

Council Agenda Summary

January 4, 2022

Key Staff Contact: Sean Chambers, Water & Sewer Director, 970-350-9815

Title:

Consideration of a Resolution approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Colorado Department of Human Services to enter into the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP).

Summary:

The Colorado Department of Human Services has received funding that was released from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for a low-income household water bill assistance program. Congress appropriated funding through the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to fund a water bill assistance program to any household in need who qualifies for energy assistance through the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP). LIHWAP was developed in recognition that water bill assistance is just as critical as energy bill assistance for low-income households. The benefit to Greeley's water customers who qualify for assistance through LIHWAP is the program will cover or reduce the amount the customer is delinquent on their water bill and the City of Greeley water enterprise will benefit by recovering revenue that likely otherwise would not be paid. Before Greeley's water customers can benefit from this new program, the Colorado Department of Human Services and the City of Greeley need to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement that defines how the state will coordinate the payment of funds to Greeley and how Greeley will apply those funds to water customers' accounts.

Fiscal Impact:

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| Does this item create a fiscal impact on the City of Greeley? | Yes |
| If yes, what is the initial, or, onetime impact? | Unknown revenue |
| What is the annual impact? | Unknown revenue |
| What fund of the City will provide Funding? | No City funding needed |
| What is the source of revenue within the fund? | Water rates/fees and limited grant revenue |
| Is there grant funding for this item? | Yes |
| If yes, does this grant require a match? | No |
| Is this grant onetime or ongoing? | Ongoing while federal funding is available |
| Additional Comments: | |

Legal Issues:

This is an intergovernmental agreement that requires City Council approval in accordance with Sec. 2-186 and Sec. 2-461 of the Greeley Municipal Code.

Other Issues and Considerations:

None

Strategic Work Program Item or Applicable Council Priority and Goal:

Infrastructure & Growth: Establish the capital and human infrastructure to support and maintain a safe, competitive, appealing and successful community.

Decision Options:

- 1) Adopt the resolution as presented; or
- 2) Amend the resolution and adopt as amended; or
- 3) Deny the resolution; or
- 4) Continue consideration of the resolution to a date certain.

Council's Recommended Action:

A motion to adopt the Resolution.

Attachments:

Intergovernmental Agreement – Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program
vendor agreement
PowerPoint