

To: Colorado City Council, Hildale City Council, Eric Duthie, Vance Barlow
From: Project Manager Jerry Postema
Date: August 4, 2022
Re: Summary Culinary Water Master Plan

This Culinary Water Master Plan summary is to provide general information and background on why the Master Plan is needed and how it will be used.

General Summary:

Governmentally operated communities in Arizona and Utah are required to provide and update a Water Master Plan (Plan) for the state's Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The revisions or updates depend on the changes in the community and the water system. The Plan is needed to prepare a road map for the community's water systems. The road map looks at short term and long-term growth and changes in the water system and regulatory compliance updates. As growth occurs in the communities, the plan changes slightly to accommodate the new growth or lack of growth. The Plan is a living document but a solid outline, road map of the future needs for the communities and the water system along with an estimated cost for those improvements.

The Plan was updated in July of 2022 based primarily on the changes in growth and building activity in Colorado City and Hildale over the past few months. Hildale has a newly annexed service area and Colorado City has seen more development than previously expected under the previous Plan. The Plan was presented and discussed with the Utility Board on July 28, 2022, and the Utility Board moved to recommend the two City Councils adopt the 2022 Plan.

With the projects and costs outlined in the Plan, communities can submit for grants to help in getting funding for those needed improvements. The Plan identifies when the improvements are needed, what the exact needs are and where the best place is to start with making those changes or upgrades. The other part of the Plan is looking at the best option for funding the projects as they are needed. Funding can come from Development Impact Fees if it is growth related; rates if they are improvements to existing system to serve existing customers and to determine if bonds should be sold, other financing opportunities need to be looked at for the future improvements. It provides a great planning tool for the communities and the water system.

It is like people preparing for when they want to retire and enjoy their non-working life. How much longer do you expect to work? How much money would you need to save or put away now for using later to support your new life? What is the amount of estimated inflation for the retirement years? Finally, what are your needs for living the way you would like to comfortably during retirement?

Once the Plan is adopted by the City Councils, the Facilities Plan will be put together for future consideration. The Facilities Plan identifies the projects in the Plan, the dates when they are needed and how much each project will cost. This plan will come back to the City Councils for discussion on funding options.

The first step is to formally approve the Culinary Water Master Plan as the community's road map for the future.