



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

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November 11, 2014

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

City of Long Beach

California

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary agreements and any subsequent amendments extending the contract with the State of California, Department of Community Services and Development (CSD), to provide direct credit of allocated Federal funds to the gas utility accounts of low-income Long Beach gas customers. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

On October 2, 2012, the City Council authorized an agreement with the State of California, Department of Community Services and Development (CSD), which administers the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) that assists low-income utility customers in paying their gas and electric utility bills. This contract expired on September 30, 2014.

Under this Program, customers apply to CSD to participate in LIHEAP at no cost. If approved and accepted, CSD will assist the customer by making a utility payment directly to the City on the customer's behalf. This payment is in-lieu of payment from the customer so there is no net revenue change to Long Beach Gas and Oil.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Amy R. Webber on October 2, 2014 and by Budget Management Officer Victoria Bell on October 14, 2014.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action to execute the Direct Payment Program contract is requested immediately to allow contributions on behalf of low-income gas customers in the City.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact as any payments the City receives through this Program are in-lieu of payments that would otherwise be expected to be received from gas customers. The in-lieu payments are deposited in the Gas Fund (EF 301) in the Gas and Oil Department (GO). There is no local job impact associated with this recommendation.

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SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



JOHN GROSS
DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT



CHRISTOPHER J. GARNER
DIRECTOR OF LONG BEACH GAS AND OIL

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APPROVED:



PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER