AGENDA MEMORANDUM
City Council Meeting of June 23, 2020

DATE: June 12, 2020

TO: Peter Zanoni, City Manager

FROM: Kevin Norton, Director of Water Utilities
KevinN@cctexas.com
361-826-1874

Wastewater System Consent Decree Presentation

STAFF PRESENTER(S):

Name	Title/Position	Department
1. Kevin Norton	**Director of Water Utilities**	**Water Utilities**
2. Miles Risley	**City Attorney**	**Legal**
3. Daniel Deng	**Assistant Director Wastewater**	**Water Utilities**

OUTSIDE PRESENTER(S): None

ISSUE:
In 2020, the City expects to enter into a 15-year Consent Decree with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), US Department of Justice, and the State of Texas with a goal of improving the Wastewater System throughout the City.

BACKGROUND:
The City had a history of numerous SSOs, which resulted in the EPA initiating a multi-million-dollar enforcement effort against the City in 2008. In response and to combat the high numbers of SSOs, the City began an intensive program to clean, refurbish, and upgrade the Wastewater Collection and Treatment Plant systems, with work executed by City staff and contractors. The City negotiated for over 10 years with the EPA to ensure that the Consent Decree is cost-effective and that the requirements are well-defined and achievable within the 15-year timeframe. Approximately $83 million has already been invested in Consent Decree work, and since 2008 the City significantly reduced the number of SSOs from over 1,400 per year to approximately 100 per year.

Intent is to present the Consent Decree to City Council by August 2020 for approval and appropriation of funds. After City Council approval, the Consent Decree will be filed in federal court. The Consent Decree will formally take effect for the City after the federal court review and approval process is complete, which is expected to be late-2020.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:
PowerPoint – Wastewater System Consent Decree Presentation
Proposed Consent Decree