



# CITY OF COMMERCE

Commerce, TX

***The City of Commerce captures lost revenues and cost of operational inefficiencies without burdening taxpayers.***

The City of Commerce was suffering a loss of revenue from inaccurate readings by old water meters, along with high operation and maintenance costs for diagnosis and repair. The city's water loss was between 15-30% on a monthly basis.

The city contracted with NORESKO to implement a comprehensive upgrade of water meters in the city's geographical service area. Structured as a performance contract, the project included new meter infrastructure with a fixed-base automatic meter reading system to improve water system data collection and accuracy, along with lighting system retrofits at selected facilities. With new meters, customers are assured that usage is collected on a timely basis and that bills are an accurate and fair measure of usage. The integration of fixed-base radio frequency networking with new meters improves customer service through proactive monitoring of the water system. The infrastructure improvements were implemented with no interruption in service to customers.

Entirely self-funding, the project did not require a capital budget outlay and did not burden taxpayers with rate increases or expensive bonding. The project will pay for itself over time through energy savings, operational improvements, and increased billable water and sewer revenues.

Additional savings is also realized from the city's reduction in labor required for meter reading and the reduction in administrative and maintenance expenses due to enhanced metering and data analysis.

**Project Cost:** \$2.3 Million

**Annual Cost Savings:** \$229,544

**Contract Term:** 15 Years

**Contract Type:** ESPC

## Technical Highlights:

- 2013 new water meters with fixed-base automated meter reading system
- Lighting and lighting controls upgrades

## Environmental Impact:

- Conserves 74,956 thousand gallons of water annually
- 100 kWh reduction in annual electricity consumption from lighting upgrades
- 146,595 lbs. reduction in CO<sub>2</sub>  
304 lbs. reduction in SO<sub>x</sub>  
230 lbs. reduction in NO<sub>x</sub>
- Fuel savings from avoided manual meter readings

***"Investment in an accurate state-of-the-art system is good for the citizens of Commerce. It supports our growth, and we'll accomplish it with no interruption in service."***

Marc Clayton  
City Manager  
City of Commerce

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