



City of Denton

City Hall
215 E. McKinney Street
Denton, Texas
www.cityofdenton.com

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Environmental Services and Sustainability

ACM: Christine Taylor, Assistant City Manager

DATE: January 7, 2025

SUBJECT

Consider adoption of an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute “DSHS MOU NO. HHS001454300028” (“MOU”) between the City of Denton and the Texas Department of State Health Services (“DSHS”) stating the terms and conditions of the City’s participation in the DSHS Wastewater monitoring program; and providing an effective date.

BACKGROUND

The City of Denton previously collaborated with Baylor University on a DSHS-funded study to monitor emerging virus levels in wastewater from 2020 to 2022. DSHS has recently received additional Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) funding to expand this study to include Influenza A, Influenza B, Mpox, Norovirus, and Respiratory Syncytial Virus.

While the City's staff was able to manage the previous study, the new study’s expanded scope would compromise essential job functions. To ensure continued monitoring, the City and DSHS are finalizing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that will allow DSHS staff to collect and analyze wastewater samples using DSHS equipment and personnel. DSHS will share the collected data with the City. Denton Water Utilities and Street Operations will be the primary department contact with DSHS with support from Environmental Services & Sustainability.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the ordinance.

ESTIMATED SCHEDULE OF PROJECT

The study will begin upon approval of the MOU and is set to expire within 5 years. Either party can terminate the MOU by giving 30 days’ written notice.

PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW (Council, Boards, Commissions)

None

FISCAL INFORMATION

The City has no funding commitment under this MOU.

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1: Agenda Information Sheet

Exhibit 2: Ordinance and Memorandum of Understanding

Respectfully submitted:

Michael A. Gange

Director of Environmental Services & Sustainability

Prepared by:

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Pretreatment Manager