



# RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES

## Board Memorandum

**BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

**DATE: JULY 10, 2017**

**ITEM NO: 8**

**SUBJECT: AMERICAN PUBLIC POWER ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES  
THROUGH THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PUBLIC POWER AUTHORITY IN THE  
AMOUNT OF \$62,528 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2017-18**

**ISSUE:**

Recommend that the City Council approve payment of annual membership dues for the American Public Power Association through the Southern California Public Power Authority in the amount of \$62,528 for the fiscal year 2017-18.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board of Public Utilities recommend that the City Council approve the payment of annual membership dues for the American Public Power Association through the Southern California Public Power Authority in the amount of \$62,528 for the fiscal year 2017-18.

**BACKGROUND:**

Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) is a member of the Southern California Public Power Authority (SCPPA), a joint powers authority, formed to capture the economies of scale by collectively working with 12 local publicly owned utilities.

On February 21, 2017, City Council received an update on RPU's participation and involvement in SCPPA. Council directed staff to provide a detail of proposed expenditures included within each object code of RPU's annual budget to the Board of Public Utilities (Board) and include this information in their budget recommendation to Council. In addition, Council directed staff to provide a bi-annual report to the Board and Council on expenditures. After discussion, Council directed staff to seek Board and Council approval for services procured through SCPPA over \$50,000.

**DISCUSSION:**

The American Public Power Association (APPA), based in the Washington, D.C., metro area, is the service organization for the nation's more than 2,000 community-owned electric utilities. The Association was created in 1940 as a nonprofit, non-partisan organization to advance the public policy interests of its members and their consumers, and provide member services to ensure reliable, environmentally responsible electric service at a reasonable price.

APPA partners with its members to promote public power, helping community-owned utilities deliver superior services through joint advocacy, education, and collaboration. Its vision is to shape the future of public power to drive a new era of community-owned electric service.

APPA membership affords all employees of member utilities access to a range of information and resources to assist them in serving their customers. Benefits of membership include:

1. Representation before Congress, federal agencies, and the courts on legislative and regulatory issues and in legal proceedings.
2. Collection, analysis, and dissemination of information regarding public power and the industry through specialized publications, reports, surveys and internet-based networking groups.
3. Educational programs and services designed specifically for public power professionals.
4. Funding for research and development programs that explore techniques and technologies applicable to public power.
5. Recognition of utilities and individuals for excellence.

As a joint powers agency, SCPPA currently has 100% member participation in APPA membership. It is customary for joint powers agencies to retain public power associations due to their involvement in legislative advocacy, information sharing, training and regulatory monitoring on behalf of its members.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Total fiscal impact is \$62,528. Sufficient funds are available in the Public Utilities' Management Services Periodicals & Dues Account No. 6000000-425200.

Prepared by: Laura Chavez-Nomura, Utilities Assistant General Manager/Finance

Approved by: Girish Balachandran, Utilities General Manager

Approved by: John A. Russo, City Manager

Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Certifies availability  
of funds: Laura Chavez-Nomura, Utilities Assistant General Manager/Finance