

**BOARD OF UTILITIES COMMISSIONERS**

1800 E. Wardlow Road, Long Beach, CA 90807  
562.570.2300 | LBUtilities.org

May 17, 2023

**Recommendation**

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Authorize the General Manager to enter into an agreement with the State of California, Department of Community Services and Development, to provide direct credit of allocated federal funds to the Long Beach Utilities Department on behalf of gas utility accounts of qualifying low-income gas customers for a period of three years from April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2026.

**Executive Summary**

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On October 13, 2020, the Long Beach City Council authorized an agreement with the State of California, Community Services and Development (CSD), which administers the federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) that assists qualifying low-income utility customers in paying their natural gas and electric utility bills. This agreement expired on March 31, 2023.

Under this program, Long Beach Utilities customers apply to CSD to participate in LIHEAP at no cost. If approved, CSD will assist the customer by making a utility payment directly to the City of Long Beach on the customer's behalf, no more than once per year. This payment is in-lieu of a direct payment from the customer, so there is no net revenue change to the City.

**Fiscal Impact**

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There is no fiscal impact as any payments the City receives through this program are in-lieu payments that would otherwise be expected to be received from gas customers. The in-lieu payments are deposited into the Gas Fund.

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Diana Tang  
Assistant General Manager

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Christopher J. Garner  
General Manager