

**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**

NO. 2023-087

WHEREAS, the City of Commerce City (“City”) has regulatory responsibility over matters pertaining to land use planning and development within the City;

WHEREAS, South Adams County Water and Sanitation District (“District”) provides the residents of the City with public water and sanitation services and has regulatory responsibility over matters pertaining to those services;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Intergovernmental Agreement dated April 28, 2004 (“2004 IGA”), the Intergovernmental Agreement for Implementation of the 2004 IGA dated April 7, 2014, and other agreements, the City and the District have delineated how they fulfill certain aspects of their respective governmental roles concerning land use planning and development and the provision of water and sanitation services;

WHEREAS, in addition, the City and the District entered into the Intergovernmental Agreement Regarding Joint Water Commission on August 17, 2015, to establish a Joint Water Commission comprised of elected officials and staff from each entity to enable direct communication and coordination on water and land use matters and to enhance and strengthen the working relationship between the two entities;

WHEREAS, this May, representatives from the City and from the District together attended the Growing Water Smart Workshop held by the Sonoran Institute in Estes Park, devoting three days to collaboratively identify and discuss the core water and land use issues facing the City and its residents;

WHEREAS, the culmination of the Workshop was the City and the District’s joint development of a Water Smart Action Plan comprised of goals and concrete actions, with deadlines, to address specific water-related issues, which reinforced that true integration of water and land use planning between the City and the District is fundamental and essential for those goals to be achieved;

WHEREAS, recognizing the inextricable connection between water and land use and the significance of regional water and land use challenges, the City and the District must unite their resource planning and decision making if they are committed to shaping the City’s future in a healthy and strategic manner for residents to enjoy a quality community for a lifetime; and

WHEREAS, the City Council and the District Board of Directors have determined that the approval and execution of this Joint Resolution to prioritize the integration of joint water and land use planning and to reaffirm both entities’ commitment to their partnership is in the best interests of the City, the District, and residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COMMERCE CITY, COLORADO, AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SOUTH ADAMS COUNTY WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:

1. The City and the District reaffirm their commitment to their long-standing partnership including, but not limited to, the Joint Water Commission.
2. The City and the District encourage officials and staff at all levels to work together, maintain open lines of communication, and consult each other with respect to land use and development, water supply, and related issues.
3. The City and the District commit to prioritize the meaningful, consistent, and long-lasting integration of their land use and water supply planning and management.
4. The City and the District aim to utilize water supply as a tool to incentivize beneficial, strategic, and sustainable development within the community, as identified by the City Council in collaboration with the District.
5. From adopting policy and regulations to navigating day-to-day decisions, the City and the District commit to efforts to reduce water demand, increase water conservation, and maximize water efficiency strategies for the present City and for full buildout scenarios.

RESOLVED AND PASSED THIS 7TH DAY OF AUGUST 2023.

CITY OF COMMERCE CITY

Benjamin A. Huseman, Mayor

ATTEST

Dylan A. Gibson, City Clerk

SOUTH ADAMS COUNTY WATER AND
SANITATION DISTRICT

Heidi McNeely, President

ATTEST

Vicki Ennis, Secretary