

# Amend Title 20 Non-Potable Irrigation Water Code Clarifications and Revisions

City Council| Final Reading  
May 3, 2022



# Non-Potable Development Policy Goal

- **Facilitate the utilization of non-potable supplies and systems to control cost and ensure service reliability**
  - **Limit unnecessary expansion of Water Treatment and Transmission**
  - **Non-potable water rights are more available and cheaper than potable**
  - **Allows for the use of water sources currently impracticable to treat for potable use (e.g lower Poudre River rights, Poudre Ponds, and exchanged wastewater effluent)**
- **Cost effectively adopt non-potable systems as new development occurs**
  - **Installing non-potable infrastructure during development is cheaper and more effective if planned rather than retrofitting**

# Background

## Non-Potable Code Update

- **Need non-potable supply to meet Greeley's long term water demand**
  - **Current non-potable water demand = ~2,500 AF/yr.**
  - **Master Plan non-potable system target volume = ~7,000 AF/yr.**
    - **Potable water rights and treatment capacity are both expensive**
    - **NP Allows for maximized use of the city's potable water supplies**
      - **Making most efficient use of supplies that can be treated and delivered for indoor uses; and**
      - **Supporting economic health and demand growth**
- **City Council adopted an ordinance amending Title 20, requiring non-potable expansion for new development in most cases (1/18/22)**



# Recommended Code Cleanup

- **The ordinance adopted on 1/18 was amended during discussion to allow for both city owned and privately owned non-potable systems**
  - **The ordinance adopted by City Council allows private non-potable irrigation water systems; however,**
    - **Private non-potable systems should not compromise reliability;**
    - **Private non-potable erodes the city's economies of scale;**
    - **increase uncertainty in our planning for regional infrastructure;**
    - **Reliable irrigation is necessary for healthy attractive landscapes**
- **Allowing for privately owned non-potable systems requires minor revisions to the code to clarify unintended ambiguity**



# **Recommended Code Additions**

## **- Addressing Ambiguity for Private NP**

- 1. New private non-potable systems must be designed and constructed to city standards to ensure service reliability and performance**
- 2. New water connections associated with private non-potable systems are not eligible for discounted Plant Investment Fees (PIFs)**
  - Private systems erode the city's economy of scale and create risk of future obligations
  - Discounted PIFs are the primary incentive for the expansion of the City's non-potable irrigation water system
- 3. If a private non-potable system is dedicated to the City in the future:**
  - Ample raw water must be dedicated, or cash-in-lieu paid



# Recommended Action

**Adopt the ordinance to amend Title 20 of the Greeley Municipal Code concerning the use of non-potable water supplies and the assessment of plant investment fees when non-potable water is utilized for irrigation.**



# Questions?

