



**City of Santa Ana**  
**20 Civic Center Plaza, Santa Ana, CA 92701**  
**Staff Report**  
**May 7, 2024**

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**TOPIC:** Council Consideration of Resolution to Establish Public Financing Authority

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**AGENDA TITLE**

Council Consideration of Resolution Establishing the City of Santa Ana Public Financing Authority

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Adopt a Resolution establishing the City of Santa Ana Public Financing Authority (Agreement No. A-2024-XXX).

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-XXX entitled RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA ANA AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF THE CITY OF SANTA ANA PUBLIC FINANCING AUTHORITY AND CERTAIN OTHER MATTERS PERTAINING THERETO

**GOVERNMENT CODE §84308 APPLIES:** No

**DISCUSSION**

Introduction

Staff has been working with Urban Futures, Inc. (UFI) municipal advisors and Best Best and Krieger LLP (BB&K) bond counsel to consider alternatives to pay for water system capital improvement projects and refund the existing City of Santa Ana Financing Authority Water Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2014. The City may use water system revenues to finance projects through the issuance of water revenue refunding bonds. In order to issue water revenue refunding bonds, staff recommends the City and the City of Santa Ana Housing Authority (Housing Authority) form a joint powers authority and enter into a joint exercise of powers agreement. The joint powers authority is proposed to be called the City of Santa Ana Public Financing Authority (Financing Authority) and the Financing Authority will issue the water revenue refunding bonds.

Background

The Joint Exercise of Powers Act, Government Code section 6500 et seq. (Act), permits public agencies to enter into a joint exercise of powers agreement (JEPA) to form a separate governmental entity to jointly exercise powers common to the member

agencies (Government Code Section 6502). The parties to the JEPA may create a separate legal entity (i.e. joint powers authority) under the JEPA to administer the agreement. Additionally, joint powers authorities have the power of issuing bonds secured by local revenues, such as the City's water system revenues. This is a commonly utilized financing mechanism for cities throughout the State of California.

#### Discussion

In consultation with BB&K, if the City desires to utilize water system revenue financings in the future, then the Financing Authority will be a necessary component of such financings.

The governing body of the Financing Authority will be the Mayor and members of the City Council. Any regular meeting of the Financing Authority's Board of Directors shall be held at the same time and same location as regular meetings of the City Council and noticed in the same manner. The Board of Directors of the Financing Authority will conduct a regular meeting at least once each calendar year on the first Tuesday of December. The Financing Authority Board meetings will have separate agendas from the City Council meetings and will comply with Brown Act requirements.

For City Council consideration:

- Resolution No. 2024-XXX Resolution of the City Council of the City of Santa Ana Authorizing the Creation of the City of Santa Ana Public Financing Authority and Certain Other Matters Pertaining Thereto

For Housing Authority Board consideration:

- Resolution No. 2024-XXX Resolution of the Board of Directors of the City of Santa Ana Housing Authority Authorizing the Creation of the City of Santa Ana Public Financing Authority and Certain Other Matters Pertaining Thereto

If the City Council and Housing Authority Board adopt the aforementioned resolutions, then staff recommends the newly established Financing Authority Board consider:

- Resolution No. 2024-XXX Resolution of the Board of Directors of the City of Santa Ana Public Financing Authority Approving and Adopting Bylaws, Establishing Regular Meeting Dates and Authorizing Certain Other Actions in Connection Therewith

The City Council will be asked to consider issuing water revenue refunding bonds to finance the City's water system capital improvements at a future meeting. Until then, the City may make expenditures related to design and construction costs. The City may desire to use a portion of the proceeds of the bonds to reimburse the City for prior

expenditures on capital improvements. The City, by making such a declaration, in no way obligates itself to issue the bonds.

If the Santa Ana Public Financing Authority is created, staff recommends the Financing Authority Board consider:

- Resolution No. 2024-XXX Resolution of the Board of Directors of the City of Santa Ana Public Financing Authority Declaring its Intent to Issue Tax Exempt Obligations to be Used to Reimburse the City of Santa Ana for Expenditures Prior to the Issuance of Such Bonds

**FISCAL IMPACT**

This action will allow the City, through the issuance of bonds by the Financing Authority, to finance water system capital projects.

**EXHIBIT(S)**

1. Resolution No. 2024-XXX Resolution of the City Council of the City of Santa Ana Authorizing the Creation of the City of Santa Ana Public Financing Authority and Certain Other Matters Pertaining Thereto
2. Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement

Submitted By: Kathryn Downs, Executive Director of Finance and Management Services

Approved By: Alvaro Nuñez, Acting City Manager