



# ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

## INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

November 15, 2021

To: Jerome D. Schad, Chair  
Peggy A. LaGree, Vice Chair  
Michele M. Iannello, Treasurer

From: Karen A. Prendergast, Chief Financial Officer *KAP*

Subject: NYS Low Income Household Water Assistance Program

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The NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) is administering the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) funded through the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. New York received \$69.8 million to assist low-income households with drinking and wastewater bills.

Our customers will be able to apply for up to \$2,500 in assistance for unpaid water bills through a portal on the OTDA website. The anticipated launch date of the application process is December 1, 2021 and will continue through September 30, 2023 or until funding is exhausted. Phase one will target households with unpaid water bills. If funding is available, phase two will assist low-income households in paying current water bills.

I have registered the Authority as an eligible vendor to receive payments should any of our customers apply and receive assistance. As a condition of participation, the Authority must execute a Vendor Agreement. I have included a resolution authorizing the execution of the agreement on the November 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

cc T. McCracken  
M. Carney  
R. Stoll