



MEMORANDUM

City of Angels City Council

Date: September 2, 2025

To: City of Angels City Council

From: Amy Augustine, AICP – City Planner

Re: **INTRODUCE, WAIVE THE SECOND READING BY SUBSTITUTION OF TITLE, HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING CONSIDER ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 551 REPLACING AND UPDATING ANGELS MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 14.55 PROTECTING THE CITY'S WATER SYSTEM THROUGH CONTROL OF BACKFLOW AND CROSS-CONNECTIONS**

RECOMMENDATION

Introduce, waive the second reading by substitution of title, hold a public hearing and consider adopting Ordinance 551.

BACKGROUND

The City Council considered this item at a first reading on 8/19/25, held a public hearing, and scheduled the item for a second reading and consideration of adoption on 9/2/25. No changes were proposed by Council or the public at the 8/19/25 meeting.

The City's adopted Improvement Standards currently address backflow devices and Cross Connections (Design Standards Section 16). Angels Municipal Code Chapter 14.55 was adopted in 1989 under Ordinance 303 (part) and has not been updated since. The purpose of this amendment is to clarify standards in compliance with current regulations and how the City will enforce these standards.

Specifically, the amendment:

- Clarifies that portion of the water system under the City's responsibility and that portion of the water system that is the customer's responsibility.
- Elaborates the purposes of the City's requirements and the city's responsibilities for protecting the water system.
- Adds definitions for all terminology associated with backflow devices and cross-connections.
- Specifies the type of City-acceptable backflow devices and cross-connections to be installed.

ANALYSIS

Pursuant to Angels Municipal Code Section 17.90.040, decisions pertaining to code amendments shall be made upon the following findings of fact:

- A. The proposed change or amendment is consistent with the City of Angels Municipal Code; and
- B. The proposed change or amendment is consistent with the City of Angels General Plan; and
- C. The proposed change or amendment will not be substantially detrimental to the health, safety, or general welfare of the city.

Findings A and B– Consistency with the Angels Camp Municipal Code and General Plan

The code updates the existing code for clarification purposes. Based on the preceding, Finding A may be made.

Pertinent General Plan goals, policies, and programs include:

Goal 7B Continue to improve Angels Camp’s capacity to store, treat and deliver water and to collect and treat wastewater as necessary to achieve the stated goals of the city.

The proposed code amendments assist in the City’s ability to deliver safe water to city residents. Therefore, Finding B may be made.

Finding C. The proposed change or amendment will not be substantially detrimental to the health, safety, or general welfare of the city.

The purpose of the ordinance is to protect the city’s water system from contamination. Therefore, the ordinance will improve and protect the health, safety, and general welfare of the city. Based on the preceding, Finding C can be made.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The proposed update does not add requirementsaa but rather clarifies and codifies the city’s policies. The city already implements these programs, inspections, and standards. Therefore, additional costs are not anticipated.

ENVIRONMENTAL FINDINGS:

The ordinance codifies protections of the city’s water system from contamination, therefore, the addition of backflow devices and cross connection regulations are minor alterations to existing public facilities which are Categorically Exempt from the state and City guidelines for the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15301, Class 1, Existing Facilities which exempts the minor alterations to publicly owned facilities, including water systems, including the addition of safety or health devices during construction; and 15303, Class 3 which allows the construction of new, small structures , including those connected to water mains, for new construction.

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Ordinance 551 with existing code and proposed Code Changes