

# Ordinance Fact Sheet

DATE: October 28, 2024

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: City Attorney

SUBJECT: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 13.04 TO INCREASE ELECTRIC UTILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM MONTHLY BENEFITS AND RELATED CHANGES**

**TITLE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE:**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASADENA, CALIFORNIA AMENDING THE LIGHT AND POWER RATE ORDINANCE, TITLE 13, CHAPTER 13.04 OF THE PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE

**PURPOSE OF THE ORDINANCE:**

The City's Department of Water and Power is recommending an enhancement to the Electric Utility Assistance Program ("EUAP") to increase the monthly basic benefit (monthly bill credit) for income-qualified customers. The ordinance would raise the \$10 monthly basic benefit to be equal to the fixed charge rate components of residential electric rates.

The City Council first authorized the EUAP in March 2006, establishing a basic benefit (monthly bill credit) of \$5 per month for income-qualified customers, or those with qualifying medical devices, plus a bill credit equal to the Public Benefit Charge ("PBC") for income-qualified customers meeting age or disability requirements. The City Council has subsequently increased the monthly basic benefit to \$7.50 in 2009, and to \$10 in 2019. If the ordinance is adopted, the benefit would increase from \$10 to \$13.46 effective January 1, 2025, or as soon as practicable thereafter.

**REASONS WHY LEGISLATION IS NEEDED:**

The Light and Power Rate Ordinance, Chapter 13.04 of the Pasadena Municipal Code prescribes the rates to be charged and collected for furnishing and delivering electrical energy; the terms, provisions and conditions respecting such rates and

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delivery of electrical energy; and the services supplied by the Water and Power Department of the City to customers served by the department.

As directed by the City Council on October 28, 2024, this ordinance implements and codifies amendments to the Pasadena Municipal Code related to the Electric Utility Assistance Program.

**PROGRAMS, DEPARTMENTS OR GROUPS AFFECTED:**

The Water and Power Department will implement this ordinance. Affected groups are income-qualified residential electric customers participating in the department's Electric Utility Assistance Program.

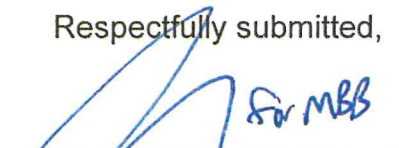
**ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:**

The recommended action, amending the light and power rate ordinance, is statutorily exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15273 (Rates, Tolls, Fares, and Charges).

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Adoption of the ordinance would result in approximately \$206,064 in fiscal year 2025 in additional expenses to the Public Benefits Fund (410). There is no impact to the General Fund.

Respectfully submitted,




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Michele Beal Bagneris  
City Attorney

Prepared by:



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Lisa Hosey  
Assistant City Attorney

Concurred by:



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Miguel Márquez  
City Manager