

Keeping Energy Prices Low in Boulder City

City of Boulder City Utility Mailer / October 2016

This month, the City will raise residential electric rates for the first time in almost seven years. The City will continue to provide residents with electric rates that are significantly lower than residential rates in the Las Vegas Valley. The City and the State of Nevada also continue to fund the following programs, which are intended to help residents lower their cost of energy.

State of Nevada Energy Assistance Program (EAP)

The goal of the EAP is to provide for each qualifying household the amount of assistance that is sufficient to reduce the percentage of the household's income that is spent on energy to the median percentage of household income spent on energy statewide.

The funding sources available to the State are limited; therefore households qualifying for the EAP should apply as soon as possible after the start of each program year (July 1 – June 30).

After each annual application, an eligible household receives a single lump sum from the State, which is paid directly to the utility. The utility then issues a credit to the household's account in the amount received from the State.

To qualify for the EAP, the total gross monthly income of all household members may not exceed 150% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, excluding certain qualified deductions such as out-of-pocket medical expenses. For further information, refer to the Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services website, dwss.nv.gov. Use the search field in the upper right hand corner of the page to search for "Energy Assistance." The DWSS Las Vegas office may be reached at 702-486-1404.

Boulder City Energy Assistance Program (BCEAP)

The City has funded its own energy assistance program for 38 years. Providing a 35% discount on residential energy and monthly service charges, the BCEAP is the most generous utility-funded energy assistance program in the state. Last year the City funded over half of the total low income energy assistance provided by not-for-profit electric utilities in Nevada, helping 232 households struggling with energy bills.

There are three methods to enroll in the BCEAP. The Boulder City Utility Office automatically enrolls a household that receives a State EAP grant, or is located in a development that is designated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as Section 202 Housing for the Elderly. Households that meet residency, income, and verification requirements can also apply for BCEAP without or before receipt of a State EAP grant. Income requirements are similar, but not identical, to the State EAP gross income requirements described above. For further information, contact the Boulder City Utility

Office (702-293-9244) or refer to the City website, bcnv.org. Use the search field in the upper right hand corner of the page to search for "BCEAP."

State of Nevada Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)

The WAP is administered by the Housing Division of the Nevada Department of Business and Industry (NHD). The program provides installation/repair services to improve energy efficiency based on on-site assessments of residences, which may be single-family, multi-family, or manufactured. Recipients of WAP assistance may be owners or (with owner approval) renters. Examples of WAP installations include solar screens, weather stripping, and insulation. Examples of WAP repairs/replacements include windows, heating, and air conditioning.

Income requirements are identical to those described for the State EAP. For further information, refer to the NHD website, housing.nv.gov. Use the search field in the upper right hand corner of the page to search for "WAP." The DWSS Las Vegas office may be reached at 702-486-1404.

NHD has retained HELP of Southern Nevada to provide assessments and subcontract installation/repair services. HELP can provide additional information concerning WAP by telephone (702-795-0575) or on their web site (helpsonv.org/programs-weatherization.php).

Boulder City Efficient Appliance Rebate Program

Boulder City has been providing energy efficiency rebates to residents for 25 years. Last year, the City expended \$53,000 on the program. All residents, regardless of income, qualify for rebates for installation of certain appliances, subject to the restrictions described in the link below:

- Air Conditioners: \$70 or \$125 per ton, depending on efficiency, as measured by S.E.E.R. rating.
- Evaporative (Swamp) Coolers: \$50 per 1,000 CFM to supplement air conditioned living spaces.
- Window Treatments (solar screens or film): \$0.50 per square foot for windows that face west and are not shaded excessively.
- Water Heaters: \$200 for a solar or natural gas-heated tank of at least 40 gallons, to supplement an electric water heating system.
- Pool Pumps: \$100 for a two-speed pump; \$200 for a variable speed pump.

For further information, contact the Boulder City Public Works Office (702-293-9200) or refer to the City of Boulder City website, bcnv.org. Use the search field in the upper right hand corner of the page to search for "Rebate."



Utah Street Reconstruction

On August 25, 2015, City Council approved Agreement No. 1556 between the City of Boulder City and the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC) to provide funding for the design, construction, and construction management for micro pave and street reconstruction projects in Boulder City. The micro pave/slurry seal portion of this project has been completed, helping to extend the life of our asphalt roads.

The street reconstruction portion will be from Utah Street at Northridge Drive to Park Street, as depicted in the attached exhibit. The Utah Street Reconstruction Project will consist of approximately 8,252 linear feet of trenching for electrical conduits. Transformer pad, vaults, junction boxes, streetlights, and other related items are also set to be installed. New water services will

be installed and fire hydrants will be replaced. Some driveway approaches and ADA ramps will also be replaced. Approximately 24,730 square yards of asphalt paving will be done along Utah Street as well. The utility portion of this work will be funded from the City's Utility Fund; the rest of the project will be covered by RTC funds.

The City will be working with Aggregate Industries –SWR Inc. for the Utah Street Reconstruction. This will be a 120 calendar day project. The pre-construction meeting will be held in the beginning of September. Construction will begin the middle to end of September and last until January 2017. Maintenance projects like this help the City realize Strategic Plan Goal 3, protecting our investment in the City's infrastructure.

