

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS CONCERNING SUPPORT FOR
THE ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A SUSTAINABLE STORMWATER
CONTROL PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Colorado Springs, a home rule City and Colorado municipal corporation, acknowledges that the management and control of stormwater flows is an important public goal which needs to be pursued in the City and throughout the Pikes Peak Region in order to meet the following objectives:

- Mitigate flooding, sedimentation and erosion;
- Address water quality and riparian habitat concerns;
- Improve drainage;
- Protect human health and safety;
- Preserve property;
- Increase property values;
- Protect downstream communities;
- Reduce flood insurance costs;
- Meet federal and state regulatory requirements;
- Enhance recreational opportunities;
- Promote economic development; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, the City Council finalized the adoption of a new Drainage Criteria Manual which incorporates the latest stormwater control techniques and currently supports the adoption of consistent such criteria throughout the region customized, as necessary, to meet the needs of each involved entity; and

WHEREAS, the City of Colorado Springs and El Paso County recently completed studies designed to identify and prioritize their stormwater capital project needs; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, as the policy making body for the City of Colorado Springs, has a clear role in identifying funding and setting priorities for stormwater management in the City of Colorado Springs, as well as in ensuring that all mandated stormwater requirements are met; and

WHEREAS, since the dissolution of the stormwater enterprise (SWENT) in 2009, the City of Colorado Springs has been funding stormwater control activities through the allocation of general fund monies and the use of grants; and

WHEREAS, the majority of City Council supported the November 2014 stormwater ballot initiative designed to create and fund a regional stormwater authority, but that initiative failed to obtain the requisite voter approval; and

WHEREAS, the City Council and City administration have already budgeted a total of approximately \$5.5 million in general fund spending in 2015 for stormwater control activities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Colorado Springs will hold a municipal election in April, 2015, and elect a new mayor and one or more new City Council members; and

WHEREAS, the 1997 SCIP bonds previously issued by the City will be fully paid off in 2016, and the \$8 million dollars per year of general fund revenues currently dedicated to the payment thereof will be available for other purposes.

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

Section 1. The City Council supports the identification and implementation of a more sustainable stormwater control program designed to meet the objectives identified above in an effective and cost-efficient manner, and is committed to working, in a cooperative and diligent manner, with the new mayor, newly elected council members and neighboring jurisdictions in the establishment of such a program.

Section 2. In order to ensure the continued adequacy of efforts to meet stormwater control demands while such a sustainable, long-term approach is developed and implemented, City Council further supports, and calls upon the new mayor and council to support, the dedication, on an interim basis, of the following funds for stormwater control activities: \$8 million per year from general fund monies currently allocated to the payment of aforementioned SCIP bond indebtedness for purposes of meeting stormwater capital project needs; plus an additional \$8 million per year of general fund monies for purposes of meeting both stormwater capital project needs, as well as MS4 and stormwater operations and maintenance obligations; and \$3 million per year from the budget of Colorado Springs Utilities for activities related to the protection of, or

mitigation of impacts to, Utilities' infrastructure from storm flows through the control of such flows (nineteen million dollars per year total).

Section 3. The City Council supports the appointment of one or more of its members to represent council in ongoing discussions over concerns surrounding the operation of its current stormwater program, including those concerns expressed by its downstream neighbors.

Introduced, read, adopted and dated this ___ day of _____, 2015.

Keith King, Council President

ATTEST:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk