



# California Water and Wastewater Arrearage Payment Program (CWWAPP)

September 30, 2021



# Background

- **March 2020** – the City of Long Beach and LBWD suspended utility late fees and shutoffs due to nonpayment
- **March 2020** – Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-42-40 prohibiting discontinuation of water service due to nonpayment
- **January 2021** – State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) survey finds over \$1 billion of water arrearages in California
- **June 2021** – State Budget Act of 2021 establishes CWWAPP

# Overview

- CWWAPP aims to reduce delinquent water and wastewater balances for customer impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic
- \$ 1 billion was provided to the State Water Resource Control Board (SWCRB) to administer CWWAPP
- Eligible customers include:
  - Residential and Commercial (excludes industrial and irrigation accounts)
  - Active and inactive accounts

# Overview, continued

- Eligible debt is water bills 60 days past due between March 4, 2020 and June 15, 2021
- Water agencies apply for CWWAPP allocation; customers do not need to apply
  - Water agencies will credit eligible customer accounts
- First phase of CWWAPP focuses on water arrearages. If funds are available, the second phase will address wastewater arrearages.

# Process

- Step 1: LBWD provided arrearage data via SWRCB survey (September)
- Step 2: LBWD to complete an application for CWWAPP (October)
- Step 3: LBWD to receive CWWAPP allocation from SWCRB (November)
- Step 4: After receiving allocation, LBWD will have 60 days to credit customer accounts

# Financial Impact

- Current LBWD water arrearage estimate is \$1.5 M
- Eligible debt based on March 4, 2020 – June 15, 2021
  - ~2,900 residential accounts with arrearages of ~\$1.1m
  - ~315 commercial accounts with arrearages of ~\$330k

# Staff Recommendation

Adopt Resolution No. WD-1445 authorizing the General Manager to accept and expend California Water and Wastewater Arrearage Payment Program (CWWAPP) funds in an amount not to exceed \$1,429,543.



# Thank you



**Long Beach Water**

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