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## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Mayor and Council Members

**FROM:** Stuart Reilly, Interim General Manager *SR*

**DATE:** June 5, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Implementation Update – Public-School Energy Assistance Fund (Resolution No. 20221201-047)

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The purpose of this memo is to inform City Council of the completed actions to support the changes of the Public-School Energy Assistance Fund, as directed through the [Resolution 20221201-047](#), adopted by Council on December 1, 2022.

The Public-School Energy Assistance Fund (PSEA) is an important and accessible way for City of Austin Utilities customers to voluntarily contribute to public education via their utility bill and specifically help highly vulnerable students. The funds are dispersed each fall for the ISDs to administer to those students' experiencing homelessness. Changes to the fund were in collaboration with the applicable school districts and key community stakeholders. The following are the actions taken in support for this resolution:

- Partnered with ISDs to align mission and naming convention to support the students classified as homeless under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, which includes children who are unsheltered or living in shelter or transitional housing (completed January 5, 2023)
- Revised City of Austin Utilities Bill Remittance Stub (completed January 16, 2023)
- Updated new name and description on COAutilities.com (completed January 16, 2023)
- Renamed Donation account within the Customer Care Billing System (completed May 10, 2023)
- Revised internal General Ledger description from "PSEA" to "Homeless Student Assistance Fund" effective September 30, 2023, to align with start of new fiscal year
- Initiated external customer communication to promote and highlight City of Austin Utilities donation opportunity during Back-to-School outreach efforts and included with ongoing marketing campaigns (initiated August 2023)

Please contact Kerry Overton, Austin Energy's Deputy General Manager, Chief Customer Officer, at [Kerry.Overton@austinenergy.com](mailto:Kerry.Overton@austinenergy.com), if you have any questions.

**CC:** Jesús Garza, Interim City Manager