

CITY OF DRIPPING SPRINGS

RESOLUTION No. 2025-R__

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DRIPPING SPRINGS, TEXAS, EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR HAYS COUNTY'S INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING EFFORTS, INCLUDING THE WEST TRAVIS COUNTY PUBLIC UTILITY AGENCY'S TEMPORARY INTERCONNECTION PROJECT, AND AFFIRMING THE CITY'S COMMITMENT TO REGIONAL COLLABORATION TO PROTECT THE HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE OF RESIDENTS.

WHEREAS, Hays County and the City of Dripping Springs have continued to experience a prolonged drought coupled with unprecedented growth, necessitating the need for additional water resources; and

WHEREAS, both wells and surface water are depleting as sources for both wildfire protection and residential usage in the City of Dripping Springs; and

WHEREAS, the continued growth has stretched both the need and demand for water in times of heavy usage, particularly in the months of July, August, and September; and

WHEREAS, the City has consistently supported efforts by Hays County and regional partners to address growth-related infrastructure needs in a manner that is responsible, transparent, and beneficial to all affected communities; and

WHEREAS, the City has adopted legislative priorities that emphasize the importance of maintaining local control over infrastructure, land use, and utility service while also collaborating regionally to meet critical needs; and

WHEREAS, the West Travis County Public Utility Agency (WTCPUA), a key regional provider of water service, has proposed a temporary water system interconnection with Austin Water designed to enhance water system resiliency, emergency preparedness, and operational flexibility; and

WHEREAS, the WTCPUA has approved a policy of no new commitments of service in an attempt to conserve water while continuing to invest in system upgrades and water conservation efforts; and

WHEREAS, this temporary interconnection will not alter permanent service territories, but instead provides an emergency and short-term solution to ensure continued service for customers in the event of outages or service limitations due to drought, infrastructure failure, or unforeseen operational challenges; and

WHEREAS, Hays County recently passed a resolution supporting the efforts by the WTCPUA to establish a temporary interconnection with Austin Water for the months of July, August and September to ensure both adequate continued service for existing customers and adequate ability for wildfire protection for the citizens of Hays County and asking both the WTCPUA and Austin Water to work expeditiously towards the execution of such an agreement; and

WHEREAS, the City finds that this project is consistent with its legislative priorities, including promoting infrastructure resiliency, protecting the public health, and ensuring that regional coordination respects municipal boundaries and agreements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DRIPPING SPRINGS, TEXAS:

1. The above and foregoing recitals are hereby found to be true and correct and are incorporated as finding of fact.
2. The City of Dripping Springs hereby expresses its support for the West Travis County Public Utility Agency's efforts to establish a temporary interconnection with Austin Water for the months of July, August, and September to ensure adequate continued service to existing customers and adequate wildfire protection, as a prudent and cooperative infrastructure measure that promotes system reliability and safeguards the public interest.
3. The City of Dripping Springs hereby expresses its support for the West Travis County Public Utility Agency's proposed policy for no new connections except for limited connections to school districts, emergency services districts, cities, and requests of 25 LUEs or less up to a total of 300 LUEs until infrastructure is completed that adds additional water capacity.
4. The City of Dripping Springs does not support the issuance of other new connections by the West Travis County Public Utility Agency, even if additional capacity occurs due to unused LUEs or changes in water usage allowance, unless and until the Uplands Water Treatment Facility is expanded increasing water capacity.
5. The City encourages transparent and cooperative infrastructure planning that strengthens service reliability while preserving the City's statutory authority and infrastructure obligations.
6. The City Secretary is directed to provide a copy of this resolution to the WTCPUA Board of Directors, Austin Water, Hays County Commissioners Court, and the offices of relevant state and local stakeholders.
7. The resolution shall be effective from and after its approval and passage.
8. The meeting at which this Resolution was passed was open to the public, and that public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

PASSED AND APPROVED this, the 19th day of August 2025, by a vote of ____ (ayes) to ____ (nays) to ____ (abstentions) of the City Council of Dripping Springs, Texas:

CITY OF DRIPPING SPRINGS:

Bill Foulds, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Diana Boone, City Secretary