



## AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Future Item for the City Council Meeting of July 29, 2014  
Action Item for the City Council Meeting of August 12, 2014

**DATE:** July 22, 2014  
**TO:** Ronald L. Olson, City Manager  
**FROM:** Tom Tagliabue, Director, Intergovernmental Relations  
tomtag@cctexas.com  
361.826.3850

### RESOLUTION

**to be presented to the Texas Municipal League at its 2014 Annual Conference September 30-October 3, 2014, in Houston, recommending legislative appropriation for the FY 16-17 biennium to partner with local project sponsors to implement one or more seawater desalination projects.**

### **CAPTION:**

Recommend the 84<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature appropriate adequate funding for the Fiscal Years 2016-2017 biennium for the State of Texas to partner with local project sponsors to implement one or more seawater desalination projects to provide uninterrupted water supply and have corresponding positive impacts for water supplies in adjacent regions which will strengthen Texas' economy and sustain economic prosperity.

### **PURPOSE:**

The resolution, if approved by the TML Board of Directors, will give credibility to the argument for state investment in a large scale seawater desalination project to make the project affordable and for the State of Texas to play a major role in helping local project sponsors meet the water supply needs of a growing state.

### **BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:**

In order for the TML to consider a resolution at its annual conference, the governing body of a member city must first approve a resolution and then the member city must submit a resolution cover sheet by the August 15, 2014, deadline.

TML recommends that any resolution state one of four categories to better direct League staff. Those categories are:

- **Seek Introduction and Passage** means that the League can attempt to find a sponsor, will provide testimony, and will otherwise actively pursue passage. Bills in this category are known as "TML bills."
- **Support** means the League will attempt to obtain passage of the initiative if it is introduced by a city or some other entity.
- **Oppose.**
- **Take No Position.**

The TML Resolutions Committee will meet at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 30, 2014, at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston. The sponsoring city of the resolution can explain the resolution, answer questions, and advocate for the resolution.

If the procedures are not followed a resolution could be referred to some other TML committee for further study, which would mean the resolution would not be adopted during the 2014 conference.

At the April 22, 2014, Select Legislative Committee on Desalination, several witnesses, including Nueces County Judge Loyd Neal, Corpus Christi Mayor Nelda Martinez and several members of the City Council, testified in support of the need for the State of Texas to invest in a large scale seawater desalination project to make the project affordable in comparison to other water management strategies.

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

The Council can choose to:

1. Adopt the resolution.
2. Not adopt the resolution.
3. Adopt the resolution as a legislative priority, but not ask TML to consider the resolution.
4. Adopt the resolution and ask TML that the priority only be "support" instead of "seek introduction and passage".

#### **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:**

The City is currently conducting a variable salinity desalination study.

#### **CONFORMITY TO CITY POLICY:**

n/a

#### **EMERGENCY / NON-EMERGENCY:**

This is a non-emergency item.

#### **DEPARTMENTAL CLEARANCES:**

Deputy City Manager  
 Assistant City Manager for Public Works and Utilities  
 City Attorney  
 Utilities Department  
 Finance

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

Operating       Revenue       Capital      X Not applicable

<b>Fiscal Year: 2014-2015</b>	<b>Project to Date Expenditures (CIP only)</b>	<b>Current Year</b>	<b>Future Year FY 15</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>
Line Item Budget				
Encumbered / Expended Amount				
This item				
BALANCE				

**Comments:** None

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends adoption of the resolution and submission of the resolution and cover sheet to the Texas Municipal League.

**LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

1. TML Cover Sheet
2. Resolution