ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 15-9 REGARDING DEFERRED PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR UTILITY ACCOUNTS.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

PART 1. City Code Section 15-9-144 is deleted in its entirety and a new Section 15-9-144 is adopted to read:

§ 15-9-144 DEFERRED PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

(A) Based upon guidelines adopted pursuant to this section, the City shall allow a customer to make deferred payments on an active account under a deferred payment arrangement.

(B) The guidelines shall address the conditions under which a deferred payment arrangement is eligible for renegotiation or reinstatement. The guidelines shall also address the down-payment amount and the duration of a payment arrangement.

(C) The guidelines shall consider the following factors in determining the reasonableness of the down-payment amount and the duration of an agreement:

(1) the size and age of the outstanding balance;

(2) the customer's payment history and performance under any previous deferred payment arrangements employment; and

(3) any other relevant factors concerning the circumstances of the customer.

(D) For residential customers who participate in or qualify for the City's customer assistance program, the deferred payment arrangement shall not require a monthly payment that exceeds five percent of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services monthly poverty guideline for a single person household.

(C) A deferred payment arrangement shall provide that service shall not be terminated if the customer is current with payments on an established payment arrangement.

draft

PART 2. This ordinance takes effect on _____, 2015.

PASSED AND APPROVED

	§	
	§	
_____, 2015	§	_____
		Steve Adler
		Mayor

APPROVED: _____ **ATTEST:** _____

Anne L. Morgan	Jannette S. Goodall
Interim City Attorney	City Clerk

draft