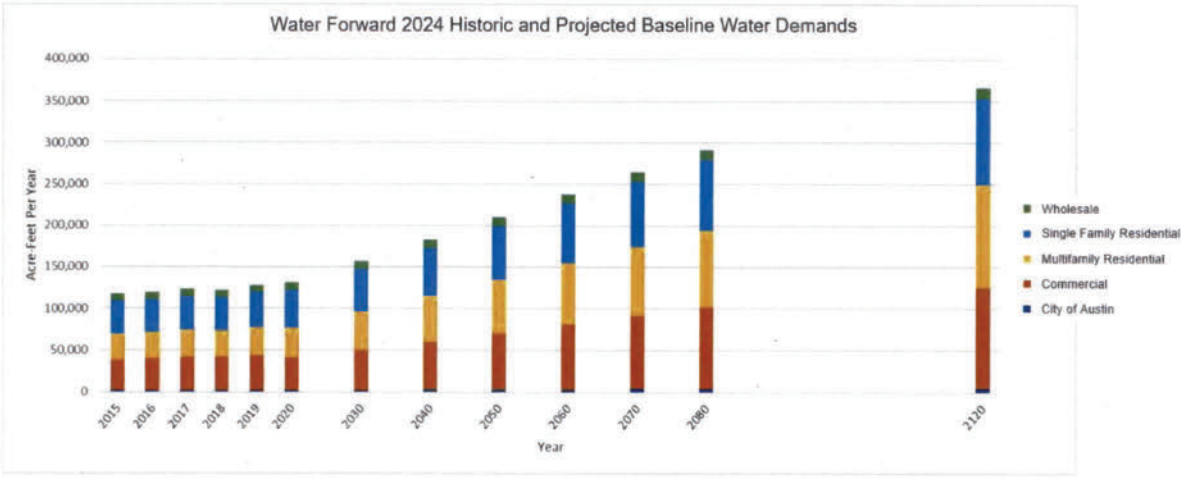
Detailed within the regulatory framework of the City of Austin's Municipal Code, the Water Conservation Code (updated in conjunction with this plan in May and November 2024) forms an integral part of our proactive water management actions. This Drought Contingency Plan serves not only to fulfill regulatory mandates but also as a detailed reference for effective drought management, with the amended Water Conservation Code accessible in Appendix A.

Section II: Background

A. Projected Water Demands

Austin Water's customer base is projected to increase from the current population of 1.1 million to 1.5 million by 2040, as outlined in the City of Austin's 2024 Water Forward Integrated Water Resources Plan. This growth in population and businesses is anticipated to result in a diversion of 183,000 acre feet in 2040, as projected in the 2024 Water Forward Plan (Medium Projection) See Figure 1.

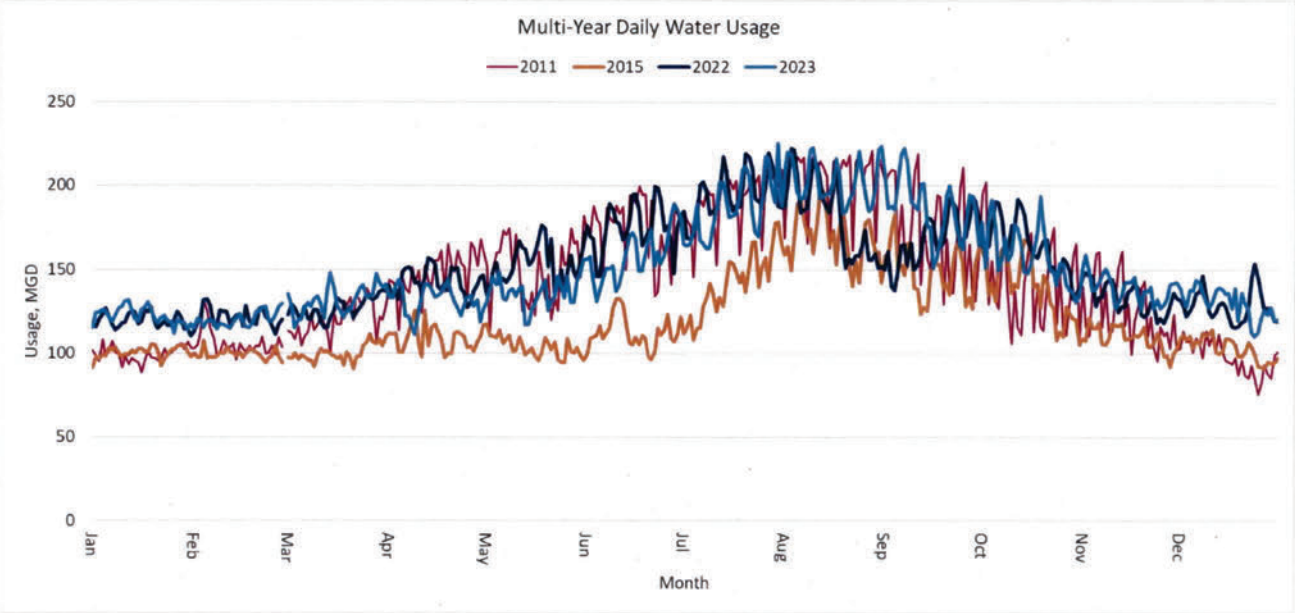
Figure 1. Water demand projections from the 2024 Water Forward Plan



Long-term projected water demands represent average usage, drawing from historical data on water consumption and projections of growth among various water users in the community. However, these projections do not account for short-term increases in water usage during hot, dry conditions typically associated with droughts. Such short-term increases of water use during drought can be seen in Figure 2. The figure depicts the daily water usage in millions of gallons per day (mgd) for Austin Water over a span of four years:

- 2011 (magenta) – the driest single year on record during the region's Drought of Record (2009-2014).
- 2015 (orange) – a recent year with above-average precipitation and low water usage.
- 2022 (dark blue) and 2023 (blue) – years following the declaration of Drought Stage 1 on June 6, 2022.

Figure 2. Historical daily water use during a wet year (2015) and dry years (2011, 2022, 2023).



In all years, the surge in landscape irrigation can increase daily water demands in August by 50 to 60 percent compared to January, even in a wet year like 2015. While Austin remains committed to water stewardship year-round, the most significant potential for short-term water savings during a drought lies in reducing landscape irrigation between June and October, alongside other conservation measures offering substantial near-term savings. However, achieving an overall reduction in water usage during a drought is highly challenging using traditional methods of public outreach and enforcement patrols.

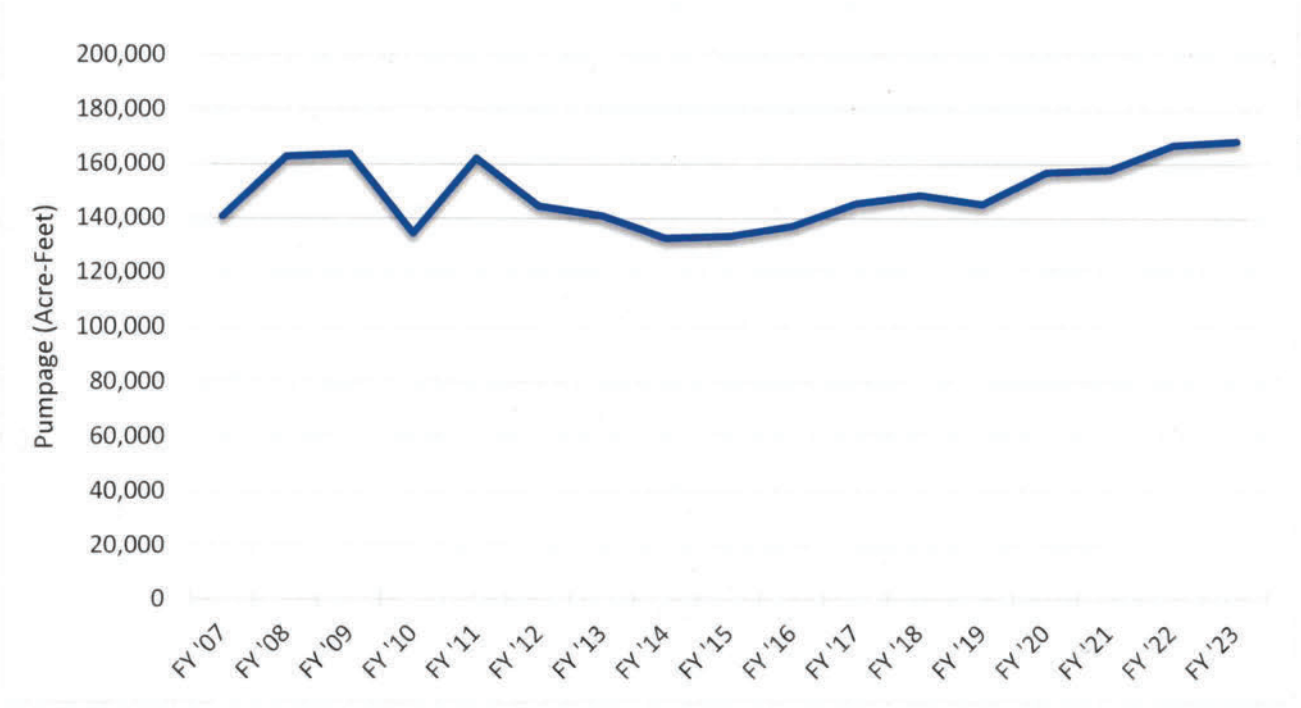
B. Water Supply and Water Supply Contracts

The City holds permitted municipal water rights granted by the State of Texas, allowing a maximum diversion of 292,703 acre-feet per year (AF/yr) from the Colorado River for municipal use. These water rights operate within the State's priority water rights system as run-of-river rights. This means the City can divert water under these rights only if it's available after fulfilling other more senior water rights. While the City's water rights include some of the most senior rights in the river basin, there are conditions, particularly during dry weather, when this run-of-river water may not reliably be available. Consequently, the City has water supply contracts with LCRA to ensure water availability under various hydrologic conditions, including droughts.

In 1999, the City of Austin secured a firm water supply of 325,000 AF/yr through a contract with LCRA, utilizing stored water in the Highland Lakes and other sources to support the City's senior water rights. This contract is renewable by the City of Austin until the year 2100. In 2007, Austin entered into a supplemental water supply agreement with LCRA to provide an additional 250,000 AF/yr of firm water to be incrementally planned for future needs beyond the 1999 contract's 325,000 AF/yr level. The

325,000 AF/yr component of the City's firm municipal water supply is roughly double the peak annual diversion level of 174,781 AF/yr, which occurred in 2022. The most recent five-year average is approximately 164,409 AF/yr. (See Figure 3)

Figure 3. Historic City of Austin Diversion Volumes



According to its 2020 Water Management Plan, the LCRA intends to manage water supplies in the Colorado River to ensure that stored water for firm demands is available without shortage, even in a repeat of the Drought of Record (DOR). When the LCRA's Board declares a Drought Worse than the Drought of Record (DWDR), mandatory pro-rata curtailment of firm water demand is required. The declaration of a DWDR involves evaluating hydrologic and water supply conditions based on specific criteria, including drought duration, inflow volumes, and combined storage conditions. LCRA may also mandate curtailments of firm water demand in response to other water emergencies that significantly reduce the available firm water supply. If a DWDR declaration is issued, LCRA may, following notification and approval of a pro-rata curtailment plan, enforce mandatory curtailment of firm customers. The City has adopted a Water Conservation Code (Appendix A) that authorizes consideration and implementation of emergency conservation measures if water use needs to be curtailed during a DWDR declaration.

In 2023, the LCRA initiated work to revise the previous drought stage triggers, which were subsequently adopted by their board on March 26, 2024. In response to the addition of both a new

drought stage and mechanism for determining drought stage triggers, the City has updated its triggers to align with both the LCRA and our community's strong commitment to water conservation.

C. Drought Conditions and Management Actions

LCRA manages the Highland Lakes as a system, which include its water supply reservoirs, Lakes Travis and Buchanan, and results in a maximum combined storage capacity of approximately 2.0 million acre-feet. LCRA utilizes combined storage levels in Lakes Travis and Buchanan, inflows to the Highland Lakes, and other hydrologic factors as indicators of water supply conditions, including potential severe, long-term drought conditions. Combined storage levels also trigger the implementation of drought contingency plan stages. The historical Drought of Record for the Colorado River basin region, which encompasses the City of Austin, occurred during the years 1947-1957, when the combined water storage levels of Lakes Travis and Buchanan plummeted to a low of 621,221 acre-feet. Based on unprecedented conditions in February of 2015, LCRA declared that the basin entered a new "critical period," defined as a time period with the driest conditions and lowest inflows.

To mitigate adverse effects from periods of severe water shortages, Austin's Water Conservation Code (Section 6-4) outlines the City's water use stages within its service area during such periods caused by drought, water supply contamination, system outage due to failure or damage of the water system, or other emergency conditions. Additionally, if the available supply falls short of the anticipated demand, the City will assess and implement further emergency demand management measures, as detailed in the Water Conservation Code (Appendix A). All measures outlined in the Water Conservation Code are considered part of this Plan.

D. Water System Capacity

Austin Water currently serves approximately 250,000 connections with over 4,044 miles of water mains. In 2023, Austin Water provided water to an approximate retail service area population of 1,096,486 and a wholesale customer population of 53,770, totaling approximately 1,150,256 individuals. All the City's drinking water is sourced from the Colorado River. Two water treatment plants, with a combined capacity to treat and distribute 285 million gallons per day (MGD), draw water from Lake Austin. A third water treatment plant, with a capacity of 50 MGD, draws water from Lake Travis. Table 1 summarizes the current plant capacities.

Table 1. City of Austin Water Treatment Plants and Capacity

Plant Name	Year Constructed	Treatment Capacity (million gallons/day)
Davis	1954	118
Ullrich	1969	167
Handcox	2014	50
Total		335

Section III: Trigger Conditions and Goals

The City of Austin has established a baseline water conservation stage, which encompasses water efficiency measures that are in place regardless of the drought stage and apply to all retail water customers. In 2012, the city adopted a permanent Water Conservation Stage containing year-round water conservation measures, with additional measures enacted since then. The following measures are in effect during the baseline Conservation Stage, when our reservoirs hold more than 1.4 million acre-feet:

- Residential and commercial facilities may irrigate only before 10:00 a.m. or after 7:00 p.m. on designated outdoor water use days.
- Automatic irrigation systems are restricted to one designated outdoor water use day per week, allowing up to fifteen hours of irrigation.
- Drip irrigation is permitted twice per week, on designated outdoor water use days, for up to thirty hours per week.
- Hose-end sprinklers are permitted on up to two designated outdoor water use days per week, allowing for a total of thirty hours of irrigation.
- Mandatory commercial irrigation, cooling tower, and car wash efficiency assessment programs are in place.
- Commercial pressure washing efficiency requirements are enforced.
- Restaurants are required to serve water only upon request.
- Hotels are mandated to offer linen reuse programs.
- Washing of vehicles and outdoor surfaces is permitted only with a hose equipped with a positive shut-off or using a bucket.
- Commercial patio misters may operate only between 4:00 p.m. and midnight.
- Irrigation design requirements exceed those set by the State of Texas.

Austin's City Manager or their designee monitors water supply, water system capacity, and demand conditions to determine when to consider implementing additional conservation actions for the City's retail water customers, as outlined in the demand, combined storage capacity, inflow into reservoirs, and emergency triggers listed in Table 2.

The decision to enact an inflow-based trigger will be made on March 1st and July 1st each year. This will involve assessing the previous three-month average inflows into the reservoirs. If that average inflow is less than the 25th percentile of the historic average for the same three-month period, the trigger condition will be met.

Table 2. Demand, Supply and Emergency Triggers

Demand Triggers				
Stage	**Trigger**	**Goal**	**Action[a]**	**End Condition**
Stage 2	300 MGD or more for three consecutive days	Reduce water use by 15% of 300 MGD	Drought Response Stage Two Regulations	City Manager ends based on daily supply and demand of water
Stage 2	320 MGD or more for one day	Reduce water use by 15% of 320 MGD	Drought Response Stage Two Regulations	City Manager ends based on daily supply and demand of water

Inflow Trigger				
Stage	**Trigger**	**Goal**	**Action[a]**	**End Condition**
Stage 2	Combined lake storage between 1.1 MAF – 900,000 AF Inflows less than 25% of historic average[c]	Reduce water use by 20%	Drought Response Stage Two Regulations	Combined storage reaches 1.1 MAF and projected to stay above 900,000 AF for four months[b]

Table 2. Demand, Supply and Emergency Triggers (continued)

Stage	Trigger	Goal	Action[a]	End Condition
Stage 1	Combined lake storage falls below 1.4 MAF	Reduce water use by 10%	Drought Response Stage One Regulations	Combined storage reaches 1.4 MAF and expected to remain above 1.4 MAF for four months
Stage 2	Combined lake storage falls below 900,000 AF	Reduce water use by 20%	Drought Response Stage Two Regulations	Combined storage reaches 1.1 MAF and projected to stay above 900,000 AF for four months[b]
Stage 3	Combined lake storage falls below 750,000 AF	Reduce water use by 25%	Drought Response Stage Three Regulations	Combined storage reaches 900,000 AF and projected to stay above 750,000 AF for four months[b]
Stage 4	Combined lake storage falls below 600,000 AF or a drought worse than the drought of record is declared	Reduce water use by a minimum of 30% from a baseline approved by LCRA, which may account for City's conservation measures	Drought Response Stage Four Regulations or Additional Restrictions as necessary to meet pro-rata curtailment requirements	City Manager determines that conditions no longer require meeting mandatory curtailment targets; combined storage expected to remain above 600,000 AF for four months
Emergency Stage 5	As determined by City Manager, system outage, equipment failure, contamination of water source or other emergencies	Reduce water use to levels deemed necessary	Emergency Stage Four Regulations or Additional Restrictions	City Manager ends based on daily water demand or the end of supply constraints

[a] Detailed information about watering schedules and additional conservation measures for each stage can be found in Appendix A.

[b] The City Manager may also end regulations based on other conditions or circumstances which merit such action.

[c] Inflow triggers will be checked on March 1 and July 1. If the previous three-months average inflows fall below 25% of the historic average for the same three-month period, the triggers will be enacted.

Procedures for granting variances to the watering regulations are outlined in Austin's Water Conservation Code and may be authorized if deemed necessary to safeguard public health and safety. Violations are subject to both criminal and administrative penalties as stipulated in City Code, Chapter

2-13. Additional requirements are incorporated within the Water Conservation Code, detailed in City Code Chapter 6-4, and in rules adopted pursuant to that chapter.

Section IV: Drought Response Measures

Within each drought stage, Austin Water will enforce specific regulations, including outdoor watering restrictions. Additionally, Austin Water may undertake further discretionary non-regulatory water-saving measures, depending on the need and available resources, to encourage and assist residents and businesses in conserving water. The following tables outline the watering and other regulations cited in Chapter 6-4, as well as the non-regulatory measures that Austin Water may implement at each drought stage.

Drought Response Stage 1

Outdoor Watering Restrictions	
Automatic Irrigation[a]	Once per week (13-hour maximum) Midnight – 8:00 a.m. / 7:00 p.m. – midnight Assigned weekday
Drip Irrigation[b]	Twice per week (26-hour maximum) Midnight – 8:00 a.m. / 7:00 p.m. - midnight Assigned weekday
Hose End Irrigation[c]	Twice per week (30-hour maximum) Midnight – 10:00 a.m. / 7:00 p.m. - midnight Assigned weekday and weekend day

[a] Automatic Irrigation means any irrigation system connected to and being operated by a programmable controller, including a permanently or temporarily installed irrigation system, and drip irrigation, also called irrigation system.
[b] Drip Irrigation means a method of irrigation which is typically installed below ground and consists of porous piping that allows the application of water at a slow and constant rate included as part of an automatic irrigation system.
[c] Hose End Irrigation means an above-ground water distribution device that may be attached to a garden hose, not designed to be held by a person while in operation.

Additional Code Measures	
Regulations	1. No water waste. 2. No midday watering. 3. Restaurants serve water on request. 4. Cooling tower efficiency requirements and annual assessment. 5. Commercial irrigation evaluation every two years. 6. Car washing equipment certified annually. 7. Charity car washes held at commercial car washes. 8. Home car washing must use positive shutoff valve. 9. Patio misters may not operate at commercial facility except between 4 p.m. and midnight. 10. Power washers use efficient equipment. 11. Ornamental fountains must recirculate.
Variances	1. Threat to primary source of income. 2. Documented environmental requirement. 3. Large property (unable to irrigate property during Conservation Stage). 4. Medical hardship. 5. Xeriscaping establishment. 6. Alternative compliance.
Exemptions	1. Protection of public health, safety and welfare. 2. Use of alternative water. 3. Repair of water distribution lines. 4. Testing and repair of irrigation systems. 5. Hand watering any day any time or with refillable receptacle. 6. Tree watering with automatic bubbler, drip irrigation, or soaker hose. 7. Vegetable garden watering using drip irrigation or a soaker hose. 8. Water use necessary for permit requirements including the establishment of new landscaping if watering occurs between the hours of 7:00 pm and 10:00 pm. 9. Washing of garbage and food handling trucks. 10. Athletic fields. 11. Fire suppression. 12. Irrigation of plant stock at commercial nursery. 13. Watering commercially applied herbicide or pesticide.

Discretionary Non-Regulatory Measures	
Policy	• Expand temporary enforcement staff during irrigation season.
Education	• Enhanced marketing of drought-related information to the public. • Develop voluntary water budgeting outreach through the My ATX Water portal.
Incentives	• Enhanced outreach to other City departments to implement water conservation audits/projects. • Increase rebate amounts for select conservation programs. • Increase incentives for voluntary connection to centralized reclaimed water system.

Drought Response Stage 2

Outdoor Watering Restrictions	
Automatic Irrigation[a]	Once per week (10-hour maximum) Midnight – 5:00 a.m. / 7:00 p.m. – midnight Assigned weekday
Drip Irrigation[b]	Twice per week (20-hour maximum) Assigned weekday
Hose End Irrigation[c]	Once per week (15-hour maximum) Midnight – 10:00 a.m. / 7:00 p.m. – midnight Assigned weekend day

[a] Automatic Irrigation means any irrigation system connected to and being operated by a programmable controller, including a permanently or temporarily installed irrigation system, and drip irrigation, also called irrigation system.
[b] Drip Irrigation means a method of irrigation which is typically installed below ground and consists of porous piping that allows the application of water at a slow and constant rate included as part of an automatic irrigation system.
[c] Hose End Irrigation means an above-ground water distribution device that may be attached to a garden hose, not designed to be held by a person while in operation.

Additional Code Measures	
Regulations	1. No water waste. 2. No midday watering. 3. Restaurants serve water on request. 4. Cooling tower efficiency requirements and annual assessment. 5. Commercial irrigation evaluation every two years. 6. Car washing equipment certified annually. 7. Charity car washes prohibited. 8. Home car washing must use single fill receptacle. 9. Patio misters may not operate at commercial facility except between 4 p.m. and midnight. 10. Power washers use efficient equipment. 11. Ornamental fountains must recirculate. 12. Ornamental fountains with a 4-inch emission or fall of water are prohibited, unless to preserve aquatic life. 13. Golf course fairways irrigated on designated outdoor water use day; tees and greens irrigated every other day with notice to Austin Water.

Additional Code Measures (continued)	
Variances	1. Threat to primary source of income. 2. Documented environmental requirement. 3. Large property (unable to irrigate property during Conservation Stage). 4. Medical hardship. 5. Xeriscaping establishment. 6. Alternative compliance.
Exemptions	1. Protection of public health, safety, and welfare. 2. Use of alternative water. 3. Repair of water distribution lines. 4. Testing and repair of irrigation systems. 5. Hand watering any day any time or with refillable receptacle. 6. Tree watering with automatic bubbler, drip irrigation, or soaker hose. 7. Vegetable garden watering using drip irrigation or a soaker hose. 8. Water use necessary for permit requirements not including the establishment of new landscaping, unless otherwise required. 9. Washing of garbage and food handling trucks. 10. Athletic fields. 11. Fire suppression. 12. Irrigation of plant stock at commercial nursery. 13. Watering commercially applied herbicide or pesticide.

Discretionary Non-Regulatory Measures	
Policy	• Expand temporary enforcement staff during irrigation season.
Education	• Enhanced marketing of drought-related information to the public. • Develop voluntary water budgeting outreach through the My ATX Water portal.
Incentives	• Enhanced outreach to other City departments to implement water conservation audits/projects. • Increase rebate amounts for select conservation programs. • Increase incentives for voluntary connection to centralized reclaimed water system.

Drought Response Stage 3

Outdoor Watering Restrictions	
Automatic Irrigation[a] & Drip Irrigation[b]	Once per week (6-hour maximum) Midnight – 6:00 a.m. Assigned weekday
Hose End Irrigation[c]	Once per week (6-hour maximum) 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. / 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Assigned weekend day

[a] Automatic Irrigation means any irrigation system connected to and being operated by a programmable controller, including a permanently or temporarily installed irrigation system, and drip irrigation, also called irrigation system.
[b] Drip Irrigation means a method of irrigation which is typically installed below ground and consists of porous piping that allows the application of water at a slow and constant rate included as part of an automatic irrigation system.
[c] Hose End Irrigation means an above-ground water distribution device that may be attached to a garden hose, not designed to be held by a person while in operation.

Additional Code Measures	
Regulations	1. No water waste. 2. No midday watering. 3. Restaurants serve water on request. 4. Cooling tower efficiency requirements and annual assessment. 5. Commercial irrigation evaluation every two years. 6. Car washing equipment certified. 7. Charity car washes prohibited. 8. Home car washing must use single fill receptacle. 9. Patio misters may not operate at commercial facility except between 4 p.m. and midnight. 10. Power washers use efficient equipment. 11. Ornamental fountains must recirculate. 12. Ornamental fountains with a 4-inch emission or fall of water are prohibited, unless to preserve aquatic life. 13. Golf course fairways irrigated on designated outdoor water use day; tees and greens irrigated every other day with notice to Austin Water.

Additional Code Measures (continued)	
Variances	1. Threat to primary source of income. 2. Documented environmental requirement. 3. Large property (unable to irrigate property during Conservation Stage). 4. Medical hardship. 5. Xeriscaping establishment. 6. Alternative Compliance. 7. Athletic Fields.
Exemptions	1. Protection of public health, safety and welfare. 2. Use of alternative water. 3. Repair of water distribution lines. 4. Testing and repair of irrigation systems. 5. Hand watering any day any time or with refillable receptacle. 6. Tree watering with automatic bubbler, drip irrigation, or soaker hose. 7. Vegetable garden watering using drip irrigation or a soaker hose. 8. Water use necessary for permit requirements not including the establishment of new landscaping, unless otherwise required. 9. Washing of garbage and food handling trucks. 10. Fire suppression. 11. Irrigation of plant stock at commercial nursery. 12. Watering commercially applied herbicide or pesticide.

Discretionary Non-Regulatory Measures	
Policy	• Expand temporary enforcement staff during irrigation season. • No warning for irrigation water waste violations, but dismissal with completion of an irrigation course. • Drought Rate Surcharge of $1.00 per thousand gallons of water billed. For more information see the City of Austin's Water Conservation Plan, page 28.
Education	• Enhanced marketing of drought-related information to the public. • Expanded voluntary water budgeting outreach through the My ATX Water portal.
Incentives	• Enhanced outreach to other City departments to implement water conservation audits/projects. • Increase rebate amounts for select conservation programs. • Increase incentives for voluntary connection to centralized reclaimed water system.

Drought Response Stage 4

Outdoor Watering Restrictions	
Automatic Irrigation[a] & Drip Irrigation[b]	Nonfunctional turf *(see definition on page 20)* No watering Functional turf *(see definition on page 20)* areas and beds only Once per week (6-hour maximum) Midnight – 6:00 a.m. Assigned weekday
Hose End Irrigation[c]	Nonfunctional turf *(see definition on page 20)* No watering Functional turf areas and beds only Once per week (6-hour maximum) 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. / 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Assigned weekend day

[a] Automatic Irrigation means any irrigation system connected to and being operated by a programmable controller, including a permanently or temporarily installed irrigation system, and drip irrigation, also called irrigation system.
[b] Drip Irrigation means a method of irrigation which is typically installed below ground and consists of porous piping that allows the application of water at a slow and constant rate included as part of an automatic irrigation system.
[c] Hose End Irrigation means an above-ground water distribution device that may be attached to a garden hose, not designed to be held by a person while in operation.

Additional Code Measures	
Regulations	1. No water waste. 2. No midday watering. 3. No watering nonfunctional turf (except for hand watering) 4. Suspend approval of irrigation permits. 5. Suspend approval of single-family residential pool permits. 6. Restaurants serve water on request. 7. Cooling tower efficiency requirements and annual assessment. 8. Commercial irrigation evaluation every two years. 9. Car washing equipment must be certified. 10. Charity car washes prohibited. 11. Home car washing must use positive shutoff valve. 12. Patio misters may not operate at commercial facility except between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. 13. Power washers use efficient equipment. 14. Ornamental fountains must recirculate. 15. Ornamental fountains with a 4-inch emission or fall of water are prohibited. 16. The filling of spas is prohibited. 17. Operation of splash pads during limited hours.
Variances	1. Threat to primary source of income. 2. Documented environmental requirement. 3. Large property (unable to irrigate property during Conservation Stage). 4. Medical hardship. 5. Alternative Compliance. 6. Athletic fields.
Exemptions	1. Protection of public health, safety and welfare. 2. Use of alternative water. 3. Repair of water distribution lines. 4. Testing and repair of irrigation systems. 5. Hand watering any day any time or with refillable receptacle. 6. Tree watering with automatic bubbler, drip irrigation, or soaker hose. 7. Vegetable garden watering using drip irrigation or a soaker hose. 8. Water use necessary for permit requirements not including the establishment of new landscaping, unless otherwise required. 9. Washing of garbage and food handling trucks. 10. Fire suppression. 11. Irrigation of plant stock at commercial nursery. 12. Watering commercially applied herbicide or pesticide.

Discretionary Non-Regulatory Measures	
Policy	• Expand temporary enforcement staff during irrigation season. • Allow for dismissal of first violation with completion of an irrigation course. • Drought Rate Surcharge of $2.00 per thousand gallons of water billed. For more information see the City of Austin's Water Conservation Plan, page 28.
Education	• Enhanced marketing of drought-related information to the public. • Expanded voluntary water budgeting outreach through the My ATX Water portal.
Incentives	• Enhanced outreach to other City departments to implement water conservation audits/projects. • Increase rebate amounts for select conservation programs. • Increase incentives for voluntary connection to centralized reclaimed water system.

Functional and Nonfunctional Turf

The restriction of irrigation in Drought Stage 4 to Functional Turf has been included to meet restrictions required by the City of Austin's wholesale provider, the LCRA. To clarify which turf may be irrigated and which may not, Austin Water has amended City Code, Chapter 6-4 to include definitions of Functional and Nonfunctional turf.

- Functional turf means turfgrass that is regularly used for community events, programmed recreational purposes, such as sports fields, golf course areas used directly for sport (greens, tees, fairways, and practice areas), maintaining the integrity of foundations, cemeteries, areas designated to be part of a water quality treatment solution required for compliance with federal, state, or local agency water quality permitting requirements.

- Nonfunctional turf means turfgrass that is **not** regularly used for community events, programmed recreational activities, such as sport fields, golf course areas used directly for sport (greens, tees, fairways, and practice areas). This also includes but is not limited to turf located at a residential facility, in a street right-of-way, parking lot islands, medians, or transportation corridors.

The terms 'functional' and 'nonfunctional' are increasingly commonly used nationally, and the specific definitions used were chosen by Austin Water staff to be more effective in implementing the restrictions, providing the specificity necessary for customer violation disputes and hearings. The terms are

intended to be consistent with LCRA's terms for restricted irrigation in their Drought Contingency Plan: "ornamental landscaping" and "ornamental turf grass".[1]

Emergency Stage 5

Irrigation & Additional Code Measures	
Regulations	1. No irrigation of vegetation outdoors. 2. Suspend approval of new irrigation permits. 3. Suspend approval of new single-family pool permits. 4. No washing of vehicles or mobile equipment. 5. No operation of fountains unless necessary to preserve aquatic life. 6. No adding of water to swimming pool, pond, fountain or spa. 7. No operation of splash pads or other similar recreational use of water (including Slip 'N Slide). 8. No washing of outdoor surfaces. 9. No operation of patio misters. 10. No watering of chemical lawn applications unless authorized in a variance. 11. No foundation watering.
Variances	1. Threat to primary source of income. 2. Documented environmental requirement. 3. Foundation watering. 4. Athletic field irrigation when necessary to protect the health of the players. 5. Watering in of prescribed tree disease treatment chemicals or pesticide. 6. Alternative Compliance.
Exemptions	1. Protection of public health, safety and welfare. 2. Use of alternative water. 3. Repair of water distribution lines. 4. Water use necessary for permit requirements, except for landscaping establishment. 5. Washing of garbage and food handling trucks. 6. Fire suppression.

[1] https://www.lcra.org/download/lcra-dcp-appendix-b-rules/?wpdmdl=33318

Discretionary Non-Regulatory Measures	
Policy	• Expand temporary enforcement staff during irrigation season only if storage capacity driven declaration. • No warning for irrigation water waste violations, but dismissal with completion of an irrigation course. • Drought Rate Surcharge of $3.00 per thousand gallons of water billed. For more information see the City of Austin's Water Conservation Plan, page 28.
Education	• Enhanced marketing of drought-related information to the public. • Expanded voluntary water budgeting outreach through the My ATX Water portal.
Incentives	• Enhanced outreach to other City departments to implement water conservation audits/projects. • Increase rebate amounts for select conservation programs. • Increase incentives for voluntary connection to centralized reclaimed water system.

Section V: Wholesale Contract Provisions

New wholesale contracts incorporate standard language mandating adherence to the City's Water Conservation Code. Over the past several years, newly negotiated wholesale contracts are obligated to establish a water conservation program like, or more stringent than the one administered by the City. For customers with older contracts, voluntary implementation of similar water conservation measures is requested. AW works with each organization to assist with conservation outreach and shared AW materials and guidelines.

Pro-rata curtailment will be conducted in accordance with Texas Water Code §11.039. Additionally, all new, renewed, or extended wholesale supply contracts include a provision stipulating that water distribution will occur on a pro-rata basis in the event of a water shortage resulting from drought.

Enforcement actions for non-compliance with either the Water Conservation Code or pro-rata water reductions by wholesale customers will be determined based on the specifics outlined in each wholesale customer's contract.

Section VI: Public Involvement

Austin Water solicited input on the Plan adopted by City Council on May 2, 2024 from both retail and wholesale water customers, as well as identified key stakeholder groups. Throughout the engagement process, Austin Water sought feedback for the development of revisions to the existing Water Conservation Code related to drought management using various methods:

- Utilizing advertising opportunities and multiple social media platforms to encourage feedback.
- Sending direct email notifications and meeting invites to key stakeholders.
- Conducting two surveys aimed at collecting public input on five potential additions to drought stage regulations, as well as gathering open feedback. One survey was accessible on the Drought Contingency Plan SpeakUpAustin page (with 67 respondents). The second survey was randomly emailed to Austin Water customers (with 43 respondents). Results from both surveys showed similar responses. Overall, a substantial majority supported the proposed additions to drought stage regulations. Refer to Appendix F for combined survey responses.
- Delivering presentations at meetings of City advisory boards such as the Water and Wastewater Commission, the Resource Management Commission, and the Austin Integrated Water Resources Planning Community Task Force, also known as the Water Forward Task Force.

After the May 2, 2024 adoption, Austin Water continued to review and revise the Drought Contingency Plan and the Water Conservation Plan in conjunction with the Water Forward Task Force, as they complete the 2024 Water Forward Plan. Public input for all three plans entailed:

- Public workshops held on August 27 (in-person) and August 28, which included public feedback opportunities and a survey.
- Water Forward Task Force meetings open to public comment, as well as presentations to Water and Wastewater Commission and the Resource Management Commission. Resolutions supporting the Plan from these advisory bodies can be found in Appendix D.

Section VII: Public Notification and Education

The City will disseminate information about the Plan to all water customers, including details about the conditions triggering each stage of the Plan and the corresponding drought response measures. This information will be distributed through various channels, such as press releases, traditional and digital advertisements, updates on the city's website and social media platforms, and presentations to customers, community organizations, and neighborhood groups. Additionally, water conservation-related public information materials, including brochures and program information, will be made available to wholesale water customers for distribution to their retail customers.

The City will also notify the public of upcoming drought stage changes using the same communication methods and advertisements. The scope of these notifications will expand with each elevated drought stage. Additionally, marketing efforts will highlight increased rebate payments available during each drought stage.

Section VIII: Coordination with Regional Planning Groups (RPG)

The City of Austin has provided a copy of this Plan to the Lower Colorado Regional Planning Group (Region K). A copy of the transmittal letter is included in Appendix E.

Section IX: TCEQ Notification

The City will notify the executive director of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality within five business days of implementing any mandatory provisions of the Drought Contingency Plan.

Section X: Plan Review and Updates

This Plan was developed to fulfill the requirements outlined in 30 TAC § 288.20 and § 288.22, which mandate the submission of a Drought Contingency Plan and provision of essential drought contingency response information, regulations, and services to the community and water customers. The Plan will undergo review at least every five years and will be updated as necessary based on significant developments in Austin's water service area. The next scheduled plan review will take place in 2029.

APPENDIX A: Water Conservation Code

UPDATE ONCE AVALIBLE

APPENDIX B: Water Conservation Penalty Code

CHAPTER 2-13. ADMINISTRATIVE ADJUDICATION OF VIOLATIONS.

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 2-13-1 DEFINITIONS.

In this chapter:

(1) CODE OFFICIAL means the city employee designated by the City Manager as the Director of the Austin Code Department.

(2) HEARING COORDINATOR means the Code Official's designee that manages the administrative hearing process created by this chapter.

(3) ISSUING OFFICER means a city employee with the authority to issue administrative citations for violations described in Section 2-13-3 (*Violations Subject to Administrative Adjudication*).

(4) VIOLATOR means the person charged with violating an ordinance described in Section 2-13-3 (*Violations Subject to Administrative Adjudication*).

Source: Ord. No. 20141023-056, Pt. 1, 11-3-14.

§ 2-13-2 PURPOSE; ESTABLISH ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING PROCESS.

(A) The purpose of this chapter is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the City, by providing for an administrative hearing process for violations of ordinances described in Local Government Code Section 54.032 (*Ordinances Subject to Quasi-Judicial Enforcement*).

(B) This chapter establishes a procedure for administrative hearings pursuant to and consistent with Local Government Code Section 54.044 (*Alternative Procedure for Administrative Hearing*).

Source: Ord. No. 20141023-056, Pt. 1, 11-3-14.

§ 2-13-3 VIOLATIONS SUBJECT TO ADMINISTRATIVE ADJUDICATION.

(A) The administrative hearing process established in this chapter may be used to enforce ordinances:

(1) for the preservation of public safety, relating to the materials or methods used to construct a building or improvement, including the foundation, structural elements, electrical wiring or apparatus, plumbing and fixtures, entrances, or exits;

(2) relating to the fire safety of a building or improvement, including provisions relating to materials, types of construction or design, warning devices, sprinklers or other fire suppression devices, availability of water supply for extinguishing fires, or location, design, or width of entrances or exits;

(3) relating to dangerously damaged or deteriorated buildings or improvements;

(4) relating to conditions caused by accumulations of refuse, vegetation, or other matter that creates breeding and living places for insects and rodents;

(5) relating to a building code or to the condition, use, or appearance of property in a municipality; or

(6) relating to water conservation measures.

(B) Nothing in this chapter shall preclude the City's pursuit of any and all other remedies allowed under the civil and criminal statutes, and in equity, to address violations of ordinances described in this section.

Source: Ord. No. 20141023-056, Pt. 1, 11-3-14; Ord. No. 20201210-006, Pt. 3, 12-21-20.

§ 2-13-4 HEARING OFFICER.

(A) One or more hearing officers must be appointed to administratively adjudicate violations of ordinances described in Section 2-13-3 (*Violations Subject to Administrative Adjudication*).

(B) A hearing officer may:

(1) administer oaths;

(2) issue orders that compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents;

(3) issue an order that includes the disposition of the hearing and the amount of penalties and costs; and

(4) act pursuant to the authority granted in Texas Local Government Code Section 54.044 (*Alternative Procedure for Administrative Hearing*).

(C) A hearing officer must be a licensed attorney in good standing with the State Bar of Texas.

(D) An order to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents is enforceable by the Municipal Court.

Source: Ord. No. 20141023-056, Pt. 1, 11-3-14.

§ 2-13-5 ADMINISTRATIVE CITATIONS.

(A) An administrative citation must be on a form prescribed by the Code Official and must include:

(1) the nature, date, and location of the violation;

(2) a notification that the violator has the right to a hearing;

(3) the time and place of the hearing;

(4) a notification that failure to appear for a hearing is considered an admission of liability for the violation charge and will result in the assessment of penalties and costs; and

(5) the name of the individual issuing the citation.

(B) The original or copy of an administrative citation is kept in the ordinary course of City business and is rebuttable proof of the facts it states.

Source: Ord. No. 20141023-056, Pt. 1, 11-3-14.

ARTICLE 2. HEARINGS

§ 2-13-21 HEARING FOR AN ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION.

(A) A hearing to adjudicate an administrative citation described in this chapter shall be conducted by a hearing officer appointed pursuant to Section 2-13-4 (*Hearing Officer*).

(B) The Texas Rules of Evidence do not apply to a hearing under this chapter.

(C) The hearing officer shall hear and consider:

(1) evidence presented by the person charged;

(2) presumptions and prima facie evidence established by this chapter or other applicable law;

(3) evidence presented by the issuing officer, if required to attend the hearing; and

(4) evidence presented by individuals who attend the hearing.

(D) The hearing officer shall make a decision based on a preponderance of the evidence.

(E) The testimony at the hearing shall be recorded. If an audio recording is made, each voice shall be identified.

(F) The recorded testimony, documents, and other evidence shall constitute the record for appeal. The acceptance of documents or other evidence shall be noted on the record.

(G) The issuing officer is not required to attend a hearing.

(H) The issuing officer shall attend a hearing:

(1) if requested in writing by the violator; and

(2) the request is filed with the hearing coordinator at least seven business days before the scheduled hearing date.

(I) A scheduled hearing may be reset for cause if the violator submits a written request for a reset to the hearing coordinator at least five days before the scheduled hearing date. If the hearing coordinator does not respond to a request for a reset, the request is denied, and the violator must appear as scheduled.

(J) At the conclusion of the hearing, the hearing officer shall issue an order that:

(1) finds the violator liable and assesses penalties and costs; or

(2) finds the violator not liable for the violation.

(K) The hearing officer's order shall be filed with the City Clerk in a separate index and file.

Source: Ord. No. 20141023-056, Pt. 1, 11-3-14; Ord. No. 20170413-002, Pt. 1, 4-24-17.

§ 2-13-22 FAILURE TO APPEAR AT A HEARING.

If a violator fails to attend a scheduled hearing, including an appeal hearing, the violator is considered to admit liability for the violation charged.

Source: Ord. No. 20141023-056, Pt. 1, 11-3-14.

§ 2-13-23 ESTABLISHING A PENALTY.

(A) Except as provided in Subsections (D) and (G) and Section 2-13-24 (*Water Conservation Penalty*), the penalty range that may be assessed against a violator found liable under this chapter shall be no more than $1,000.00 and:

(1) not less than $250.00 for a first violation;

(2) not less than $500.00 for a second violation; and

(3) not less than $750.00 for a third or subsequent violation.

(B) In addition to the penalty assessed, the hearing officer must require the violator found liable under this chapter to pay costs set by separate ordinance.

(C) In determining the amount of penalty to be assessed, the hearing officer shall consider the following factors:

(1) the gravity of the violation;

(2) any actions taken by the violator to correct the violation;

(3) any previous violations committed by the violator;

(4) indigence of the violator; and

(5) any other relevant evidence.

(D) Except as provided in Subsection (G), the penalty range that may be assessed against a violator found liable under this chapter for violating Chapter 25-2 (*Zoning*) of the City Code shall be no more than $1,000.00 and:

(1) not less than $500.00 for a first violation;

(2) not less than $750.00 for a second violation; and

(3) not less than $1,000.00 for a third or subsequent violation.

(E) A violator who has been found liable for a violation may assert a financial inability to pay the penalty. If a violator asserts a financial inability to pay the penalty, the hearing officer must make a determination of financial inability to pay. The determination must be made based on documentary evidence provided to the hearing officer.

(F) A violator claiming a financial inability to pay the penalty:

(1) must have an income that does not exceed 60 percent of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) median family income (MFI) in the Austin-Round Rock-San Marcos area; or

(2) must participate in the City of Austin's Customer Assistance Program (CAP) for utility discounts; and

(3) must be a resident of the property or premises subject of the administrative citation and the sole owner of the property or premises, except that a violator may be a co-owner of the property or premises if all other co-owners cannot be located or are financially unable to pay the penalty.

(G) If the hearing officer determines that the violator does not have the financial ability to pay the penalty, the hearing officer must make the finding in writing and must reduce the penalty to an amount that is within the violator's ability to pay.

(H) A violator cannot appeal the hearing officer's determination related to the violator's financial inability to pay.

(I) A violator who has been found liable for a violation may request to pay the penalty in equal installments during the six months from the date the hearing officer issues an order. A violator must request to pay the penalty in installments within 20 calendar days from the date the hearing officer issues the order and must waive the appeal described in Section 2-13-31 (*Appeal From a Hearing*). The Code Official is authorized to grant a request to pay the penalty as described in this subsection. This subsection does not apply to a violation of a provision of Chapter 15-3 (*Onsite Water Reuse Systems*).

(J) The code official and the director of Austin Water may establish by administrative rule the penalty a violator shall pay when the violator admits liability without a hearing described in Section 2-13-21 (*Hearing for an Administrative Citation*). A penalty established under this subsection must comply with the penalty ranges established in this chapter.

(K) A violator who admits liability or is found liable for a violation described in Section 2-13-24 (*Water Conservation Penalty*) may request in writing to pay the applicable penalty and costs as an assessment on the violator's next monthly utility statement.

Source: Ord. No. 20141023-056, Pt. 1, 11-3-14; Ord. No. 20170413-002, Pt. 2, 4-24-17; Ord. No. 20201210-006, Pt. 4, 12-21-20; Ord. No. 20220505-003, Pt. 1, 5-16-22.

§ 2-13-24 WATER CONSERVATION PENALTY.

(A) The penalties established in this section apply to a violation of Chapter 6-4 (*Water Conservation*) and Chapter 15-13 (*Regulation of Onsite Water Reuse Systems*).

(B) Unless otherwise provided for this section, the penalty range for violating Chapter 6-4 (*Water Conservation*) is not less than $25.00 and not more than $100.00.

(C) This subsection applies to a violation of Section 6-4-10 (*Facilities Regulated*).

(1) The penalty range that may be assessed against a violator found liable under this chapter for violating Subsection (A), (B), or (C) is:

(a) not less than $500.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a first violation; and

(b) not less than $750.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a second or subsequent violation.

(2) The penalty range that may be assessed against a violator found liable under this chapter for violating Subsection (D), (E), or (F) is:

(a) not less than $150.00 and not more than $500.00 for a first violation; and

(b) not less than $300.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a second or subsequent violation.

(D) This subsection applies to a violation of Section 6-4-11 (*General Regulations*).

(1) The penalty range that may be assessed against a violator found liable under this chapter for violating Subsection (A), (B), (C), or (D) is:

(a) not less than $150.00 and not more than $500.00 for a first violation; and

(b) not less than $300.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a second or subsequent violation.

(2) The penalty range that may be assessed against a violator found liable under this chapter for violating Subsection (E), (F), (G), or (H) is:

(a) not less than $500.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a first violation; and

(b) not less than $750.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a second or subsequent violation.

(E) This subsection applies to a violation that occurs at a residential facility.

(1) During Water Conservation Stage, the penalty range that may be assessed against a violator found liable under this chapter for violating Section 6-4-15 (*Water Conservation Stage*) or Section 6-4-12 (*Water Waste Prohibited*) is:

(a) not less than $25.00 and not more than $100.00 for a first violation;

(b) not less than $50.00 and not more than $200.00 for a second violation;

(c) not less than $200.00 and not more than $400.00 for a third violation; and

(d) not less than $300.00 and not more than $600.00 for a fourth or subsequent violation.

(2) During Drought Response Stage One, the penalty range that may be assessed against a violator found liable under this chapter for violating Section 6-4-16 (*Drought Response Stage One Regulations*) or Section 6-4-12 (Water Waste Prohibited) is:

(a) not less than $50.00 and not more than $200.00 for a first violation;

(b) not less than $75.00 and not more than $300.00 for a second violation;

(c) not less than $250.00 and not more than $600.00 for a third violation; and

(d) not less than $400.00 and not more than $800.00 for a fourth or subsequent violation.

(3) During Drought Response Stage Two, the penalty range that may be assessed against a violator found liable under this chapter for violating Section 6-4-17 (*Drought Response Stage Two Regulations*) or Section 6-4-12 (*Water Waste Prohibited*) is:

(a) not less than $100.00 and not more than $300.00 for a first violation;

(b) not less than $200.00 and not more than $500.00 for a second violation;

(c) not less than $300.00 and not more than $800.00 for a third violation; and

(d) not less than $500.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a fourth or subsequent violation.

(4) During Drought Response Stage Three, the penalty range that may be assessed against a violator found liable under this chapter for violating Section 6-4-18 (*Drought Response Stage Three Regulations*) or Section 6-4-12 (*Water Waste Prohibited*) is:

(a) not less than $150.00 and not more than $400.00 for a first violation;

(b) not less than $300.00 and not more than $600.00 for a second violation;

(c) not less than $450.00 and not more than $800.00 for a third violation; and

(d) not less than $600.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a fourth or subsequent violation.

(5) During Drought Response Stage Four, the penalty range that may be assessed against a violator found liable under this chapter for violating Section 6-4-19 (*Drought Response Stage Four Regulations*) or Section 6-4-12 (*Water Waste Prohibited*) is:

(a) not less than $200.00 and not more than $500.00 for a first violation;

(b) not less than $325.00 and not more than $700.00 for a second violation;

(c) not less than $475.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a third violation; and

(d) not less than $625.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a fourth or subsequent violation.

(6) During Emergency Stage Five, the penalty range that may be assessed against a violator found liable under this chapter for violating Section 6-4-20 (*Emergency Stage Five Regulations*) or Section 6-4-12 (*Water Waste Prohibited*) is:

(a) not less than $250.00 and not more than $650.00 for a first violation;

(b) not less than $500.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a second violation;

(c) not less than $700.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a third violation; and

(d) not less than $900.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a fourth or subsequent violation.

(F) This subsection applies to a violation that occurs at a commercial facility.

(1) During Water Conservation Stage, the penalty range that may be assessed against a violator found liable under this chapter for violating Section 6-4-15 (*Water Conservation Stage*) or Section 6-4-12 (*Water Waste Prohibited*) is:

(a) not less than $150.00 and not more than $300.00 for a first violation;

(b) not less than $300.00 and not more than $500.00 for a second violation;

(c) not less than $450.00 and not more than $700.00 for a third violation; and

(d) not less than $500.00 and not more than $800.00 for a fourth or subsequent violation.

(2) During Drought Response Stage One, the penalty range that may be assessed against a violator found liable under this chapter for violating Section 6-4-16 (*Drought Response Stage One Regulations*) or Section 6-4-12 (*Water Waste Prohibited*) is:

(a) not less than $200.00 and not more than $400.00 for a first violation;

(b) not less than $350.00 and not more than $600.00 for a second violation;

(c) not less than $500.00 and not more than $800.00 for a third violation; and

(d) not less than $550.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a fourth or subsequent violation.

(3) During Drought Response Stage Two, the penalty range that may be assessed against a violator found liable under this chapter for violating Section 6-4-17 (*Drought Response Stage Two Regulations*) or Section 6-4-12 (*Water Waste Prohibited*) is:

(a) not less than $250.00 and not more than $500.00 for a first violation;

(b) not less than $400.00 and not more than $800.00 for a second violation;

(c) not less than $600.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a third; and

(d) not less than $650.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a fourth or subsequent violation.

(4) During Drought Response Stage Three, the penalty range that may be assessed against a violator found liable under this chapter for violating Section 6-4-18 (*Drought Response Stage Three Regulations*) or Section 6-4-12 (*Water Waste Prohibited*) is:

(a) not less than $300.00 and not more than $600.00 for a first violation;

(b) not less than $500.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a second or subsequent violation;

(c) not less than $650.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a third; and

(d) not less than $700.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a fourth or subsequent violation.

(5) During Drought Response Stage Four, the penalty range that may be assessed against a violator found liable under this chapter for violating Section 6-4-19 (*Drought Response Stage Four Regulations*) or Section 6-4-12 (*Water Waste Prohibited*) is:

(a) not less than $400.00 and nor more than $1,000.00 for a first violation;

(b) not less than $550.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a second violation;

(c) not less than $700.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a third violation; and

(d) not less than $800.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a fourth or subsequent violation.

(6) During Emergency Stage Five, the penalty range that may be assessed against a violator found liable under this chapter for violating Section 6-4-20 (*Emergency Stage Five Regulations*) or Section 6-4-12 (*Water Waste Prohibited*) is not less than $500.00 and not more than $1,000.00.

(G) The penalty range that may be assessed against a violator found liable under this chapter for violating Chapter 15-13 (*Regulation of Onsite Water Reuse Systems*) is:

(1) not less than $300.00 and not more than $600.00 for a first violation; and

(2) not less than $500.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for a second or subsequent violation.

Source: Ord. No. 20220505-003, Pt. 2, 5-16-22; Ord. No. 20240502-006, Pts. 2, 3, 5-13-24.

Editor's note(s)—Part 3 of Ord. No. 20220505-003 states, "The penalty ranges established in § 2-13-24 are only applicable to an administrative citation issued after the effective date of this ordinance."

ARTICLE 3. APPEALS AND ENFORCEMENT.

§ 2-13-31 APPEAL FROM A HEARING.

(A) A violator found liable by a hearing officer may appeal the determination by:

(1) filing a petition with the Clerk of the Municipal Court before the 31st day after the hearing officer's determination is filed with the City Clerk; and

(2) paying a non-refundable filing fee.

(B) A violator that fails to appear at a hearing described in Section 2-13-21 (*Hearing for an Administrative Citation*) is not entitled to an appeal hearing.

(C) An appeal hearing is conducted by a municipal court judge.

(D) The judge shall review the record and hear oral arguments of the parties at the appeal hearing.

(E) The judge may receive evidence of procedural irregularities alleged to have occurred at the hearing that are not reflected in the record.

(F) The judge may not substitute his or her judgment for that of the hearing officer as to the weight of the evidence given by the hearing officer for questions that fall within the hearing officer's discretion.

(G) The court may reverse the hearing officer's order or remand the case for a rehearing if the appellant's substantial rights have been violated because the administrative findings or orders:

(1) violate constitutional or statutory provisions;

(2) exceed statutory authority;

(3) are made upon unlawful procedure;

(4) are affected by other error of law;

(5) are not supported by substantial evidence, as that term is used in Local Government Code Section 54.039 (*Judicial Review*), in light of the reliable and probative evidence in the record as a whole; or

(6) are arbitrary, capricious, characterized by abuse of discretion, or clearly unwarranted exercise of discretion.

(H) If the findings of the hearing officer are affirmed, the penalties and costs may not be modified except that additional costs may be added.

Source: Ord. No. 20141023-056, Pt. 1, 11-3-14.

§ 2-13-32 ENFORCEMENT OF ORDER.

(A) An order issued under this chapter may be enforced by:

(1) filing a civil suit for the collection of a penalty assessed against the violator; and

(2) obtaining an injunction that:

(a) prohibits specific conduct that violates the ordinance; or

(b) requires specific conduct necessary for compliance with the ordinance.

(B) Unless the violator posts a bond with the Austin Code Department before filing an appeal, an appeal of an order issued under this chapter does not stay enforcement and collection of the penalties and costs.

(C) The amount of the bond shall equal to all penalties and costs assessed against the violator.

Source: Ord. No. 20141023-056, Pt. 1, 11-3-14.

APPENDIX C: Resolution Adopting the 2024 Drought Contingency Plan

UPDATE ONCE AVAILABLE

APPENDIX D: Transmittal Letter to Regional Planning Group

UPDATE ONCE AVAILABLE