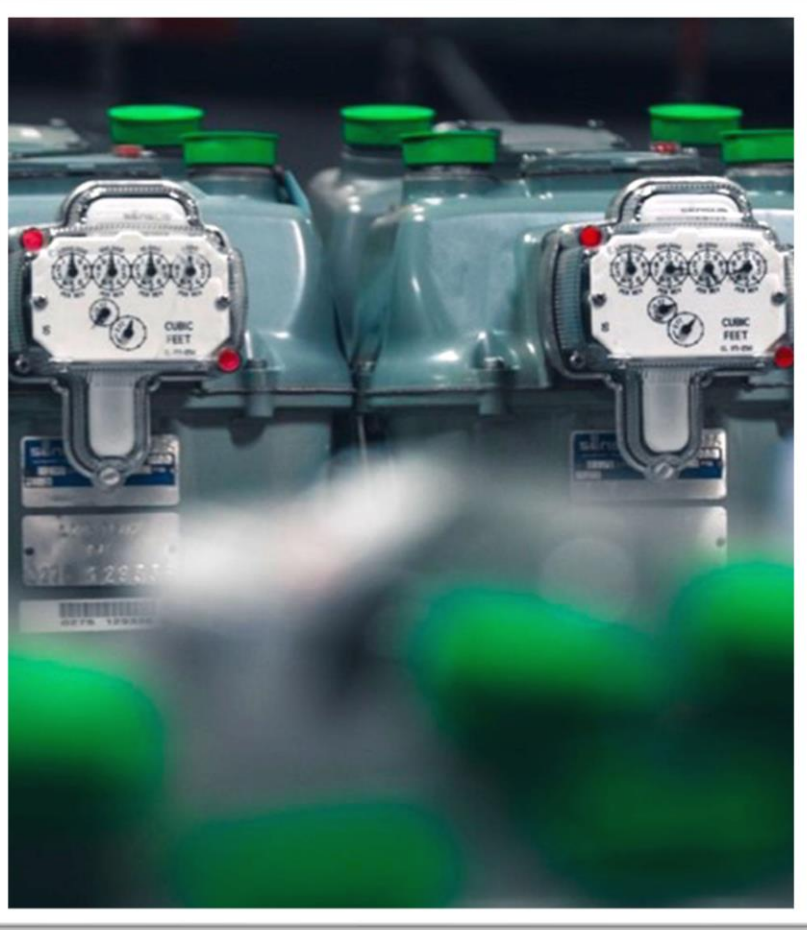




# Utility Consolidation

Water • Sewer • Natural Gas

# Consolidation Proposal



If approved by voters, this proposal would:

- Establish a single City Charter article governing water, sewer and gas
- Provide oversight by a Board of Long Beach Utilities (currently the Board of Water Commissioners)

# Customer Benefits

- Improved customer service
- Reduced impacts to streets and neighborhoods with better coordination of utility pipeline street repairs
- Increased efficiency and reduced costs by consolidating duplicative operations taking advantage of economies of scale
- Increased transparency and public input in utility budgets and rate setting



# Research

- Long Beach is the **only** large California city that operates its multiple utilities separately
- Other cities achieve efficiencies and cost savings through utilities being within one department
- An independent feasibility study estimated very significant cost savings annually, benefitting **both** the customers and the utilities



# Overlapping Responsibilities

<b>Pipeline Installation</b>	<b>Customer Service</b>	<b>Welding</b>	<b>Conservation</b>	<b>Engineering</b>	<b>Call Center</b>	<b>Leak Detection</b>
<b>Industry Organizations</b>	<b>SCADA Systems</b>	<b>Inspection Services</b>	<b>Accounting</b>	<b>Executive Administration</b>	<b>GIS</b>	<b>Equipment Purchases</b>
<b>Electrical</b>	<b>Personnel</b>	<b>Construction Crews</b>	<b>24/7 Dispatch</b>	<b>Quality Control</b>	<b>Payroll</b>	<b>Purchasing</b>
<b>Emergency Response</b>	<b>24/7 Systems Control</b>	<b>Meter Installs</b>	<b>Utility Rate Setting</b>	<b>Safety</b>	<b>Pipeline Repair</b>	<b>Commodity Procurement</b>
<b>Meter Testing</b>	<b>Regulatory Compliance</b>	<b>Security</b>	<b>Customer Turn-Ons</b>	<b>Meter Reading /AMI</b>	<b>Pipeline Maintenance</b>	<b>Training</b>
<b>Marketing</b>	<b>Customer Turn-Offs</b>	<b>Utility Billing</b>	<b>Budgeting</b>	<b>Temporary Paving</b>	<b>Legislative Affairs</b>	<b>Equipment Maintenance</b>
<b>Regulatory Affairs</b>	<b>Accounts Payable</b>	<b>Permanent Paving</b>	<b>Cathodic Protection</b>	<b>Warehouse</b>	<b>Planning</b>	<b>Fleet Services</b>

# Frequently Asked Questions

## What is driving this consolidation effort?

- Efforts to continuously improve customer service to ratepayers is driving this consolidation effort.
- The proposed consolidation is intended to provide all three public utilities with greater operational flexibility to improve customer service, operational efficiencies, and achieve additional cost savings.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## What can customers expect to see?

- Continued commitment to maintain affordable utility rates
- Coordinated planning of underground pipeline work followed by quality street paving to minimize impacts to local streets
- A single point of contact to address customers' Long Beach public utility questions for water, gas, sewer

# Frequently Asked Questions

## How will cost savings be used?

- The benefits of cost savings will accrue to Long Beach customers
- The Board, with public input, will incorporate those savings into budget and rate setting priorities, including:
  - Setting low rates to ensure water affordability for all income levels of rate payers
  - Investment into water quality improvements and ongoing reinvestment into pipeline infrastructure for water, gas, sewer
  - Ensuring reliability, sustainability, and resiliency in water supply availability



# Charter Amendment Timeline

Action	Deadlines (2022)
City Council refers item to Charter Amendment Committee	May 23
Public notice of first Charter Amendment Committee meeting	May 24
First Public Hearing	June 14
Public notice of second Charter Amendment Committee meeting	June 28
<b>Second Public Hearing</b>	<b>July 19</b>
City Council consideration of Charter Amendments for Nov 2022 ballot	August 9
Election Date	November 8

