



January 6, 2017

Messrs. Leo Gomez and Norman Dugas, Chairmen
Utility Task Force Committee
c/o North San Antonio Chamber of Commerce
12930 Country Parkway
San Antonio, Texas 78217

Re: SAWS Policy for Connecting to Existing Infrastructure

Dear Messrs. Gomez and Dugas:

This letter is in response to a request by members of the Utility Task Force Committee on December 5, 2016. Specifically, several members requested for San Antonio Water System (SAWS) to clarify the requirements for developer customers connecting to existing mains.

The intent of SAWS Utility Service Regulations (USRs) is to establish the policies governing service extension to SAWS customers for water, wastewater, and recycled water services. This includes providing mechanisms for the extension of service to new customers and for the funding of the extensions by the new customer. The USRs require the developer to fund the construction of any infrastructure needed to connect to the nearest SAWS main with available capacity. If the existing infrastructure does not have available capacity, SAWS may require the developer to replace the existing main with a larger main, and will sometimes fund the oversizing of the developer's project.

The USRs do not require the developer to replace existing pipelines based on the condition of the main, and are not intended to defer maintenance of existing SAWS infrastructure to the developer customer. If a developer is tying to a main in poor condition, SAWS may require the developer to replace the joint of pipe at the point of connection. The replacement is only required when the existing main may not have the structural integrity to provide a tight connection with the service line or main, and should only include the point(s) of connection and not the whole pipeline.

In some rare situations, the developer's site specific project requirements require modification of the existing system, such as the developer's invert is lower than the point of connection, so the developer may be required to modify the existing or proposed infrastructure as warranted. Such modifications do not provide general benefit facilities or add capacity to the SAWS system and are not eligible for impact fee credits or reimbursement. Impact fees only recover the capital costs for growth, and do not include the costs for maintenance of the system.

If you have additional questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 210-233-3742 or smills@saws.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Smills", is written over the typed name.

Sam Mills, P.E.
Director, Development

cc: Mayor Ivy Taylor
Robert R. Puente, President / Chief Executive Officer
Genoveva G. Gomez, P.E., Vice President, Engineering and Construction