



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL **DATE: APRIL 20, 2021**

FROM: PUBLIC UTILITIES DEPARTMENT **WARDS: ALL**

SUBJECT: GRANT APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE: CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES FISCAL YEAR 2020 COMMUNITY POWER RESILIENCY ALLOCATION TO CITIES PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$300,000 – SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION

ISSUES:

Authorize the submittal of a grant application and subsequent acceptance of the grant award with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services in the amount of \$300,000 to procure backup equipment necessary to enhance the resiliency of the Public Utilities Department's Water facilities during power outages.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Retroactively approve the submittal of a grant application to the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services in the amount of \$300,000 to procure backup equipment necessary to enhance the resiliency of the Public Utilities Department's Water facilities during power outages;
2. Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to accept the grant award from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services and execute all grant documents, including making minor and non-substantive changes to documents associated with the grant; and
3. By at least five affirmative votes, authorize an increase in revenues in the amount of \$300,000 appropriate a grant expenditure in the same amount to the Water Fund Public Safety Power Shutoffs grant account.

BACKGROUND:

On October 20, 2020, staff learned of a grant opportunity offered to California cities by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) to provide \$300,000 in funding for the procurement of backup equipment necessary to prepare for power outages. The deadline to apply for the grant was October 30, 2020.

As many of the Riverside Public Utilities Department's (RPU) water facilities are in areas that may

be affected by Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS), staff recognized the potential benefits of this opportunity and worked swiftly to apply for the grant. Given the imminent deadline, there was not enough time to obtain City Council's approval prior to submitting the grant application and staff concluded to seek City Council's approval retroactively should the grant application be approved.

DISCUSSION:

On March 30, 2021, staff was pleased to learn that their grant application to CalOES was approved for \$300,000 in grant funding. The notice required that the grant allocation be accepted within 20 calendar days upon receipt. However, in discussions with CalOES, they agreed to extend the acceptance deadline until April 23, 2021, providing time for staff to seek approval by City Council to accept the grant award and appropriate grant funds.

RPU staff is in the process of evaluating its water facilities to identify those that would benefit most from a backup power source. Staff expects that the grant funding would be used to purchase and install a generator at one of RPU's groundwater well sites in the City of San Bernardino that have been affected by PSPS events in the past.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact of this action is \$300,000. Upon Council approval, grant revenues will be recorded to the Water Fund Public Safety Power Shutoffs Grant Account No. 6810200-334300 and a grant expenditure of the same amount will be appropriated to the Water Fund Public Safety Power Shutoffs Grant Account No. 6810200-462200 following receipt of the grant award.

Prepared by:	Todd M. Corbin, Utilities General Manager
Certified as to availability of funds:	Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Approved by:	Al Zelinka, FAICP, City Manager
Approved as to form:	Kristi J. Smith, Interim City Attorney

Attachment:	Notice of Subrecipient Allocation from CalOES dated March 12, 2021
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