

PUBLIC BENEFITS & ENERGY EFFICIENCY COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP

Meeting #4 – December 18, 2025

Welcome & Introductions

1. Recap of Prior Meetings

2. Themes for today

- Review of Input
- Projects and Options



OBJECTIVE OF THE GROUP

Answer the question of what programs and activities does the community recommend RPU support with Public Benefit Funds and how RPU should spend down the accumulated \$34 million in Public Benefit Funds

Summer-Fall 2025

Working Group

Establishing overall program goals

Providing input to help guide detail analysis and future program development

Fall 2025-Summer 2026

Consulting Services

Detail program analysis

Community Survey

Summer 2026

A Way Forward

Conclude the Analysis

Community & Stakeholder Meetings

Final Plan & Strategy



COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP = ADVISORY

The Community Working Group is intended to provide ideas, comments, express questions, and provide community frameworks around how RPU's Public Benefits Funds should be spent.

Final decisions on the expenditures, programs, structures, and budgets will be established by the RPU Board and City Council.

PUBLIC BENEFIT FUND SOURCE OF AUTHORITY

Public Benefits funds were established in 1996 by Assembly Bill 1890 (AB 1890)

Goals

1. Provide cost-beneficial energy efficiency services to customers
2. Offer customers meaningful information on the costs and benefits of energy efficiency measures
3. Reduce market barriers to investments in energy efficient products and services
4. Create a sustainable and competitive energy efficiency services market

Created a Non-bypassable Customer Charge to provide for customer programs

1. Minimum charge of 2.85%
2. Residential and commercial customers
3. Average residential customer pays ~ \$3.00 per month
4. Average commercial customer pays ~ \$10.00 per month
5. RPU collects approximately \$10 million annually



PUBLIC BENEFIT FUND ALLOWED SPENDING CATEGORIES

Limited Use of the Funding

1. Cost effective demand side management to promote energy efficiency and energy conservation
2. New investment in renewable energy resources and technologies
3. Research, development, and demonstration programs for the public interest to advance science or technology which is not adequately provided by competitive and regulated markets
4. Services provided for low-income electricity customers, including, but not limited to, energy efficiency services, education, weatherization, and rate discounts



MAIN THEMES FROM MEETINGS OF WG

Questions and responses and topics raised during the prior meetings by the Working Group members

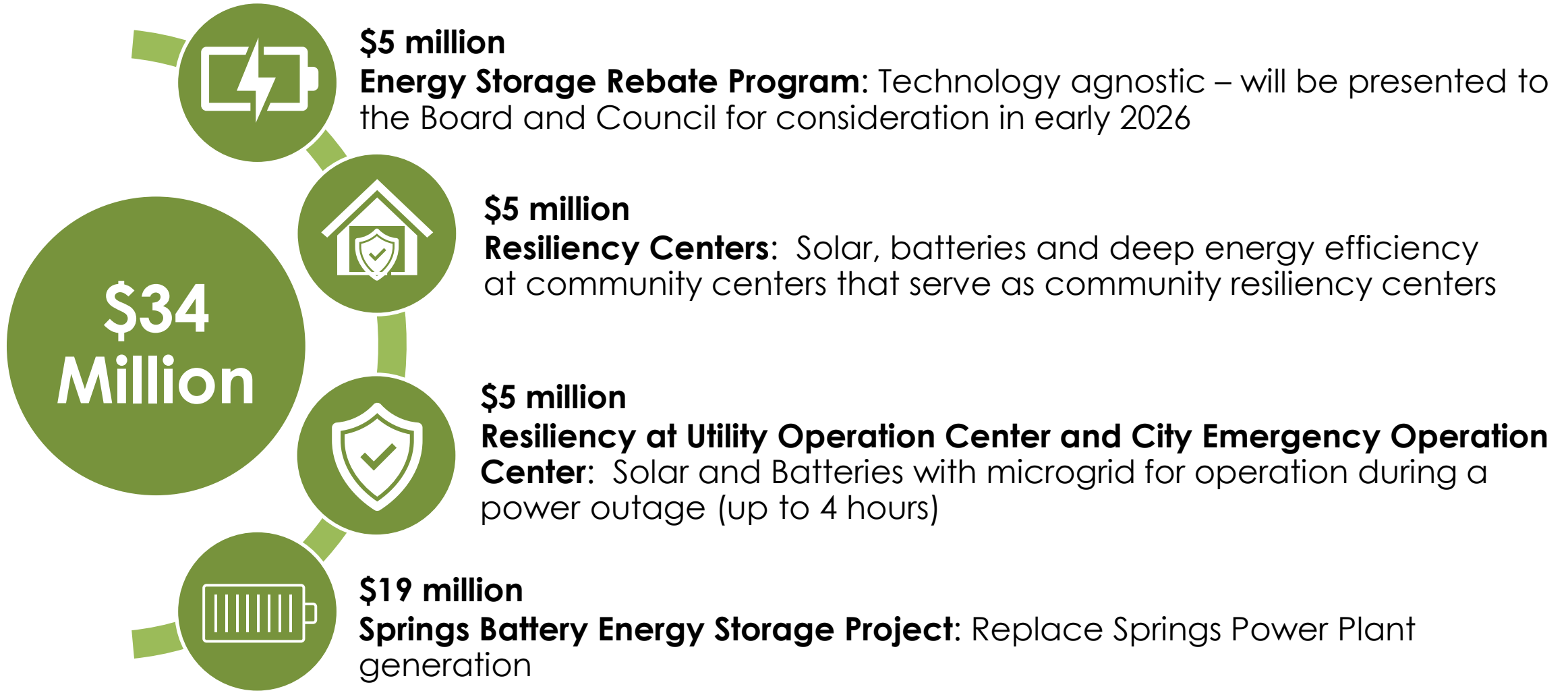
- 1**
Non-Energy Impacts (NEIs)
Benefits of Energy Efficiency in comfort and safety
- 2**
How do customers use electricity
Largest energy usage and behavioral changes
- 3**
Desire to focus on solar project
Focus on solar and investment within the City
- 4**
Focus on customer benefit
Keep benefits to customers the main focus

CONCEPTS DISCUSSED AT MEETINGS #1 & #2

- Messaging should focus on comfort not just energy savings
 - Low-income customer programs are important, overview
 - EE programs may focus on where energy is used most & be stackable
-
- Benefits need to focus on customers – ensuring all RPU customers benefit
 - RPU should seek energy independence
 - Refund to customers interest earned on Public Benefits Fund
 - Focus on local renewable generation for the big project
 - Solar over Gage Canal / Community Solar
 - Solar rooftops and canopies at City facilities (including replacing solar that is no longer working)
 - Solar on warehouses/homes/parking/etc.
 - What does RPU pay for solar contracts?



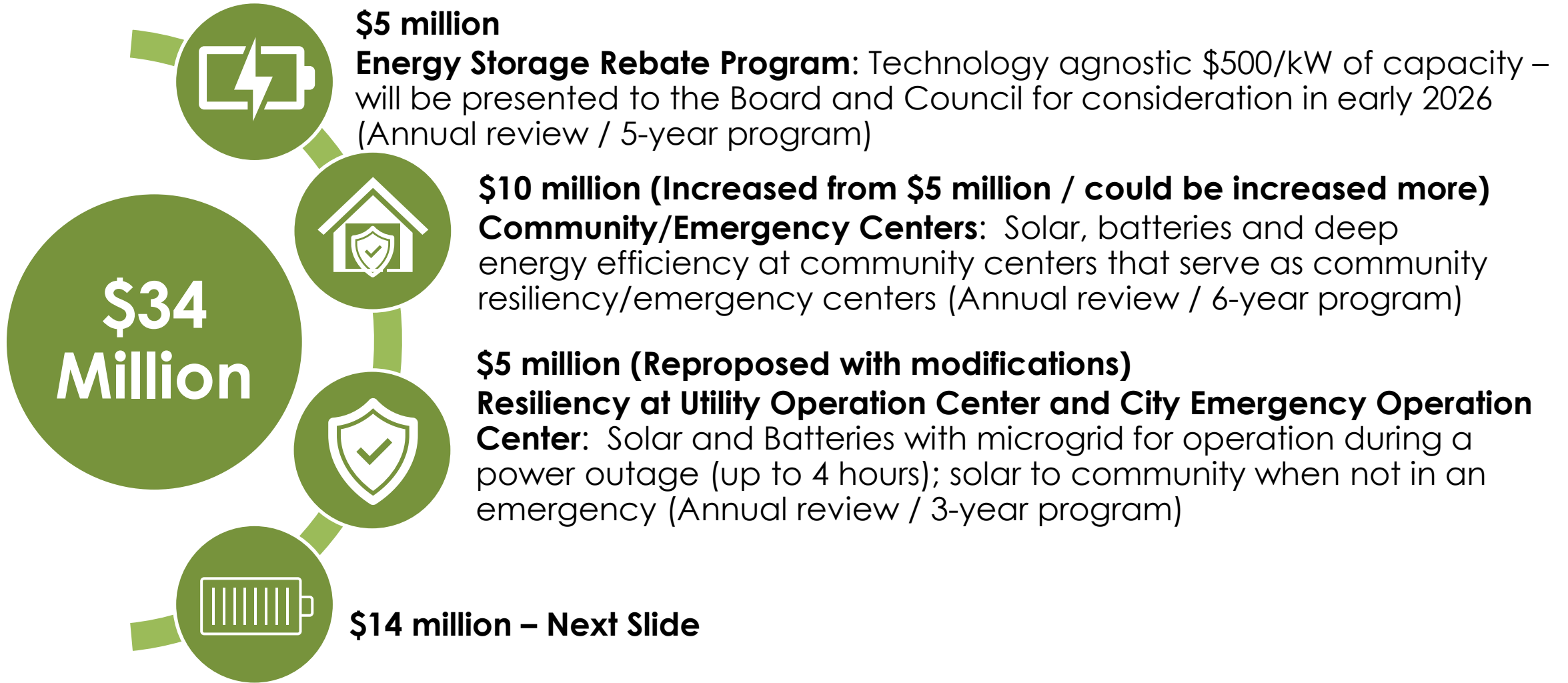
MEETING 3 STAFF PROPOSALS



CONCEPTS DISCUSSED AT MEETINGS #3

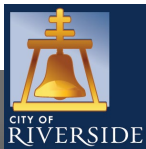
- Projects on RPU facilities (utility battery and solar at UOC) seem like things that RPU should do anyways
- Each action needs a timeline
- Add additional facilities to the “Resiliency Centers” and rename them for what they are – e.g. Community Centers that serve as Cooling and Emergency Service Locations
- Add a program for full rebate of residential solar and batteries for residents in high fire area and those along the RTRP route, like the program offered by PG&E

PROPOSAL MODIFICATIONS



REMAINING \$14 MILLION : PROJECT 1 OPTION

- **Residential Solar and Batteries Rebate (100%):** Rebate for solar and batteries for all residential customers in high fire risk areas or along the RTRP route.
 - Direct benefit to ~835 residential customer receiving solar/battery (assumes \$16,667 RPU costs w/ \$8,333 tax credit)
 - Minimal benefit to other customers from residual, min-value daytime electricity
 - Requires the development of a new electric rate or modification of the Self-Generation Rate
 - Review annually with a 5 to 6-year program term after new electric rate adopted
- Questions for the Working Group
 - Should the program provide this benefit in the fire risk areas even if there is no direct tie to safety power shutoffs?
 - Should there be a cap on the size of the systems eligible for homes exceeding 5,000 square feet?
 - Should the program have income qualifications like the program at PG&E for areas outside of fire risk areas?



REMAINING \$14 MILLION : PROJECT 2 OPTION

- **Energy Storage Project:** Capture low-cost solar energy during the day to reduce peak energy costs in the evening, provide resiliency, avoiding costs passing to rate-payers
 - Benefits all customers through avoided cost of project helping to keep rates low for everyone
 - Review with project updates with a set 6-year program term
- Questions from last meeting:
 - Should RPU do this anyways? Staff: Yes. It is planned. This use of funds would allow \$14 million of the project costs to not be incorporated into future rates
 - Will this cover all of the project costs? Staff: No. This will only cover a portion of the costs.

PG&E SELF-GENERATION INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Helps customers have power during planned and unplanned power outages – rebate for batteries or solar with batteries

- All recipients must participate in a demand response program allowing the utility to adjust electricity consumption during high demand periods
- All recipients required to be on a specified rate
- **Income-qualified customers** – up to 100% of costs combined with federal tax credits
- **General market customers** – up to 15% of a battery energy storage system



PG&E SELF-GENERATION INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Equity Resiliency Rebate for Residential Customers

- 80-100% of the cost of a battery storage system
- Customers must meet one of the following two qualifications:
 - Qualification 1
 - Live in a Tier 2 or Tier 3 High Fire Threat District (HFTD) – subject to Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) -OR-
 - Have experienced 2 or more PSPS events -OR-
 - Have experienced 5 or more Enhanced Powerline Safety Setting outages since 2023 -AND-
Be on a medical baseline program, meet income eligibility standards, or rely on an electric well pump for water
 - OR Qualification 2
 - Have incentives reserved in the income-qualified solar program -OR-
 - Be enrolled in the Energy Savings Assistance program (ESAP)



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