



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-3527, Agenda Item #: 3.

12/10/2020

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Austin Water Community Benefit Charge Fund Budget (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to increase the other requirements-multifamily cash assistance program discount by \$4,000,000 for a net impact of \$4,000,000 to the ending balance. Related to Item #60.

Lead Department

Austin Water.

Fiscal Note

Fiscal note is attached.

Prior Council Action:

August 13, 2020 - Council approved an ordinance adopting the Austin Water Community Benefit Charge Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

For More Information:

Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office at 512-974-2991 or AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

Approved by the Water and Wastewater Commission on November 17, 2020.

Additional Backup Information:

Council approved a FY2020-21 budget rider directing Austin Water (AW) to develop a multifamily Customer Assistance Program (CAP) discount program and return to Council in the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2021 to describe the fiscal impacts of the program and seek approval of implementation, including any necessary budget amendments.

Austin Water is recommending a \$17.00 monthly combined water and wastewater multifamily CAP credit, which will be included on the bills of all Austin Energy (AE) CAP customers that are not currently AW CAP customers. This will be a \$11.00 water credit and a \$6.00 wastewater credit. A separate item (Item 1) is on the Council's agenda to approve this credit.

To implement this multifamily CAP discount, the Austin Water Community Benefit Charge Fund (CBC) will need to be amended to include a \$4.0M increase in Other Requirements-Multifamily CAP Discount for the CAP credit provided to AW multifamily CAP customers on AE's electric bill. Implementation is expected to begin during the first quarter of 2021. The CBC fund collects the community benefit surcharge revenues used to fund AW's CAP programs. Since AE will be providing this credit to Austin Water's multifamily CAP customers on AE CAP customer bills, AW's CBC fund will reimburse AE for the credit.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Government that Works for All; Economic Opportunity and Affordability.