

OPERATING BUDGET FISCAL NOTE

DATE OF COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:
DEPARTMENT:
FUND:

9/21/23
Austin Energy
Austin Energy Fund

SUBJECT: Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Austin Energy Fund Operating Budget (Ordinance 20220817-004) to increase appropriations in the amount of \$20,000,000 for costs related to Winter Storm Mara.

CURRENT YEAR IMPACT:

	2022-23 Amended	This Action	2022-23 Amended
Beginning Balance	204,907,486	0	204,907,486
Total Available Funds	1,688,277,332	0	1,688,277,332
Total Operating Requirements	1,257,333,617	20,000,000	1,277,333,617
Total Other Requirements	8,493,436	0	8,493,436
Total Debt Service Requirements	166,241,507	0	166,241,507
Total Transfers Out	264,635,043	0	264,635,043
Total Requirements	1,696,703,603	20,000,000	1,716,703,603
Excess (Deficiency) of Total Available Over Total Requirements	(8,426,271)	(20,000,000)	(28,426,271)
Ending Balance	196,481,215	(20,000,000)	176,481,215
FTEs	1,897.00	0.00	1,897.00

FIVE-YEAR ESTIMATED IMPACT:

	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
Total Revenue	0	0	0	0	0
Total Requirements	20,000,000	0	0	0	0
Net Budget Impact	(20,000,000)	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: In February 2023, the effects of Winter Storm Mara required Austin Energy to conduct the largest restoration operation in its 127-year history. Approximately 174,000 customers (32 percent of customers) lost power due to the storm. The outages were spread across the entire service territory of 437 square miles. To address the extensive storm damage and fully restore power to customers as quickly as possible, Austin Energy immediately requested restoration assistance from several other utilities, who sent in additional line workers and equipment to assist in restoration efforts and repair the damage caused by the storm.

After projecting current-year expenditures, the utility anticipates costs related to the storm will cause its Operating Fund to exceed annual appropriations. This budget amendment will ensure Austin Energy stays within Council-approved appropriation levels and does not need to delay or limit payments for services or operations. Austin Energy is currently working, along with other City departments, through the FEMA process to receive reimbursement for eligible costs. If approved, eligible costs will be recovered at 75 percent.