



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BOARD STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: December 20, 2022
AGENDA ITEM: G.1.
CASE: CPA2022-10001
ORDINANCE NO.: 9637-23
REQUEST: Review and recommendation to the City Council of an amendment to the *Clearwater Comprehensive Plan* to address the city's Potable Water Supply Facilities Work Plan (2022-2032 Planning Period).
INITIATED BY: City of Clearwater, Planning and Development Department

BACKGROUND:

Florida's Community Planning Act (Chapter 163, Florida Statutes (F.S.)) and Water Resources Act (Chapter 373, F.S.) establish a process for water supply planning to ensure adequate water supplies in the future. The state's water management districts must periodically evaluate whether adequate water supplies exist to meet the needs of their areas. Water management districts must prepare regional water supply plans identifying alternative ways in which water supply needs can be met for the next 20 years.

The Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD), the city's regional district, approved its updated Regional Water Supply Plan on November 17, 2020, which includes projected water demands for the region and potential sources of water to meet these demands from 2015 to 2040. Section 163.3177, F.S., requires local governments to update their comprehensive plans, including their 10-year Water Supply Facilities Work Plans, to incorporate relevant water supply options, conservation initiatives, and updated service area projections within 18 months after the approval of the regional water supply plan.

The consulting firm of McKim & Creed, Inc. was retained by the city to complete the city's 10-year Water Supply Facilities Work Plan (2022-2032 Planning Period), which was last updated in 2016. This amendment updates the Utilities Element by modifying policies related to the Potable Water and Natural Ground Water Aquifer Recharge Needs subsection to include updated information based on the 2022 update.

ANALYSIS:

There are no substantial changes proposed within this amendment, which primarily incorporates updated data from the updated 10-year Water Supply Facilities Work Plan. The city's efforts implementing various conservation and consumption measures has led to a reduced water consumption rate of 62 gallons/person/day, down from 76 gallons/person/day in 2016.

The proposed amendments to the *Comprehensive Plan* involve updates to the following sections of the Utilities Element:

1. Introduction to the Utilities Element, Potable Water and Ground Water Aquifer Recharge Needs subsection, to include updated data and references; and
2. Objective D.5.2 and its policies to include updated data and references.

STANDARDS FOR REVIEW:

Pursuant to Community Development Code Section 4-603.F., no amendment to the *Comprehensive Plan* shall be approved unless it complies with the following standards:

- 1. The amendment will further implementation of the *Comprehensive Plan* consistent with the goals, policies and objectives contained in the Plan.**

The proposed amendments to the *Clearwater Comprehensive Plan* are consistent with the following goals, objectives and policy in the *Plan*:

Objective D.5.6 Continue to achieve effective coordination with other government agencies to solve problems of an extraterritorial nature with cooperation and in conjunction with the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD).

Policy D.5.6.6 The City will maintain a Water Supply Facilities Work Plan that is consistent with the Southwest Florida Water Management District's Water Supply Plan by updating the Work Plan within 18 months of an update to the District's Regional Supply Plan that affects the City.

The proposed amendments, related to water supply planning, address the statutory requirement that the city update its Water Supply Facilities Work Plan once SWFWMD has updated its Water Supply Plan, and are consistent with the goals, objectives, and policies within the *Comprehensive Plan*.

2. The amendment is not inconsistent with other provisions of the *Comprehensive Plan*.

The proposed amendments are not in conflict with other provisions of the *Comprehensive Plan* and bring further consistency between the goals, objectives, and policies. The proposed amendment updates several existing policies to reflect current data and/or references.

3. The available uses, if applicable, to which the property may be put are appropriate to the property in question and compatible with existing and planned uses in the area.

This is not applicable to the proposed amendments as they do not relate to a specific property or properties.

4. Sufficient public facilities are available to serve the property.

This is not applicable to the proposed amendments as the proposed policy changes do not relate to a specific property or properties; therefore, the adequacy of available public facilities will need to be assessed on a case-by-case basis as development proposals are received.

5. The amendment will not adversely affect the natural environment.

The proposed amendments include updates to data and references for other related plans. The policies contained within the Utilities Element provide consistent and coordinated efforts for the processes and procedures for water management within the area governed by SWFWMD.

6. The amendment will not adversely impact the use of property in the immediate area.

This is not applicable to the proposed amendments as they do not relate to a specific property or properties.

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION:

The purpose of this amendment is to update the Utilities Element of the *Clearwater Comprehensive Plan* to include updated information based on the updated 10-year Water Supply Facilities Work Plan (2022-2032 Planning Period), and ensures consistency with the regional water supply plan as required in Section 163.3177, F.S. The proposed amendment is consistent with and will further the goals, objectives, and policies of the *Clearwater Comprehensive Plan*, will not result in inappropriate or incompatible uses, will not adversely affect the natural environment or impact the use of the property in the immediate area, and sufficient public facilities exist to implement the proposed amendment.

Based upon the above, the Planning and Development Department recommends **APPROVAL** of Ordinance No. 9637-23 that amends the *Clearwater Comprehensive Plan*.

Prepared by Planning and Development Department Staff: _____



Dylan Prins
Planner

ATTACHMENTS: Ordinance No. 9637-23
10-year Water Supply Facilities Work Plan (2022-2032 Planning Period)
Resume