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## City Council Work Session June 14, 2016 6:00 PM

- **CALL TO ORDER.**

1. Northern Integrated Supply Project Update and Next Steps. (staff: John Stokes, Carol Webb; 10 minute staff presentation; 1 hour discussion)

The purpose of this item is to review the City's past and future approach to the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) and the project sponsor, Northern Water. NISP currently is nearing the final stages of its federal and state permitting processes. To date, the City has fully participated in those processes. Northern Water also has recently proposed modifications to NISP's operations through town that require consideration by the City and that may present certain opportunities for the City. Going forward, staff plans to engage Northern Water in discussions/negotiations regarding NISP. Such meetings and discussions will not change the City's position regarding NISP, as currently set forth in Resolution 2015-082, and will not bind the City without subsequent action from City Council.

2. Downtown Parking Community Dialogue. (staff: Seth Lorson, Mike Beckstead, Kurt Ravenschlag; 12 minute staff presentation; 45 minute discussion)

The purpose of this item is to garner feedback from City Council on the recommendations from the Downtown Parking Community Dialogue, which is the parking element of the Downtown Plan. City investment is needed in order to implement the parking recommendations and staff is requesting an appropriation to invest in a parking data-collection system. The requested appropriation would come from the funds already assigned in the general fund budget balance from the 2015-16 budget for an on-street paid parking pilot. Also, staff is anticipating submitting a 2017-18 budget offer to invest in on-street paid parking technology.

3. Utilities Low-Income Assistance Program – Income Qualified Rate (IQR). (staff: Lisa Rosintoski, Lance Smith, Randy Reuscher; 12 minute staff presentation; 45 minute discussion)

The purpose of this item is to propose a discounted rate structure for low income households for electric, water, and wastewater utility services based on the 165<sup>th</sup> percentile of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Staff developed two priority improvements in 2015 to enable the successful implementation of a Utilities integrated low-income assistance program. The first improvement was to the existing **Payment Assistance Fund Program (PAF)** managing enhancements through several funding mechanisms to more effectively address temporary financial needs for utility customers facing imminent service interruptions due to unanticipated financial hardships. The second improvement is an **Income Qualified Rate (IQR)**, which is a discounted rate structure for qualified Utilities customers, based on income, for electric, water and wastewater services.

- **OTHER BUSINESS.**
- **ADJOURNMENT.**