Georgetown working to secure long-term groundwater supply

The water supply under the agreement would be permitted by EPCOR and delivered to the city for industrial, commercial, agricultural, public and municipal use. The water would be reserved for your per year for a term of two years while the city and EPCOR negotiate a water supply agreement to provide long-term delivery of the groundwater for the other related areas.

Georgetown reached out to EPCOR in 2022 because of the company’s experience and the resources it has providing groundwater projects to other cities. Ms. Abelson said.

The presentation in Wednesday read EPCOR has partnered with a property owner in Robertson County who has 30,800 acres of water available. This gives the city the opportunity to reserve water rights in the Carrizo-Wilcox aquifer in Robertson County, north of College Station.

EPCOR would hold water rights for the city’s future use until a water supply agreement terminates. The 30,800 acres of water, reserved would cost $175 per acre-foot, totaling $85 million per year.

EPCOR is pursuing an additional 110,000 acres of water at Llano County. If permitted to buy, the water would be available quickly.

The city could provide the water through the groundwater agreement to EPCOR, which would cost the city over $15 million a year. If the 70,000 acre-feet maximum are met, to the city it would cost $15 million.

The funding for the Groundwater Water Reservation Agreement would initially come from fund balances in Georgetown’s water fund. New water service agreements for developers, impact fees from capital components for the delivery of the water, regional partners and customer rates would also contribute to the funding of the agreement.

Water use fines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage 1 fines, residential</th>
<th>Stage 2 fines, residential</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First violation: courtesy notice</td>
<td>First violation: courtesy notice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second violation: $75</td>
<td>Second violation: $150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fourth violation: $300</td>
<td>Fourth violation: $450</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fifth violation: $450</td>
<td>Fifth violation: $600</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Residential and nonresidential water users are subject to different fines if they have prior uncorrected or irrigate. Fines are based on the straight stage an address is in.

Requirements

- 1. The updated chart can be found below.
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Correction

This chart outlining watering zones imposed by the City of Georgetown, which appeared in the July 30 edition, was incorrectly labeled. The column originally labeled as “nonresidential” actually reflected fines for “nonresidential” properties.

Based on the incorrect chart, a letter to the Editor in the August 6 edition mistakenly criticized the city for having different fines for residential and nonresidential city limits, which is incorrect.

According to the city residential customers who live inside city limits have the same fine structure.

Fines are listed here https://www.georgetowntx.gov/water/resources.

The updated chart can be found below.