

# Supporting Policies Rules and Regulations

## Austin City Code

### **ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

#### **§ 15-9-1 DEFINITIONS**

(5) CUSTOMER means:

- (a) an individual, partnership, association, firm, public or private corporation, governmental authority, or other legal entity that receives City utility service at a service address;
- (b) an owner of property that is connected to the City's utility service at a service address; or
- (c) a person who receives the benefit of the City's utility service.

### **ARTICLE 9. INVOICE AND PAYMENT REQUIREMENTS.**

#### **§ 15-9-145 CHARGES FOR UTILITY SERVICE.**

As prescribed by Section 1502.057 (*Charges for Service*) of the Texas Government Code, the City shall equally and uniformly apply the rates it charges for utility service, and **may not allow free utility service** except to facilities operated by the City.

*Source: 2003 Code Section 15-9-2; 1992 Code Section 18-4-002; Ord. 040805-02.*

### **ARTICLE 10. CITY'S INSTALLATION AND METERING.**

#### **§ 15-9-154 PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE OF CONSUMPTION.**

The reading registered on a City utility meter is prima facie evidence of the amount of service provided to a customer.

*Source: 2003 Code Section 15-9-214; 1992 Code Section 18-4-303; Ord. 040805*

## The Texas Constitution

### **Article 3 - LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT**

#### **SECTION 55 - RELEASE OR EXTINGUISHMENT OF INDEBTEDNESS TO STATE, COUNTY, SUBDIVISION, OR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**

The Legislature shall have no power to release or extinguish, or to authorize the releasing or extinguishing, in whole or in part, the indebtedness, liability or obligation of any corporation **or individual**, to this State or to any county or defined subdivision thereof, or other **municipal corporation** therein, except delinquent taxes which have been due for a period of at least ten years. (Amended Nov. 8, 1932.)

## Texas Statutes Government Code

### **TITLE 9. PUBLIC SECURITIES**

#### **CHAPTER 1502. PUBLIC SECURITIES FOR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES, PARKS, OR POOLS**

##### **SECTION 1502.057. CHARGES FOR SERVICES**

- (a) A municipality shall impose and collect charges for services provided by a utility system in amounts at least sufficient to pay:
  - (1) all operating, maintenance, depreciation, replacement, improvement, and interest charges in connection with the utility system;
  - (2) for an interest and sinking fund sufficient to pay any public securities issued or obligations incurred for any

purpose described by Section 1502.002 relating to the utility system; and

(3) any outstanding debt against the system.

(b) The rates charged for services provided by a utility system must be equal and uniform. A municipality may not allow any free service except for:

- (1) municipal public schools; or
- (2) buildings and institutions operated by the municipality.

Added by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 227, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1999.

Renumbered from Government Code § 1502.059 and amended by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 1064, § 22, eff. Sept. 1, 1999.