

ORDINANCE **2021-11-18-0852**

AUTHORIZING INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS TO PROVIDE \$20 MILLION TO THE CITY PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD AND \$10 MILLION TO THE SAN ANTONIO WATER SYSTEM THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2022 TO PROVIDE HOUSEHOLD UTILITY ASSISTANCE TO SAN ANTONIO RESIDENTS WHO WERE FINANCIALLY IMPACTED BY THE COVID-19 CRISIS DURING THE PERIOD MARCH 1, 2020 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2021. FUNDING IS AVAILABLE FROM AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS.

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WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, many residents have struggled financially due to unemployment or loss of job hours and income; and

WHEREAS, these residents found themselves unable to pay for basic needs including their monthly rent, mortgage, utility bills and food; and

WHEREAS, currently City Public Services Energy estimates that residents owe more than \$130 million in past due bills, with 67,636 customers eligible for service disconnection; and

WHEREAS, San Antonio Water System's estimates 61,965 residential customers are 60 days past due with over \$43 million balanced owed; **NOW THEREFORE:**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:

SECTION 1. Interlocal agreements to provide \$20 million to City Public Service Board ("CPS Energy") and \$10 million to the San Antonio Water System ("SAWS") through September 30, 2022 to provide household utility assistance to San Antonio residents who were financially impacted by the Covid-19 crisis during the dates March 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021, are approved.

SECTION 2. Amendments to the Agreements to improve operations in compliance with the American Rescue Plan Act Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds grant and upon approval by the City Attorney's Office, so long as amendments do not exceed the total amount of \$30 million, are approved.

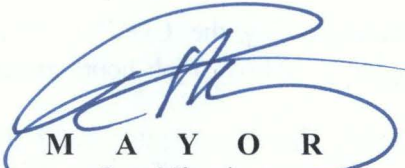
SECTION 3. Current funding is available in Internal Order 138000003179, GL 5202040, Fund 2100700002 entitled "Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery" for a total amount of \$30,000,000.00.

SECTION 4. Payment not to exceed \$20,000,000.00 is authorized to CPS Energy and payment not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 is authorized to SAWS to assist low-income customers residing in San Antonio who were financially impacted by COVID-19 upon issuance of purchase orders.

SECTION 5. The financial allocations in this Ordinance are subject to approval by the Deputy Chief Financial Officer, City of San Antonio. The Deputy Chief Financial Officer may, subject to concurrence by the City Manager or the City Manager's designee, correct allocations to specific Cost Centers, WBS Elements, Internal Orders, General Ledger Accounts, and Fund Numbers as necessary to carry out the purpose of this Ordinance.

SECTION 6. This Ordinance is effective immediately upon the receipt of eight affirmative votes; otherwise, it is effective ten days after passage.


PASSED AND APPROVED this 18th day of November, 2021.


M A Y O R
Ron Nirenberg

ATTEST:


Debbie Racca-Sittre, Acting City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


for Andrew Segovia, City Attorney



City of San Antonio

City Council Meeting November 18, 2021

4.

2021-11-18-0852

Ordinance approving interlocal agreements between the City, CPS Energy and the San Antonio Water System to provide \$20 million in utility assistance to CPS Energy customers and \$10 million in assistance to SAWS customers who were financially impacted by the COVID-19 crisis. Funding is available from the American Rescue Plan Act Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds [Lori Houston, Assistant City Manager; Melody Woosley, Director, Human Services]

Councilmember Courage moved to approve. Councilmember Viagran seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Nirenberg, Bravo, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello
Havrda, Sandoval, Courage, Perry

Absent: Pelaez



Utility Assistance for Residents Financially Impacted by COVID-19

City Council A Session

Melody Woosley
Human Services Director

November 18, 2021

Overview

- **\$30 million** in ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds
- Assists low-income residents financially impacted by the COVID-19 crisis with utility bill payments
- **\$20 million** to CPS Energy customers
- **\$10 million** to SAWS customers

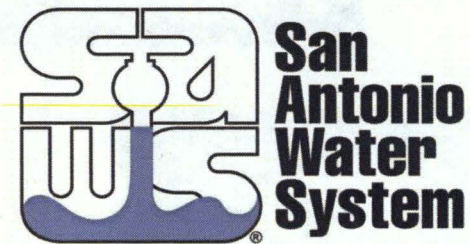


**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN
ACT OF 2021**

Background



- More than \$130 million in past due bills
- 67,636 customers eligible for service disconnection



- More than \$43 million in past due bills
- 61,965 residential customers 60 days past due

Program Highlights

\$20 million for CPS
Energy bills
\$10 million for SAWS
bills

Both utilities will
administer these funds
to eligible customers

Covers past due bills
incurred from March 1,
2020 to September 30,
2021

Residents earning
less than 125% of the
Federal Poverty Level
(FPL) can receive up to
full balance

Residents earning
125% FPL and over can
receive up to \$1,000
for CPS bill & up to
\$700 for SAWS bill

Program Eligibility



Enroll in affordability plan or payment plan

Certify economic impact from COVID-19 pandemic

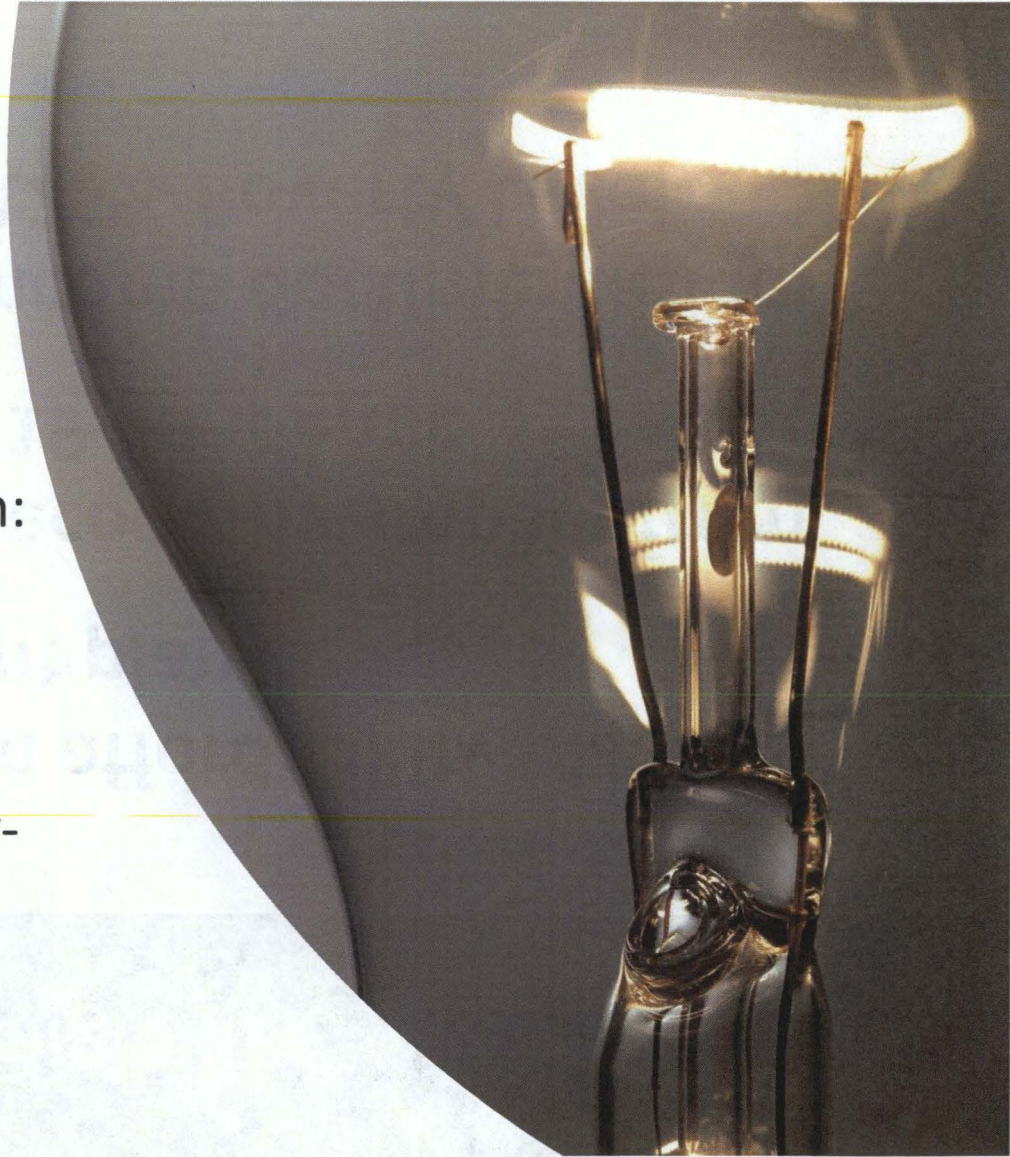
Show income documentation if under 125% Poverty Level

Recommendation

Approval of interlocal agreements with:

- CPS Energy for \$20 million and
- SAWS for \$10 million

To provide utility bill assistance for low-income residents affected by the pandemic





Utility Assistance for Residents Financially Impacted by COVID-19

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