



**Water & Wastewater Commission  
Review and Recommendation**

<b>Commission Meeting Date:</b>	February 3, 2021	<b>COA Strategic Direction:</b>	Government That Works for All
<b>Council Meeting Date:</b>	February 18, 2021		
<b>Department:</b>	Austin Energy/Austin Water		
<b>Client:</b>	Joseph Gonzales		
<b>Agenda Item</b>			
Recommend an ordinance amending the fiscal year 2020-2021 budgets of Austin Water and Austin Energy to appropriate up to \$10,000,000 for the utilities' Plus-One payment assistance programs. Austin Water's portion of this amendment is \$5,000,000.			
<b>Amount and Source of Funding</b>			
Fiscal notes are attached.			
<b>Purchasing Language:</b>	N/A		
<b>Prior Council Action:</b>	August 12, 2020 – Council approved an ordinance adopting the City of Austin Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, beginning on October 1, 2020, and ending on September 30, 2021.		
<b>Boards and Commission Action:</b>	February 3, 2021 — To be reviewed by the Water and Wastewater Commission. February 8, 2021 — To be reviewed by the Electric Utility Commission.		
<b>MBE/WBE:</b>	N/A		

During the March 26, 2020 Council meeting, Council approved Resolution No. 20200326-092 directing the City Manager to explore options available to reduce the impact of utility bills during the time when the City is asking our community to work from or otherwise stay at home to help reduce the spread of the coronavirus. The resolution directed the City Manager to at a minimum consider adjusting eligibility criteria for the Plus 1 emergency financial aid program to make it accessible to individuals who have experienced an impact to their job or earnings as a result of COVID-19 and consider other options for utility rate relief for residential customers.

On April 9, 2020 Council approved Ordinance No. 20200409-083 for Austin Energy and Austin Water to contribute an additional \$5.0 million each to the Plus One payment assistance program. The Plus One payment assistance program provided direct and targeted relief to our most vulnerable customers experiencing hardship in paying utility bills.

Austin Energy and Austin Water will each contribute an additional \$5.0 million to the Plus One payment assistance program for FY2021 for additional payment assistance, due to the continuing impacts of COVID-19.

**OPERATING BUDGET  
FISCAL NOTE**

**DATE OF COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:**  
**DEPARTMENT:**  
**FUND:**

2/18/21  
Austin Water  
Water, Wastewater, and Reclaimed Water Operating

**SUBJECT:** Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Austin Water Operating Budget (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to increase Transfers Out by \$5,000,000 for a net reduction to ending balance of \$5,000,000 to be transferred to the Customer Benefit Charge Fund.

**CURRENT YEAR IMPACT:**

	2020-21 Approved	This Action	2020-21 Amended
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	206,438,075	0	206,438,075
<b>Revenue</b>	568,003,394	0	568,003,394
<b>Transfers In</b>	46,174,942	0	46,174,942
<b>Total Available Funds</b>	614,178,336	0	614,178,336
<b>Program Requirements</b>	236,625,303	0	236,625,303
<b>Other Requirements</b>	21,244,758	0	21,244,758
<b>Debt Service</b>	173,658,293	0	173,658,293
<b>Transfers Out</b>	184,784,722	5,000,000	189,784,722
<b>Total Requirements</b>	616,313,076	5,000,000	621,313,076
<b>Excess (Deficiency) of Total Available Funds Over Total Requirements</b>	(2,134,740)	(5,000,000)	(7,134,740)
<b>Ending Balance</b>	204,303,335	(5,000,000)	199,303,335

**FIVE-YEAR ESTIMATED IMPACT:**

	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Total Available Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Total Requirements	5,000,000	0	0	0	0
Net Budget Impact	(5,000,000)	0	0	0	0

**ANALYSIS / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** This item will amend the Austin Water Operating Fund to increase Transfers Out by \$5.0 million to be transferred to the Customer Benefit Charge Fund to be used to fund the Customer Assistance Plus One payment program.

## OPERATING BUDGET FISCAL NOTE

**DATE OF COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:**

2/18 /2021

**CONTACT(S):**

Austin Water

**FUND:**

Austin Water Community Benefit Charge Fund

**SUBJECT:** Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Austin Water Community Benefit Charge Fund Budget (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to increase Transfers In for \$5,000,000 and increase Total Requirements by \$5,000,000 for a net impact of \$0 to the ending balance.

**CURRENT YEAR IMPACT:**

	2020-21 Approved	This Action	2020-21 Amended
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	4,461,765	0	4,461,765
Other Utility Revenue	9,405,556	0	9,405,556
Interest	33,725	0	33,725
<b>Total Revenue</b>	9,439,281	0	9,439,281
<b>Transfer In</b>	0	5,000,000	5,000,000
<b>Total Available Funds</b>	9,439,281	5,000,000	14,439,281
<b>Other Requirements</b>			
Customer Assistance Prog Costs	925,000	5,000,000	5,925,000
Multifamily CAP Discount	4,000,000	0	4,000,000
<b>Total Other Requirements</b>	4,925,000	5,000,000	9,925,000
<b>Transfer Out</b>			
Trf to Water Operating Fund	2,890,731	0	2,890,731
Trf to Wastewater Operating Fund	2,158,745	0	2,158,745
	0		0
<b>Total Transfers Out</b>	5,049,476	0	5,049,476
<b>Total Requirements</b>	9,974,476	5,000,000	14,974,476
<b>Excess (Deficiency) of Total Available Funds Over Total Requirements</b>	(535,195)	0	(535,195)
<b>Ending Balance</b>	3,926,570	0	3,926,570

**FIVE-YEAR IMPACT:**

	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Total Available Funds	5,000,000	0	0	0	0
Total Requirements	5,000,000	0	0	0	0
Net Budget Impact	0	0	0	0	0

**ANALYSIS / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** This item will amend the Austin Water Community Benefit Charge

Fund to increase Transfers In by \$5,000,000 from Austin Water Operating Funds and increase Total Requirements by \$5,000,000 for additional funding for the Customer Assistance Plus One Program.