

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Overview of Enforcement Program for Delinquent Backflow Protection Devices

DEPARTMENT: Development Services

STAFF CONTACT: Steve Killen, Director

BACKGROUND:

TCEQ requires annual testing of backflow protection devices. These devices, when functioning as designed, protect the City's public water supply from potential contamination by a non-potable water source.

Currently, there are roughly 1,400 devices across the city. In recent years, the City secured a contract for professional services to address non-compliant devices representing roughly 41% of the total number of units. Through this effort, the city realized a significant reduction in non-compliant devices with our lowest non-compliant rating at 28%.

During the FY2023-24 Budget review, staff presented a program that would be administered by Development Services staff. The program was modeled to obtain the same goal as the professional services contract – to reduce the number of non-compliant devices. City Council approved the program.

In October, staff began developing and testing the program. Our target implementation date is set for January 2024. Heather Misemer will oversee the program.

FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY:

Based on the program model, anticipated compliance rate and fee schedule, staff anticipates a first-year, net revenue of approximately \$40K. Additionally, a cost savings through the reduction of contracted services is anticipated at \$50K.