RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF WILLIAMSON-TRAVIS COUNTIES MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 CONCERNING PUBLIC INFORMATION REQUESTS SUBMITTED DIRECTLY TO DISTRICT CONTRACTORS

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Williamson-Travis Counties Municipal Utility District No. 1 (the "District") has been the recipient of a large number of Public Information Act requests seeking a voluminous quantity of records; and

WHEREAS, open records requests under the Texas Public Information Act have now been submitted directly to at least one of the contractors of the District asserting the District's contractor is subject to the Public Information Act; and

WHEREAS, the District has the responsibility to ensure that requests for its records are handled properly under the Public Information Act and that the records are provided to the public as required by the Act and, where appropriate and permitted by the exceptions set out in the Act, are protected from disclosure; and

WHEREAS, non-governmental entities, such as private contractors, often are not familiar with the intricacies of the Texas Public Information Act and may require assistance when responding after receiving a Public Information Act request; and

WHEREAS, receiving and responding to such records requests may cause the District's contractors to incur unexpected and substantial expenses including attorney's fees to respond to such requests for information and may make it more difficult for the District to find and retain qualified contractors due to the additional expense and responsibility; and

WHEREAS, The District finds that it is in its interest to assist its contractors in obtaining legal representation and in otherwise responding to requests for the District's records that may be in the possession of the contractor, and

WHEREAS, the District asserts that its contractors are not subject to the Public Information Act and that all requests for information related to the District should be directed to the District and not its contractors.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that:

1. The Board of Directors of the District highly encourages any of its contractors that incur expenses related to requests for public information to either submit such costs to the District for reimbursement payment under its existing contract with the District if the contract provides for such reimbursement, or propose an amendment to its contract with the District to allow for such reimbursement requests.

- 2. If an existing contract does not specifically provide for such reimbursement, the District may provide reimbursement in those cases where:
 - a. The District finds that the primary purpose of the reimbursement for legal and other expenses is to benefit the District;
 - b. The District ensures that the reimbursement serves to accomplish the public purpose, and
 - c. The District receives a return benefit from the services for which reimbursement is granted.

PASSED AND ADOPTED the 20th day of May, 2020.

Catherine Franke, President

Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Chris Rocco, Secretary Board of Directors

[DISTRICT SEAL]

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