



## **GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM**

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**AGENDA DATE:** September 15, 2022

**AGENDA ITEM:** Consider a motion to adopt Resolution Number 09-15-22-7 approving the Grand Rapids Public Utilities Community Caring Fund Program policy.

**PREPARED BY:** Julie Kennedy, General Manager

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### **BACKGROUND:**

The attached Grand Rapids Public Utilities Community Caring Fund Program policy was reviewed and discussed with the GRPU Commission at the June and July 2022 meetings. The comments from the Commission have been incorporated into the attached policy.

The resolution to approve the policy and the policy are attached for your reference.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Consider a motion to adopt Resolution Number 09-15-22-7 approving the Grand Rapids Public Utilities Community Caring Fund Program policy.

GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

RESOLUTION NO. 09-15-22-7

ADOPT GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMUNITY  
CARING FUND PROGRAM POLICY

WHEREAS, the Grand Rapids Public Utilities Commission (GRPUC) philosophy is to adopt written policies which are central to a strategic long-term approach to community involvement; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Rapids Public Utilities Community Caring Fund Program policy delegates to the General Manager the ability to administer the Grand Rapids Public Utilities Community Caring Fund created at the Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation; and

WHEREAS, the GRPUC has reviewed and discussed the Grand Rapids Public Utilities Community Caring Fund Program Policy at work sessions in June and July of 2022;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the Grand Rapids Public Utilities Commission has reviewed and adopts the Grand Rapids Public Utilities Community Caring Fund Program Policy.

Adopted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
GRPUC President

Witness:

\_\_\_\_\_  
GRPUC



Item 10.

# COMMISSION POLICY

## Grand Rapids Public Utilities Community Caring Fund Program

|                                |  |                                  |
|--------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| Category:<br><b>Governance</b> | Subcategory:<br><b>Community Involvement</b> | Policy Number:<br><b>1.5.025</b> |
|--------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|

### 1.0 PURPOSE

In 2011, Grand Rapids Public Utilities (GRPU) created the Grand Rapids Public Utilities Community Caring Fund at the Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation (GRACF) in which contributions to the fund come from GRPU customers who “round up” their utility bill payments. The fund is for GRPU customers in order to prevent a crisis situation from becoming chronic, by serving immediate, last resort, crisis needs such as utility bills.

### 2.0 POLICY

With this policy, the Commission communicates expectations for the General Manager’s understanding of the administration of the Grand Rapids Public Utilities Community Caring Fund Program (the Program) at GRACF. The General Manager, shall ensure the Program at GRACF maintains the following format:

#### Program Guidelines

- The maximum total spending from the fund per year = \$1,000
- The maximum individual customer account gift per year = \$100
- The (up to) \$100 gift to recipient can be used to pay for utility deposit and/or outstanding utility bills (including any fees) for electric, water, wastewater, and storm water. The gift funds are transferred from GRACF to GRPU on behalf of the recipient.
- The Program is tracked and analyzed on a calendar year basis

#### Recipient Eligibility Guidelines

- The recipient is currently or applying to be a GRPU RESIDENTIAL customer
- The recipient has been screened through a nonprofit organization or government social service establishing a need for utility payment assistance (i.e. Kootasca)

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Tom Stanley  
GRPUC President

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Luke Francisco  
GRPUC Secretary

### **POLICY HISTORY:**

Adopted: September 15, 2022

Revised: \_\_\_\_\_