

ORDINANCE NO. 23-_____

AN ORDINANCE CREATING SECTION 305 (SERVICE; EXTENSION LIMITATION) OF PART 3 (WATER SERVICE) OF ARTICLE 4 (WATER CODE) OF CHAPTER 12 (UTILITIES) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS 2001, AS AMENDED, PERTAINING TO THE EXTENSION OF WATER SERVICE

WHEREAS, persistent drought in the western United States and Colorado River Basin have placed a risk of future constraints on the City's water supply; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that enclaves and irregularly shaped boundaries create an inefficient delivery of municipal services which should be avoided; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has legislative discretion over water services within and outside of the City, as set forth in City Charter section 6-70 (Utility Rates) and Part 2 (Annexations) of Article 6 (Planning Commission and Annexations) of Chapter 7 (Planning, Development, and Building); and

WHEREAS, the City Council adopts this ordinance to reasonably limit the extension of water services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS:

Section 1. Section 305 (Service; Extension Limitation) of Part 3 (Water Service) of Article 4 (Water Code) of Chapter 12 (Utilities) of the Code of the City of Colorado Springs 2001, as amended, is created to read as follows:

12.4.305: SERVICE; EXTENSION LIMITATION:

A. Due to increasing demands on the City's water supply, and to ensure that the City's water rights will meet existing and anticipated water service obligations, extending water service into any area not within either the existing City limits or the water service boundary as of the effective date of this section is subject to the recommendation of approval by the Utilities Board and approval by City Council.

B. City Council approval shall require a finding that the proposed water extension is warranted based on a substantiated and written record demonstrating that:

1. The City's available water supply is sufficient to meet at least 128% of existing usage (calculated using a five (5) year rolling average of weather normalized unrestricted usage data) and the projected demand for water services within the proposed extension(s) of services, and not less than 25% of the perimeter of the area is contiguous with the City (as defined by State law); or
2. A unique and extraordinary event or circumstance necessitates an extension of water services to serve critical interests of the City; or
3. The area is an enclave (as defined by State law), or the area is owned or leased by the City, or extension of water service to the area will have a de minimis impact on the overall City's available water supply.

C. This section shall apply to any extension of Utilities water services notwithstanding any provision to the contrary.

Section 2. Upon final passage of this ordinance, it is Council's intent to form and/or participate in a regional water task force consisting of representatives from the City of Colorado Springs, Colorado Springs Utilities, El Paso County, and regional water providers to evaluate water demand and recommend water policy in the Pikes Peak area.

Section 3. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its final adoption and publication as provided by Charter.

Section 4. Council deems it appropriate that this ordinance be published by title and summary prepared by the City Clerk and that this ordinance be available for inspection and acquisition in the office of the City Clerk.

Introduced, read, passed on first reading and ordered published this ____ day of _____, 2023.

Finally passed: _____
_____ Council President

ATTEST:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk

CAO: _____
COS: _____