
Meeting Date: September 25, 2019

Staff Contact: Elizabeth Anderson, P.E., Chief Innovation and Performance Manager

TITLE: R-19-22 - Amending Water Service Policies for the South Valley Drinking Water Project

ACTION: Recommend Approval

SUMMARY:

The purpose of this resolution is to amend the water service policies and service area for the South Valley Drinking Water Project (SVDWP). The original resolution was adopted in May 2008 (R-08-12) which defined Phases 1 through 4. The SVDWP policies resolution was amended in June 2010 (R-10-8) which included Phases 5 and 6, and in September 2013 (R-13-14) which included Phase 7, also known as the Los Padillas project area. Construction of the Los Padillas phase began in October 2017 and is about 75% complete with 4 miles of water lines installed to date. This project provides safe and reliable drinking water and fire protection to the established but unserved portions of the project area.

The SVDWP service area needs to be expanded to include all parts of the Los Padillas phase. The current service area did not originally identify Potomac Road and Keiths Court south of Interstate 25 as a part of the project area. The resolution's exhibit now includes this area as a part of the SVDWP service area.

This resolution states that extension of water service will only be allowed in the SVDWP service area (see Exhibit A of resolution). In addition, this resolution functions as a development agreement for water service for all properties within the SVDWP service area. Connections for water service will comply with the Water Authority's Water and Sewer Rate Ordinance and the Water and Sewer System Expansion Ordinance. Residents connecting to the system will be required to pay the Utility Expansion Charge (UEC) that is imposed at the time of a service connection.

Property owners in the SVDWP service area will not have to pay the Water Resource Charge (WRC) if they have a permitted structure within the SVDWP service area prior to the adoption of R-08-12 which is May 21, 2008. Newly developed properties inside the SVDWP area but outside the Water Authority's water service area will have to pay the WRC. Newly developed properties inside both the SVDWP service area and the Water Authority's water service area will not have to pay the WRC.

Overall, there are about 700 water connections in the SVDWP service area. Therefore, about 33% of properties have connected to the SVDWP water system.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

**ALBUQUERQUE BERNALILLO COUNTY
WATER UTILITY AUTHORITY**

BILL NO. **R-19-22**

RESOLUTION

**AMENDING WATER SERVICE POLICIES FOR THE SOUTH VALLEY DRINKING
WATER PROJECT**

WHEREAS, Bernalillo County, the City of Albuquerque, and the Village of Los Ranchos entered into a Memorandum of Understanding in 2001 for the Valley Utilities Project (VUP) to protect groundwater supplies in the Middle Rio Grande Valley of Bernalillo County and to provide potable water and sanitary sewer service to the developed but unserved areas of the North and South Valley in an effort to protect the groundwater resource; and

WHEREAS, the South Valley Drinking Water Project (SVDWP) is a component of the VUP which was developed to provide a reliable water system to residents and businesses in the South Valley at a scale/level of service that is consistent with land use designations and densities from the adopted land use plans; and

WHEREAS, the SVDWP will address water quality and fire protection issues by providing a reliable public water system to serve existing but unserved developed properties; and

WHEREAS, the Bernalillo County Water Conservation Ordinance was amended in 2010 to include required water conservation measures that would be incorporated into the design and construction of new development; and

WHEREAS, the Water Authority adopted Guiding Principles for Urban Planning and Development (R-07-6) with one policy stating “In an effort to facilitate solutions to water and wastewater outside of the service area and regionally, the Authority should provide services provided that such services are fully paid for, not subsidized by Authority customers, and when the public health and welfare is served”; and

WHEREAS, the Water Authority established water service policies for the SVDWP in May 2008 (R-08-12) which defined Phases 1-4 of the project; and

1 WHEREAS, the Water Authority amended the water service policies for the
2 SVDWP in June 2010 (R-10-8) which included Phases 5 and 6, and in September 2013
3 (R-13-14) which included Phase 7; and

4 WHEREAS, Phase 7 did not originally identify Potomac Road and Keiths Court
5 south of Interstate 25 as a part of the project area, but this existing subdivision was
6 included in the design plans in December 2013; and

7 WHEREAS, the Water Authority's System Expansion Ordinance requires
8 connection to the existing system for newly developed properties within 200 feet of an
9 existing water distribution or non-potable water line or sewer collection line.

10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WATER AUTHORITY:

11 Section 1. Water service connections made available through the South Valley
12 Drinking Water Project (SVDWP) shall be defined as the area shown in Exhibit A,
13 SVDWP service area. This resolution shall function as a development agreement for
14 water service for all properties within the SVDWP service area. The SVDWP shall not
15 expand the Authority's water service area boundary.

16 Section 2. Connections for water service shall comply with the Water Authority's
17 Water and Sewer Rate Ordinance and the Water and Sewer System Expansion
18 Ordinance, as amended from time to time. Individual customers within the SVDWP
19 service area shall pay the Utility Expansion Charge (UEC) that is imposed at the time of
20 a service connection. Consistent with the Water Authority's Guiding Principles for
21 Urban Planning and Development (R-07-6) and for the purposes of public health and
22 welfare, the Water Resource Charge (WRC) shall be waived for existing developed
23 properties that have permitted structures within the SVDWP service area before the
24 effective date of R-08-12 which is May 21, 2008. Newly developed properties inside the
25 SVDWP area but outside the Water Authority's water service area shall pay the WRC.
26 Newly developed properties inside both the SVDWP service area and the Water
27 Authority's water service area shall not pay the WRC as shown in Exhibit A.

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Exhibit A – SVDWP Service Area

