



AGENDA MEMO

Business of the City Council

City of Sweeny, Texas

Meeting Date	06.18.2024	Agenda Items	
Approved by City Manager	Yes	Presenter(s)	Lindsay Koskiniemi, City Manager
Reviewed by City Attorney	Yes	Department	Gas Utility
Subject	Discussion and possible action to approve a resolution in support of the City of Sweeny grant application to the US Department of Transportation Fiscal Year 2024 Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Program.		
Council Strategic Goals	2. Infrastructure Investment – Support strategic investment in city facilities 4. Government Sustainability – Protect City's financial integrity, Improve efficiency through data technology		
Attachments / Supporting documents	Proposed resolution		
Financial Information	Expenditure Required:	N/A	
	Amount Budgeted:	N/A	
	Account Number:		
	Additional Appropriation Required:		
	Additional Account Number:		

Executive Summary

As a system owner / operator of a natural gas distribution system, the City of Sweeny is eligible to apply for the US Department of Transportation Fiscal Year 2024 Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Program. Furthermore, Sweeny's grant application proposes a comprehensive gas system project that is eligible for consideration.

City staff has been working on developing a capital project involving system-wide upgrades to replace several miles of gas distribution lines, install several isolation valves, and replace gas meters with fully digital meters that electronically pull in readings as opposed to the current method which involves several Public Works employees going house to house to read obsolete analog meters. This process is not efficient and often takes several days to read and re-read all gas meters.

Congressman Randy Weber of the 14th Congressional District of Texas and Representative Cody Vasut of Texas House District 25 have both agreed to support this project and write letters of support. This agenda item is a request for City Council to adopt a resolution in support of the City's application for grant funding to not only bring the gas system into compliance but to modernize through this funding opportunity.

This grant became available in the total amount of \$196,000,000 in 2021 to be allocated over 5 years. 2025 is the final year for this grant. The award floor for this announcement is \$10,000, and the award ceiling is \$125,000,000. Sweeny is asking for an amount that would overhaul the entire gas system and loop the main line to distribute pressure more evenly.



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The deadline to submit this grant is June 20, 2024; however the City intends to submit Sweeny's application on June 19, 2024.

Recommended Action

Staff recommends approval.

Recommended motion:

"I move we approve a resolution in support of the City of Sweeny grant application to US Department of Transportation Fiscal Year 2024 Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Program for gas system repairs and upgrades for safety and modernization."