



Chandler + Arizona  
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#13

SEP 26 2013

**MEMORANDUM**                      **MUNICIPAL UTILITIES – MEMO NO. MUA 14-025**

**DATE:**                      SEPTEMBER 26, 2013

**TO:**                              MAYOR AND COUNCIL

**THRU:**                      RICH DLUGAS, CITY MANAGER *RD*  
MARSHA REED, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER *MR*  
DAVE SIEGEL, MUNICIPAL UTILITIES DIRECTOR *DS*

**FROM:**                      LORI MCCALLUM, WATER QUALITY PROGRAM MANAGER *Lm*

**SUBJECT:**                      ORDINANCE NO. 4496 – AMENDING SECTION 53-2 OF CHAPTER 53 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF CHANDLER, REFERENCE TO POLICY CHANGES FOR THE DELIVERY OF RECLAIMED WATER SERVICE

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends introduction and tentative approval of Ordinance No. 4496, amending section 53-2 of Chapter 53 of the Code of the City of Chandler, reference to policy changes for delivery of reclaimed water service.

**BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:** Reclaimed water is wastewater which has undergone a highly advanced treatment process. Treatment makes it safe for human contact and for non-potable uses, such as irrigation. Reclaimed water is not intended for use as drinking water and should not be consumed.

Reclaimed water is subject to federal, state, and local regulations that protect the safety of the public and integrity of the drinking water supply system. All reclaimed water users and providers must understand and comply with these rules. The regulations require that reclaimed water cannot cross-connect to drinking water plumbing. Properties must pass inspection for cross-connections before reclaimed service is initiated. The City relies on the property owner, or an agent employed by the property owner, to not create a cross-connection after the initial inspection.

Regulations also require all properties receiving drinking water and reclaimed water services, have a backflow prevention assembly installed at the potable water meter. Backflow prevention assemblies stop the backflow of reclaimed water into the public drinking water system, should a cross-connection exist on the property. City staff has dealt with challenges in the delivery of reclaimed water to single family homes, duplexes, and triplexes. At times, placement of the required backflow prevention assembly on residential property is difficult because of small lot sizes or resistance from the property owner.

In 2011, cross-connection testing indicated three percent of residential properties were out of compliance with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) reclaimed water use regulations. The discovered deficiencies were quickly corrected and compliance was restored. There were no health-related impacts as a result of those deficiencies. City staff continues to educate and provide assistance to existing residential reclaimed water users to help protect the drinking water quality inside of their homes. To eliminate the possibility of reclaimed water

cross-connections, staff recommends prohibiting future connections of Chandler's reclaimed water to single family homes, duplexes, and triplexes, unless a preliminary plat for new development has been previously approved by City Council.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Cost:	N/A
Savings:	N/A
Long Term Costs:	N/A

**PROPOSED MOTION:** Move City Council introduce and tentatively approve Ordinance No. 4496, amending section 53-2 of Chapter 53 of the Code of the City of Chandler, reference to policy changes for delivery of reclaimed water service.

Attachments:  
Ordinance No. 4496

ORDINANCE NO. 4496

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHANDLER,  
ARIZONA, AMENDING SECTION 53-2 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF  
CHANDLER TO CHANGE RECLAIMED WATER SERVICE DELIVERY  
POLICIES.

WHEREAS, reclaimed water is safe for human contact but is not intended for use as drinking water and should not be consumed; and

WHEREAS, reclaimed water is subject to a variety of federal, state, and local regulations that protect the safety of the public and the integrity of the drinking water system, and all users must be familiar with these rules and comply with them; and

WHEREAS, City staff recommends prohibiting future connections of Chandler's reclaimed water to single family homes, duplexes, and triplexes, so that staff can assist existing residential reclaimed water users to protect their drinking water by avoiding cross connections between their reclaimed water and drinking water systems; and

WHEREAS, Council finds that it is in the best interest of the City to adopt these changes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Chandler, Arizona that the Code of the City of Chandler, Arizona be amended as follows:

**SECTION 1: Chapter 53 is hereby amended as follows:**

**A. Amend Section 53-2 to read as follows:**

**53-2. - Policy established.**

*53-2.1.* There is hereby established a policy and orderly program to provide reclaimed water service for all areas South of Pecos Road and East of Old Price Road within the City limits except as set forth in Sections 53-2.2 and 53-2.4 below. Except as set forth in Section 53-2.2 below, reclaimed water service shall be provided to other areas within or outside the City limits pursuant to this chapter if the City reasonably determines that the City reclaimed water distribution system is in place to deliver reclaimed water to that area and that the City has reclaimed water available for delivery.

*53-2.2.* Delivery of reclaimed water service to single-family homes, duplexes, and triplexes is prohibited as of November 1, 2013, unless a preliminary plat for new development is previously approved by City Council pursuant to Chapter 48 of this code. Homes receiving reclaimed water service prior to this effective date are exempt from this policy. Reclaimed water service shall not be restored in the event that preexisting reclaimed water service to a single-family home, duplex, or triplex is discontinued for more than ninety days.

53-2.3. The City Council may agree to participate in the cost of construction to oversize transmission mains if construction funds are available. Unless otherwise approved by the City Council, the City shall pay for its portion of the costs based on current costs established for buy-in assessments.

53-2.4. The Director of the Municipal Utilities Department shall determine, on or before December 1 of each year, the amount of reclaimed water available for the next calendar year, identify the minimum quantity of reclaimed water needed to operate City recharge facilities, and allocate reclaimed water available after subtracting quantities needed to operate all recharge facilities among all developers requesting reclaimed water service for the next calendar year in accordance with the priority of delivery provisions set forth in section 53-3.

**SECTION 2:** The changes established by this Ordinance shall become effective on November 1, 2013.

INTRODUCED AND TENTATIVELY approved by City Council of the City of Chandler, Arizona, this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Chandler, Arizona, this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

**C E R T I F I C A T I O N**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing Ordinance No. 4496 was duly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Chandler, Arizona, at a regular meeting held on \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013 and that a quorum was present thereat.

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY ATTORNEY *CA for*