

July 13, 2018

To: Mayor and City Council Members

From: Douglas G. Faseler
City Manager



Re: Proposed Utility Assistance Program

Council Member Leal has discussed with me his interest in the City of Seguin initiating a voluntary utility assistance program through our utility billing process. The proposal would be very similar to an existing program that GVEC has had for a number of years. (A large portion of their contributions also goes to their grants program.) Matter of fact, many Seguin residents who are served by GVEC for their electric service have participated in this program for years. Basically, your utility bill would be rounded up to the nearest dollar. For example, if your bill was \$150.01, it would be rounded up to \$151. If your bill was \$150.99, it would be rounded to \$151. Your contribution would vary from month to month, but it would range from 1 cent, to 99 cents each month. The program would be automatic, but you would have the option to opt out by indicating so. The City of Seguin has approximately 8,500 customer accounts, so if you figure an average of a 50-cent contribution by each account, this would generate \$4,250 a month. Like GVEC, the collected funds would be provided to the Community Council of South Texas for their administration and distribution to City of Seguin utility customers under their guidelines. We have confirmed that our utility billing software has this capability.

If there is interest by City Council in pursuing such a program, staff will prepare a detailed program for your consideration.

C.c. Rick Cortes
Susan Caddell
Leann Wilkerson