

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

General Information:

(Check) Bill: X Resolution: _____

Short Title(s): Backflow Prevention and Control Program

Sponsor(s): Councilor Chavez, and Councilor Castro

Reviewing Department(s): Public Utilities Department- Water Division; Public Works

Staff Completing FIR: Justin Gonzales, Cross Connection Specialist Date: 01/22/2026

Phone: (505) 531-7112

Reviewed by City Attorney: *Marcos Martinez*
 Marcos Martinez (Jan 22, 2026 10:21:03 MST) Date: _____

Reviewed by Finance Director: *Andrea Phillips*
 ANDREA PHILLIPS (Jan 22, 2026 12:55:01 MST) Date: 01/22/2026

Summary:

The proposed bill amends Exhibit A of Section 25-4.1 SFCC 1987, to update definitions, create a new rule Number 7, and directs the City of Santa Fe’s Water Division to adopt backflow prevention and control rules from the Uniform Plumbing Code and University of California’s Manual of Cross-Section Control. The bill also establishes inspection and administrative fees, as well as fines for inspection and administrative as well as for violations of the rules established in the bill. These measures are best practices for water utilities and are necessary to prevent potential contamination to the city’s potable water supply.

Departments Affected:

Public Works Department, Facilities Division, and Parks and Open Space Division.

Public Utilities Department, Water Division

Consequences of Not Enacting Legislation:

If this legislation is not adopted, there remains an unacceptably high risk of backflow contamination into the city’s potable supply of water.

Conflict, Duplication, Companionship, or Relationship to Other Legislation:

This legislation compliments SFCC 1987, Sections 14-8.4(a) and Exhibit A, Rule 8 of Chapter 25 of SFCC 1987, all of which require backflow prevention but do not have a mechanism for enforcement or to ensure devices are in good working order.

Performance and Administrative Implications:

This bill would require additional administrative costs to City’s Utility’s Department.

Fiscal Implications:

For the Public Works Department, there will be costs associated with using a third party to do backflow testing, estimated at \$15,720 per year. For the Public Utilites Department, there will be costs to implement the backflow prevention and control program, including staff and software which are estimated at \$125,000

per year in 2026, and revenue from fees and fines estimated at \$85,000 per year in 2026. Net cost to the City of approximately \$55,720 per year in 2026

Fiscal Impact

 Check here if no fiscal impact

Expenditures: Public Works Department

Expenditure Type	FYE '26	FYE '27	FYE '28	Require BAR (Y/N)	Recurring (R) or Non-recurring (NR)	Fund	3-Year Total Cost
Personnel and Benefits*	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____	_____	
Capital Outlay	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____	_____	
Contractual/	\$ 15,720	\$15,720	\$15,720		_____	_____	
Professional Services	_____	_____	_____				
Operating	\$ 6,550	\$6,550	\$6,550		_____	_____	\$19,650
Total:	\$22,270	\$22,270	\$22,270				\$66,810

* This includes all staff time associated with executing the job functions of the proposed legislation.

Expenditure Narrative:

These numbers represent one hundred thirty-one (131) City-owned backflow devices (104 irrigation, 27 buildings) at an assumed cost of \$120 per backflow device per year, plus a \$50 administrative fee is \$6,550 total. Training costs an average \$1000 plus an estimated 130 hours per year of staff time if public works decides not to go with third party tester. Additional new budget will need to be required to absorb these costs.

Revenue: Public Works Department

Revenue Type	FYE __	FYE __	FYE __	Recurring (R) or Non-recurring (NR)	Fund
General Fund	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Special Revenue	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
CIP	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Enterprise	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Internal Service	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Trust and Agency	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Federal	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Other	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Total	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____		

Revenue Narrative:

Expenditures: Public Utilities Department

Expenditure Type	FYE '26	FYE '27	FYE '28	Require BAR (Y/N)	Recurring (R) or Non-recurring (NR)	Fund	3-Year Total Cost
Personnel and Benefits*	\$ 110,000	\$ 111,000	\$ 112,000	_____	_____	_____	
Capital Outlay	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____	_____	
Contractual/ Professional Services	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____				
Operating	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000		_____	_____	\$ _____
Total:	\$125,000	\$126,000	\$127,000				\$ 378,000

* This includes all staff time associated with executing the job functions of the proposed legislation.

Expenditure Narrative:

These numbers represent one (1) employee and software expense per year, and they assume one thousand seven hundred and two (1702) software devices in 2026 and 1% employee pay increase per year.

Revenue: Public Utilities Department

Revenue Type	FYE '26	FYE '27	FYE '28	Recurring (R) or Non-recurring (NR)	Fund
General Fund	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Special Revenue	\$85,100	\$85,950	\$86,800	_____	_____
CIP	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Enterprise	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Internal Service	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Trust and Agency	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Federal	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Other	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Total	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____		

Revenue Narrative: The special revenue is a \$50 fee that is applied to each backflow device in our system. This is an estimate. Assuming 1702 devices in 2026 and 1% increase per year.

Signature:

Email:

Signature:

Email: