

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING TRAVIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 9'S  
POSITION REGARDING MINIMUM MAINTENANCE OF FIRE HYDRANTS AND MINIMUM FIRE  
FLOW THROUGHOUT EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTING RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES  
THROUGHOUT THE CITY OF WEST LAKE HILLS**

**WHEREAS**, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 9 ("ESD") is charged with the responsibility to promote the health, safety and general welfare of the community by preventing death, injuries and property damage from fires within the ESD boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, The City of West Lake Hills ("City") is the municipality charged with the responsibility to promote the health, safety and general welfare of the community by preventing death, injuries and property damage from fires within the City Limits; and

**WHEREAS**, Travis County Water Control and Improvement District No. 10 (the "District") is the supplier of potable water and fire hydrants to a substantial portion of the properties served by the City and ESD; and

**WHEREAS**, the current average home size throughout the City is over 3,200 square feet; and

**WHEREAS**, the average size of new homes constructed over the past two years throughout the City is over 7,300 square feet and the City does not have a current mandate requiring the installation of residential sprinklers; and

**WHEREAS**, 2,000 gallons per minute (GPM) is the minimum recommended fire flow that will allow the ESD to provide adequate fire fighting capability throughout the City Limits. This is based on the average between the square footage of existing homes as compared to the trend of larger homes being built throughout the City and then compared to the minimum fire flow established within the International Fire Code and International Wildland-Urban Interface Code.

**WHEREAS**, the ESD shares the concerns of the District and City that rapid and efficient firefighting efforts could be impeded and pose a significant threat to the health, safety, and welfare of City citizens and their property from fires if a minimum adequate fire flow and an annual hydrant maintenance program is not established.

**NOW, THEREFORE, MAY IT BE RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF TRAVIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 9 THAT:**

Section 1. The ESD urges the District and City to establish a minimum fire flow rate of 2,000 gallons per minute (GPM) throughout the District's service area and to commit the necessary funds to upgrade the existing infrastructure as needed to ensure that all of the District's fire hydrants throughout the City meet the recommended minimum standard.

Section 2. The ESD urges the District to establish an annual maintenance program for all fire hydrants throughout the District's service area following guidelines set forth in American Water Works Association (AWWA) Manual M-17 (Installation, Field Testing, and Maintenance of Fire Hydrants) and the applicable International Fire Code. The program should include, but not be limited to, routine annual maintenance that consists of inspecting, flushing, cleaning, painting, and clearing of weeds and debris to insure that each hydrant is serviceable and accessible.

Section 3. The ESD urges the District to establish a program to paint all public fire hydrants silver and identify private hydrants requiring private property owners to paint red throughout the District's service area.

Section 4. The ESD urges the District to establish a program to color code the fire hydrants in accordance with National Fire Protection Association standards indicating available fire flow by painting the top and caps of the fire hydrants throughout the District's service area.

Section 5. The ESD urges the District and City to establish a program to insure that a blue pavement reflector is installed and maintained in the roadway adjacent to all fire hydrants throughout the District's service area within the City Limits of West Lake Hills.

Section 6. The ESD urges the City to establish a process to include the ESD in residential plan reviews of projects that exceed 3,600 square feet. This would allow the ESD the opportunity to inform the owner of any potential fire hydrant water supply concerns and help answer any questions on alternative construction methods that could help reduce risk.

Section 7. The ESD Secretary is hereby directed to provide a copy of this Resolution to the District and City and to file it in the official records of the ESD.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 4<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2012.

(SEAL)



  
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John Hogg, President

Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:



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Kirt H. Kiester, Secretary

Board of Commissioners