

RESPONSE TO
PUBLIC ADVOCATE'S INTERROGATORIES
AND
REQUESTS FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS
QUESTIONS 1-4

Dated: March 2021

PA-X-1. REGARDING THE RESPONSE TO PA-V-5, IS THE EXCESS FUNDS IN THE DEBT RESERVE FUND LEGALLY PRECLUDED FROM BEING USED TO REDUCE THE COST OF SERVICE?

RESPONSE:

As noted in the response to PA-V-5, the release of the excess funds in the Debt Service Reserve is treated as a revenue in FY 2021. As such, the release reduces the withdrawal from the Rate Stabilization Fund in FY 2021, providing additional RSF balance to be utilized in FY 2022. The Cost of Service analysis acknowledges this circumstance.

Please refer to Section 4.09 of the General Bond Ordinance for further details.

RESPONSE PROVIDED BY: Black & Veatch Management Consulting, LLC.

PA-X-2. REGARDING THE RESPONSE TO PA-V-13, DID THE DEPARTMENT REFLECT, IN THE COST OF SERVICE, THE \$2.1 MILLION REIMBURSEMENT FROM CARES ACT FUNDING THAT IT BELIEVES IT IS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE, OR THE PHILADELPHIA HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AND UTILITY EMERGENCY SERVICES FUND DISTRIBUTION OF ITS CARES ACT FUNDING TO SUPPORT ONE-TIME DEBT RELIEF FOR CUSTOMERS? IF NOT, PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY IT WAS NOT REFLECTED IN THE COST OF SERVICE.

RESPONSE:

No amounts are reflected in the Cost of Service. The above items were not known when the Cost of Service study was completed and it is still unclear when, how and if these monies would be realized.

The Coronavirus Relief Fund (CARES Act assistance for state, local, and tribal governments) covers necessary government expenses incurred due to the COVID pandemic. The Department's eligible expenses were submitted to the City for further submittal for reimbursement. It is not known when such reimbursements will be received.

The Department cannot accurately predict the number accounts / customers who may seek one-time assistance from either PHDC or UESF to cure delinquent balances.

RESPONSE PROVIDED BY: Philadelphia Water Department and Black & Veatch Management Consulting, LLC.

PA-X-3. REGARDING THE RESPONSE TO PA-V-13, PLEASE IDENTIFY THE AMOUNT THE DEPARTMENT ANTICIPATES IT WILL RECEIVE FROM THE PHILADELPHIA HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AND UTILITY EMERGENCY SERVICES FUND DISTRIBUTION OF ITS CARES ACT FUNDING.

RESPONSE:

The Department cannot accurately predict the number accounts / customers who may seek one-time assistance from either Philadelphia Housing Development Corporation (PHDC) and Utility Emergency Services Fund (UESF) to cure delinquent balances.

Since January 1, 2021 through March 8, 2021 UESF support to customers to cure delinquent balances totals \$30,500 and \$0 from PHDC.

RESPONSE PROVIDED BY: Philadelphia Water Department and Water Revenue Bureau

PA-X-4. REGARDING THE RESPONSE TO PA-V-13, PLEASE IDENTIFY THE AMOUNT THE DEPARTMENT ANTICIPATES IT MAY RECEIVE FROM THE CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT OF 2021 RELATED TO THE “LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLD DRINKING WATER AND WASTEWATER EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.”

RESPONSE:

The U.S. Department of Health & Human services (HHS) has not established eligibility criteria, the amount, frequency, and conditions of the assistance as of the date of this response set.

As a result, the Department cannot accurately predict the amount it may receive.

RESPONSE PROVIDED BY: Philadelphia Water Department