# HIGHLINE WATER DISTRICT King County, Washington

## **RESOLUTION 20-7-28A**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE HIGHLINE WATER DISTRICT, KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON, ESTABLISHING A DELINQUENT ACCOUNT PAYMENT PLAN TO ASSIST DISTRICT CUSTOMERS IMPACTED BY THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY

**WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 Emergency has caused significant adverse impacts on the state and local economies, and

**WHEREAS**, the economic impacts have made it more difficult for residential and business customers to remain current on water bills, and

**WHEREAS**, in compliance with proclamations of the Governor of the State of Washington, the District has previously suspended service termination and the accumulation of interest and penalties on unpaid water bills, and

**WHEREAS**, by further proclamation of the Governor, water and sewer utility providers in the State of Washington are required to adopt payment plans to assist customers having trouble with the timely payment of water and/or sewer bills, and

**WHEREAS**, the District has reviewed the matter of a plan for assistance to customers and believes the Delinquent Account Payment Plan established herein to be in the best interests of the District and its customers.

#### NOW. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

- A. In order to provide District customers with reasonable opportunities to cure delinquent accounts that have arisen out of the economic hardships caused by the COVID-19 Emergency, it is necessary that the District establish measures to provide financial relief from delinquent water bills. Accordingly, the following measures will be implemented, effective July 28, 2020, regarding all delinquent accounts:
  - 1. No water service shall be terminated for lack of payment during the period of the Governor's suspension of the authority to terminate service.
  - 2. No penalties or interest shall be added to delinquent balances during the period of the Governor's suspension of the authority to apply penalties to delinquent accounts.
  - 3. Customers will be offered payments arrangements of up to 12 months.
  - 4. Payments arrangements of 3 months or less may be made verbally with the Customer Service Department. Payment arrangements longer than 3 months must be in writing signed by the customer and authorized HWD staff.

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On property occupied by a tenant, payment plans may be signed by the tenant, with a copy provided to the property owner along with notice that all charges for water service shall remain with the property.

- 5. Payment arrangements where the customer consistently pays the agreed monthly amount will not be disconnected. If agreed payment arrangements are not kept, water service may be interrupted once the arrangement becomes 60 days past due.
- 6. This Delinquent Account Payment Plan shall be posted on the District's website.
- 7. The Board reserves the right to modify this plan as deemed appropriate

**ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** of Highline Water District, King County, Washington, at an open public meeting held this **28th** day of **July 2020**.

BOARD OF COM	MISSIONERS
Vine Koest	78 cm
Vince Koester, President	Todd Fultz, Secretary
Pulle Daralo	Cal John
Polly Daygle, Commissioner	Daniel Johnson, Commissioner
Latelle Quany-Vurnens	
Kathleen Oriona/Vermeire Commissioner	

Agenda Item No.: 5.1

Agenda Date: 07/28/20

Reviewed By: ME,

**RE:** Resolution establishing a Delinquent Account Payment Plan to assist District customers impacted by the COVID-19 emergency

CATEGORY	
Executive	x
Administrative	x
Engineering/Operations	

FINANCIAL		
Expenditures?	Yes No N/A	
Budgeted?	Yes No N/A	
Estimated Amount: \$ Excludes sales tax		

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Resolution 20-7-28A

#### **COMMENTS:**

By further proclamation of the Governor, water utility providers in the State of Washington are required to adopt payment plans to assist the District's customers having trouble with the timely payment of their water bills.