

# RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES

## Board Memorandum

**BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

**DATE: SEPTEMBER 9, 2019**

**ITEM NO: 7**

**SUBJECT: AMERICAN PUBLIC POWER ASSOCIATION RELIABLE PUBLIC POWER PROVIDER PROGRAM APPLICATION**

**ISSUE:**

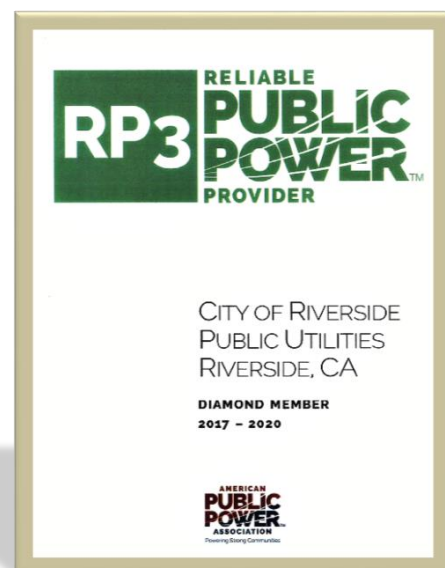
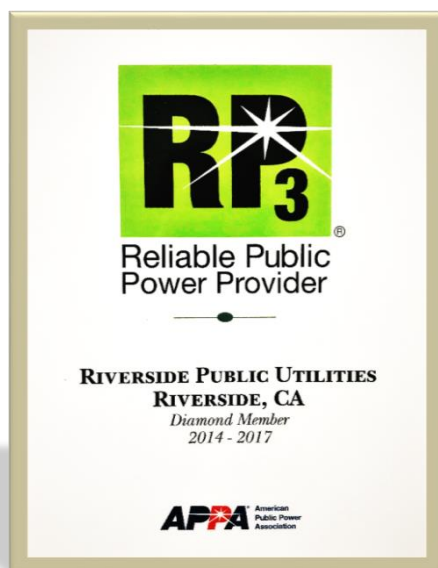
Receive this report for the American Public Power Association's Reliable Public Power Provider program application overview.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board of Public Utilities receive this report for Riverside Public Utilities application overview for the American Public Power Association's Reliable Public Power Provider program.

**BACKGROUND:**

American Public Power Association (APPA) is the voice for 2,000 state and local public power utilities nationwide, in which they provide advice on electricity policy, technology, trends, training, and operations. Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3) is an APPA program that recognizes electric utilities that demonstrate a high level of proficiency through an online application that evaluates their practices and accomplishments in four (4) categories. The four (4) categories are Safety, Reliability, Workforce Development, and System Improvement. Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) has participated in the RP3 program for the last 12 years – and has been recognized with three (3) Platinum awards and most recently, two (2) Diamond awards.



2014 and 2017 Diamond Members

Currently, only 271 utilities of APPA's more than 2,000 members are awarded RP3 status. One hundred and seven of those 271 received the highest, or Diamond level of achievement. RPU's participation provides the opportunity to evaluate our assets and processes in these four (4) categories, highlighting areas of strengths and innovation. It is an opportunity for RPU to be evaluated by peer utilities on areas critical to public providers, and it helps RPU to be recognized as a utility dedicated to operational excellence. The four (4) critical areas that are evaluated as part of the RP3 program are discussed in more detail below.

Safety is RPU's top priority. The Safety category of the RP3 application evaluates how utilities provide a safe culture, benchmark safety metrics, enforce rigorous safety training, administer the use of a safety manual, and follow safe work practices.

Reliability is evaluated based on the way utilities monitor outages, participate in mutual aid agreements, and maintain a system-wide disaster management plan.

Workforce Development is a key part of the utilities' culture. This category assesses how utilities continue to offer staff training, support networking opportunities, and encourage staff to join state, regional, and national committees.

Lastly, the System Improvement category measures utilities' effort in implementing proactive programs for system improvement projects, participating in research and development, and focusing on long-term utility financial health.

While it is important to participate in the APPA RP3 program, it just as important that RPU's application submission is balanced, credible, and aligned with RPU's Strategic Goals.

The RP3 online application is due no later than September 30, 2019. Staff will complete the application and incorporate any feedback received to continue to demonstrate RPU's commitment to the four (4) disciplines: Safety, Reliability, Workforce Development and System Improvement.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

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Approved by:	Al Zelinka, FAICP, City Manager
Approved as to form:	Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Certifies availability of funds:	Brian Seinturier, Utilities Fiscal Manager
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Attachment:	Presentation
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