



MEMORANDUM

March 4, 2010

TO: Board of Mayor and Aldermen

FROM: Mark Hilty, Water Management Director
Eric J. Gardner, P.E., Director of Engineering
David Parker, P.E., CIP Project Executive
Eric S. Stuckey, City Administrator

SUBJECT: Advanced Metering Infrastructure Discussion

Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to introduce to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BOMA) the concept of advanced metering infrastructure (AMI).

Background

Currently the Water Management Department employs the use of automatic meter reading (AMR) technology to read the majority of the approximately 17,000 active water accounts in the service area. The implementation of this technology started in the early 1990s. Since that time, newer technologies in the meter reading industry have emerged providing a wider array of options to help monitor the distribution system, address customer inquiries and improve efficiency. Water Management has been researching these technologies, specifically AMI, and will provide a brief presentation to the Capital Investments Committee to introduce the concept for potential consideration in the future.

Financial Impact

There are various benefits to using an AMI system in addition to customer service and system monitoring, including reduced labor, equipment, and fuel costs. The Water Management Department is reviewing the costs associated with migrating to AMI in order to provide the Board with adequate information.

Recommendation

At this preliminary stage, staff recommends that Water Management continues to research the implementation of Advanced Metering Infrastructure in order to provide adequate information to the Board for potential consideration of migrating to this technology.