



Meeting Date: February 29, 2024 **Agenda Type:** Item for Future Action

From: Sarah Richards **Reviewed by:** David Hubbard
Director of Customer Solutions Chief Administrative Officer

Submitted by: David Hubbard **Approved by:** Ryan Kelso
Chief Administrative Officer Chief Executive Officer

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Review and Discuss the Proposed Five-Year Water Conservation Plan

BACKGROUND

The most recent NBU water conservation plan (WCP) was approved by NBU’s Board and by New Braunfels City council and submitted to The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in May 2019. Texas Administrative Code, Title 30, Part 1 Texas Commission on Environment Quality, Chapter 288 Water Conservation Plans...Guidelines and Requirements, Subchapter A, requires municipal utilities with more than 3,300 connections to update WCPs every five years by May 1st.

A WCP differs from a drought contingency plan (DCP) as a WCP is forward looking and proactive while a DCP is a strategy or a combination of strategies for responding to temporary water supply shortages and as such is reactive.

The updated WCP was developed through a comprehensive review and update to the existing WCP lead by NBU staff with the help of Arcadis, Inc. The teams identified regulatory and industry best practices; compiling a list of approximately 50 water conservation practices. The list of best practices was screened for multiple factors including best fit with the New Braunfels community and those with demonstrated success. The practices that made it through the screening process were then evaluated for cost of implementation, potential water savings, and ease of implementation among other things.

This item is being presented to the Board prior to being presented to council as a signed official ordinance confirming formal adoption of the WCP is required of state code. At this time no changes are being proposed to the current WCP within city ordinance Chapter 130 – Utilities, Article IV. – Water Service, Division 5.- Water Conservation and Critical Period Management Plan.

Staff will provide the Board an overview of the of the WCP and the process through which it was developed, and will share the draft plan. The final WCP will be brought to the Board for action at a future meeting.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The WCP was developed with the assistance of Arcadis, Inc. as a component of the 2023 Water Resources Plan at an estimated final cost of \$145,000. There is no anticipated financial impact associated with adoption of the WCP.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Customers and Community

Stewardship

EXHIBITS

1. Draft 2024 Five-Year Water Conservation Plan