

RESOLUTION NO. 23333 (N.C.S.)

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A RESIDENTIAL SEWER PAYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2025, City Council received the sewer rate study findings and recommended completion of the Sewer Rate Study (the “Study”) which recommends increases to the sewer rate over a 5-year period to meet the City of Salinas wastewater enterprise program operational and maintenance costs needs; and

WHEREAS, throughout the sewer rate study process, City Council identified the need to develop a program to assist need-based residential sewer ratepayers regardless of the residence type; and

WHEREAS, as required by law, the program cannot be funded through user fees assessed to ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, on June 17, 2025, City Council appropriated \$150,000 from the General Fund for a sewer assistance program as part of the Fiscal Year 2025-26 City Budget, per Resolution No. 23269; and

WHEREAS, Monterey One Water (“M1W”) serves as the billing and collection agency for sewer charges assessed to Salinas ratepayers, and M1W bills properties, not units, on a bimonthly basis; and

WHEREAS, in order to provide an assistance program that allows for discounts to be provided to multi-family properties (duplexes, apartments, mobile home parks, etc.), the City must administer a program independent of sewer billing; and

WHEREAS, the City of Salinas Residential Sewer Payment Assistance Program (the “Program”) will provide qualifying residential ratepayers with a one-time annual payment equal to 15% of their cumulative City Sewer System charges for the fiscal year regardless of their housing type; and

WHEREAS, program eligibility criteria and requirements are outlined in Attachment 1, “Residential Sewer Payment Assistance Program”; and

WHEREAS, each year, the program will be contingent on the appropriation from the General Fund; and

WHEREAS, City of Salinas has determined that the proposed action is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15378.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Salinas City Council hereby establishes a Residential Sewer Payment Assistance Program as shown on the attached Exhibit A.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 23rd day of September 2025, by the following vote:

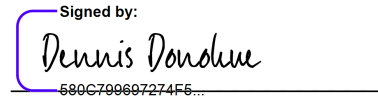
AYES: Councilmembers Barajas, D'Arrigo, De La Rosa, Sandoval, Salazar and Mayor Donohue

NOES: None

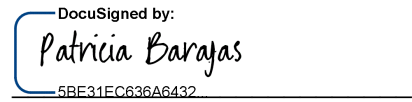
ABSENT: Councilmember Barrera

ABSTAIN: None

APPROVED:

Signed by:

580C799697274F5...
Dennis Donohue, Mayor

ATTEST:

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5BE31EC636A6432
Patricia M. Barajas, City Clerk

Attachment: Exhibit A

ATTACHMENT 1

RESIDENTIAL SEWER PAYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	
One-time Payment for 15% of City Sewer System Charges	City of Salinas Residential Sewer Payment Assistance Program (the “Program”) will provide qualifying residential ratepayers with a one-time annual payment equal to 15% of the cumulative City Sewer System charges for the fiscal year.
Program Budget	City Council appropriated \$150,000 from the General Fund for a sewer assistance program as part of the Fiscal Year 2025-26 City Budget. As required by law, the Program cannot be funded through user fees assessed to ratepayers. Each fiscal year, the Program will be contingent on the appropriation from the General Fund.
Eligibility	
Applicants shall be required to meet the following eligibility criteria: ☑ Each Application shall be for one residence only (own or rent¹). ☑ Applicant must either possess a copy of the sewer utility bill or complete the ‘Declaration of Tenant Responsibility for Utility Services’ section included in the Program Application. ☑ Income eligibility is based on Enrollment in PG&E's California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) Program ¹ Tenants participating in the City’s Affordable Income and Rent Limits Programs or Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program receive a utility allowance which exceeds the sewer rate and are not eligible for this Program.	
Application Requirements	
1. Completed and signed Application. 2. Copy of applicant’s current identification card or driver’s license. 3. Sewer utility bill with current address or completed ‘Declaration of Tenant Responsibility for Utility Services’ section included in the Program Application. 4. Proof of PG&E's CARE Program eligibility with current address.	
Policy	
▪ Applications for the Residential Sewer Payment Assistance Program are reviewed in the order in which they are received. Payments will only be made up to the amount appropriated each fiscal year. ▪ Salinas Residential Sewer Payment Assistance Program is non-transferable. Recipients must contact and notify City of Salinas if the service address changes. ▪ The Program is not retroactive and will only apply assistance to sewer billing from the approval date forward.	