RESOLUTION 2025-R-012

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ONE WATER STRATEGIES AND DIRECTING STAFF TO EXPLORE SUCH STRATEGIES IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

WHEREAS, the City of Blanco has one primary source for its water supply, the surface water of the Blanco River; and one secondary source of water supply, the surface water of the Canyon Lake Reservoir; and

WHEREAS, the City's water sources are vulnerable to conditions that could limit their availability including drought, reduced recharge, heightened demand on regional supplies, and water quality impairments including but not limited to those caused by flooding; and

WHEREAS, without a renewed approach to development and water supply management, the City could face water shortages in the future, as well as exacerbated floods; and

WHEREAS, the City has already demonstrated its commitment to water conservation and resilience through its current and planned capital investments in automatic meters, water and wastewater main replacements, and aggressive leak detection and repair to curb water loss; and

WHEREAS, a commitment to water conservation is only one of the necessary steps to water security and resiliency in the future; and

WHEREAS, the City has a responsibility to ensure water supplies in the future can meet demand, and to employ innovative strategies to these ends; and

WHEREAS, even when water supplies are abundant, flooding poses a serious risk to the quality of water supplies, as well as serious risk to life and property; and

WHEREAS, the City has a responsibility to ensure that stormwater is managed in a way that mitigates flood damage, and to employ innovative strategies to that end; and

WHEREAS, there is a growing suite of water infrastructure and management strategies known as "One Water" that is proving its effectiveness in several Texas communities and across the country; and

WHEREAS, "One Water" is defined as an integrated approach to water management that views all water in our community—drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, greywater—as a single resource to be managed holistically and sustainably, for the benefit of strong economies, vibrant communities, and healthy environments; and

WHEREAS, One Water strategies can include, among many approaches, recycling wastewater to offset potable water demand, investing in green infrastructure to ensure stormwaters soak into the ground, capturing water at the building-scale through onsite rainwater harvesting systems or AC-condensate collection, and optimizing potable water supplies through efficiency and conservation; and

WHEREAS, there are a number of organizations and institutions in the region who are available to provide expertise on One Water strategies, including but not limited to Hill Country Alliance, The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment at Texas State University, the National Wildlife Federation, the Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance, and Texas Water Trade, as well as a growing professional community of engineers and planners versed in One Water design and implementation;

NOW, THEREFORE, by action of the City Council of Blanco at a duly noticed and held public meeting and as reflected in the minutes of the Council, be it

RESOLVED, that the city staff shall study opportunities to deploy One Water strategies in the city, with an assessment of the costs and benefits associated with doing so. This study and assessment shall include considerations for public infrastructure and facilities, as well as private developments and buildings.

Adopted this 12th day of August, 2025.

Mayor, City of Blanco

ATTEST:

Deputy City Secretary