

Commerce City

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Council Communication

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A JOINT RESOLUTION PRIORITIZING WATER AND LAND USE PLANNING INTEGRATION AND REAFFIRMING PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE CITY OF COMMERCE CITY AND THE SOUTH ADAMS COUNTY WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT

Summary and Background Information:

In May of 2023, staff members from Commerce City and South Adams County Water and Sanitation District attended the Growing Water Smart Workshop. Sponsored by the Sonoran Institute, Babbitt Center for Land, and Water Policy and Northern Water the workshop brought key community decision makers on water and land use planning together to collaborate on sustainable water use. The workshop utilized a range of public engagement, planning, communication, and policy implementation tools to help community teams realize their water efficiency, watershed health, and water resilience goals. GWS has been held for several years in Colorado, California, and Arizona. The City and District were fortunate to have been selected to discuss the water challenges facing Commerce City with experts from the field and six other Colorado municipalities. During the workshop, the Commerce City and SACWSD team collaborated to prepare a Growing Water Smart Action Plan that is intended to guide the future of integrating our water resources and land use planning to ensure we plan our future in a healthy and strategic manner to enjoy a quality community for a lifetime. Per the Action Plan, a Joint Resolution between the City and Water District is necessary to further prioritize water and land use planning integration between the two entities. This resolution has been reviewed by the City Council and SACWSD Board and is the first step towards reaffirming the partnership between the City and South Adams.

Staff Responsible (Department Head): Jim Tolbert; Assistant City Manager **Staff Member Presenting**: Jenna Hahn; Executive Management Analyst (if requested)

Financial Impact: None at this time

Funding Source: N/A

Staff Recommendation: Suggested Motion: