



CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

FROM: The Office of the City Manager **DATE:** October 27, 2025

SUBJECT: Consider Ordinance No. 3934, amending Chapter 78, Article IV – “Sanitary Sewer System”, Sections 78-213 “Prohibited Discharges” of the Code of Ordinances, City of North Richland Hills, Texas.

PRESENTER: Kenneth Garvin, Public Works Operations Manager

SUMMARY:

City Council is being asked to consider amending Chapter 78, Article IV – “Sanitary Sewer System”, Section 78-213 “Prohibited Discharges” of the Code of Ordinances. This change updates the pretreatment program and definitions to align with state permit renewal requirements.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The City contracts with the City of Fort Worth and the Trinity River Authority (TRA) to collect, treat, and discharge all the City’s wastewater in accordance to the guidelines set by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), which is responsible for implementing and enforcing wastewater regulations in Texas.

TRA also serves as the Control Authority for its pretreatment program through its Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination Permit (TPDES). The City acts as the Legal Authority and is responsible for implementing the ordinances and enforcing requirements for any permitted Significant Industrial Users (SIUs) within its jurisdiction.

As part of the most recent Central Regional Wastewater System (CRWS) TPDES permit renewal, TCEQ required TRA to update its pretreatment program to incorporate streamlining changes and reassess the Technically Based Local Limits (TBLLs) and added specific definitions.

This amendment ordinance aligns the updates from TRA for the Pretreatment Program and the definitions for Section 78-213 “Prohibited Discharges,” specifically: section (19) Trucked or Hauled Pollutants to prohibit for facilities discharging to the City of Fort Worth Village Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility any industrial activities/processes regulated by any specific category listed in 40 Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR) Parts 405-471 with detectable quantities of PFAS; section (22) BTEX to prohibit for facilities discharging to the City of Fort Worth Village Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility the discharge of BTEX concentration greater than 1.0 mg/L; and section (28) to prohibit for facilities discharging to the City of Fort Worth Village Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility discharge of any PFAS or PFAS-related substances above baseline collection system concentrations of 25 ng/L without an approved plan of correction, as defined in the dischargers permit, which employs “Best Management Practices” (BMPs) to reduce or eliminate the pollutants within one year of detection/notification.



In sewer treatment, BTEX (Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, and Xylenes) refers to volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that contaminate wastewater, particularly from industrial processes and leaks of petroleum products like gasoline. These compounds are a health concern, and their removal is necessary to prevent harm to humans and the environment, requiring advanced purification methods beyond basic biological treatment.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Ordinance No. 3934.