

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO.: (1)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: JUNE 10, 2008

TITLE: Jordan Lake Water Supply Allocation

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| DEPARTMENT: PLANNING | PUBLIC HEARING: YES ___ NO <u>X</u> |
| ATTACHMENTS: A. Letter from OWASA Board | FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: ROY WILLIFORD, 918-7325 |

PURPOSE:

At the March 31, 2008 Assembly of Governments meeting, OWASA presented its intent to update the long term water supply plan to consider a new intake from Jordan Lake. The purpose of this agenda item is to receive a presentation from the NC Division of Water Resources regarding the allocation of drinking water from Jordan Lake to help inform the Town's evaluation of long term water supply planning.

INFORMATION:

OWASA currently holds an allocation for future use of 5% (5 million gallons per day) of Jordan Lake's water supply storage capacity. OWASA additionally owns 125 acres on the west side of Jordan Lake, close to OWASA's preferred site for a water supply intake recommended in a 1991 OWASA-commissioned engineering analysis. Although OWASA owns the property, neither OWASA nor any other local entity control rights to an intake location; this authority rest with the Army Corps of Engineers. Jordan Lake represents a possible water supply supplement for OWASA if current plans for conservation and reclaimed water fall short of meeting needs prior to the expanded Stone Quarry reservoir coming into service after 2030. Jordan Lake could also provide an emergency backup and additional water supply flexibility in consideration of recent and potential droughts. OWASA believes it is impractical for OWASA alone to develop facilities at Jordan Lake due to the high costs of an intake, pumps, and a pipeline. Durham is also considering options for water withdrawal from Jordan Lake and has proposed a leadership role for planning a water intake and perhaps treatment plant on the western side of the lake. In March, the Durham City Council approved a resolution supporting regional partnerships and committing Durham's leadership. The OWASA Board has recently directed OWASA staff's participation in evaluating the potential joint use of Jordan Lake as a water supply.

FISCAL AND STAFF IMPACT:

There is no immediate fiscal impact associated with this agenda item.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Board discuss this matter and provide direction and guidance.