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City of Sweetwater to Install Smart Water Meters at Every Home, Business

SWEETWATER, Texas – The City of Sweetwater is partnering with Secure Vision of America to install Ultrasonic Smart Water Meters in every home and business by July 2023.

Smart meters provide a more accurate measure of customer water use than previous, mechanical meters. This means some current meters might underreport water use, resulting in lower bills that do not accurately reflect the full amount of water used. New meters will register all water consumption so customers are billed for accurate amounts.

Secure Vision of America will begin installing approximately smart water meters in February. By July 2023 every home and business in Sweetwater should be equipped with these new smart meters. This equates to approximately 4,500 replaced meters over five months. These water meters will offer customers the ability to view their hourly water use data, receive automatic leak alerts, and notice consistent, 30-day billing periods.

The City of Sweetwater will work to notify residents of their scheduled installation day via social media and the Nixle text messaging service. Prior to installation, residents are advised to prune back any landscaping that has grown over their meter box. The residential installation will typically take 15-30 minutes. Customers will notice a temporary disruption in service during their scheduled installation time. Upon completion, customers will gain access to the online portal to track their water usage, and data, and enroll to receive automatic leak alerts.

To ensure installation plans do not interfere with business operations, Secure Vision of America will contact commercial customers separately to coordinate installation plans and procedures.

The total cost of this project is \$2,044,474.10. It will be funded through remaining ARPA grant funds and City of Sweetwater savings.

For more information on the installation, visit <u>www.sweetwatertx.gov</u>.

For media inquiries, please contact Kathleen Cox by email <u>kcox@coswtr.org</u> or by phone at (325) 721-8715.