


EXPEDITED CITY COUNCIL ACTION REQUEST

Department(s): ESD	Date: 03/19/18	Coordination: City Manager's Office and City Attorney	Dept. Approval: /s/ Kerrie Romanow CMO Approval: 
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SUBJECT: SB 959 (Beall) Water corporation: advice letters.

RECOMMENDED POSITION: SUPPORT

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. Pursuant to the City's streamlined bill process for responding quickly to legislative proposals, re-affirm a support position for SB 959 (Beall).
2. Recommend a one-week turnaround to the April 10, 2018 City Council meeting, so that the City's legislative representative can continue to advocate the City's position for SB 959 (Beall).

BILL SYNOPSIS:

This bill would require a water corporation with more than 10,000 service connections to maintain on its Internet Website an archive of all pending, approved, or rejected advice letters. Advice letters are one way in which water corporations seek California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) authorization for rate increases. This bill requires current and prior advice letters to be easily available to the public.

https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB959

IMPACTS TO CITY OF SAN JOSE:

This bill would help promote transparency and accountability from Class A Water Investor Owned Companies. These companies currently serve more than 800,000 residents or 80% of San José's population, including the City of San José as a consumer.

POLICY ALIGNMENT:

This bill aligns with Council's October 23, 2017 direction and the City's Legislative Guiding Principle of supporting state and federal efforts to promote water affordability with a goal of access to safe, clean, and reliable water for all residents.

SUPPORTERS/OPPONENTS:

Supporters:
Water Rate Advocates for Transparency, Equity and Sustainability

Opponents:
None

STATUS OF BILL:

SB 959 will be heard in the Senate Energy Committee on Energy, Utilities, and Communications on April 3, 2018.

FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT: Ken Davies, Sustainably and Compliance Manager, at 408-975-2587.