



COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT TO PROCESS SHARE APPLICATIONS

Customer Engagement

Board of Public Utilities
May 13, 2024

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LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Assembly Bill (AB) 1890 was adopted in 1996, which required publicly owned utilities to collect and spend Public Benefits Charge funds for low-income assistance, energy efficiency and conservation programs, renewable energy, and research, development, and demonstration projects.



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BACKGROUND

1. Sharing Households Assist Riverside’s Energy – SHARE Program established in 1989 initially supported by direct customer contributions
2. May 22, 2018: City Council approved first enhancement:
 - a. Expanded to 200% Federal Poverty Level
 - b. Established monthly assistance amounts
 - c. Agreement with Community Action Partnership (CAP) established five (5) one-year automatic renewal periods
 - d. Funding: \$2.8 million per year



BACKGROUND

3. Community Action Partnership (CAP) processes a proportion of all SHARE applications.

Year	Applications Processed
18/19	4,598
19/20	2,890
20/21	1,474
21/22	1,344
22/23	1,914
Total	12,220

4. Program has assisted over 110,000 low-income residential customers since 1989



BACKGROUND

5. Current Agreement with CAP expires 6/30/2024
6. New contract to mirror terms of previous, will renew in five 1-year terms
7. Annual funding amount remains unchanged:
 - a. \$2,550,000 for customer assistance
 - b. \$250,000 for the County's administration fee
 - c. \$27 per application



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DISCUSSION

1. SHARE assistance is \$250 for deposit/urgent notice provision and \$20 a month electric assistance for qualified, low-income customers
2. SHARE provides monthly water and solid waste assistance
3. Income qualification is set at 250% (City Council: May 17, 2022) of Federal Poverty Level, income level is revised annually
4. Collaboration enables low-income customers to access RPU assistance programs while at the same time CAP can help the same customers with State, County and Federal assistance programs in one location.
5. Collaboration with CAP provides RPU flexibility to manager other energy efficiency and water conservation rebates and programs



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STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT



Strategic Priority 5 – High Performing Government

Goal 5.4 – Achieve and maintain financial health by addressing gaps between revenues and expenditures and aligning resources with strategic priorities to yield the greatest impact.

Cross-Cutting Threads



Community Trust



Fiscal Responsibility



Sustainability & Resiliency



Equity



Innovation



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RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Board of Public Utilities recommend that the City Council:

1. Approve the First Amended and Restated Agreement for Use of Low-Income Utility Bill and Deposit Assistance Funds with the County of Riverside, on behalf of Community Action Partnership of Riverside County for SHARE to include options to extend the program from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2029, for an annual program amount of \$2,800,000; and
2. Authorize the City Manager, or their designee, to execute the First Amendment to the Amended and Restated Agreement for Use of Low-Income Utility Bill Deposit Assistance Funds with the State of California, on behalf of Community Action Partnership of Riverside County, including making non-substantive changes.



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