



# CITY OF SUGAR LAND

## CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

Sugar Land City Hall  
2700 Town Center Boulevard North  
Sugar Land, Texas 77479

**TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2024**

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER**

**5:30 P.M.**

### **I. ATTENTION**

- A.** *Members of the City Council, Board and/or Commission may participate in deliberations of posted agenda items through videoconferencing means. A quorum of the City Council, Board and/or Commission will be physically present at the above-stated location, and said location is open to the public. Audio/Video of open deliberations will be available for the public to hear/view, and are recorded as per the Texas Open Meetings Act.*

*The meeting will live stream at <https://www.sugarlandtx.gov/1238/SLTV-16-Live-Video> or <https://www.youtube.com/user/SugarLandTXgov/live>. Sugar Land Comcast Cable Subscribers can also tune-in on Channel 16.*

### **INVOCATION**

*Councilmember Jennifer Lane*

### **PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE**

*Councilmember Jennifer Lane*

### **II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Citizens who desire to address the City Council, Board and/or Commission in person with regard to matters on the agenda must complete a "Request to Speak" form and give it to the City Secretary, or designee, prior to the beginning of the meeting.

Each speaker is limited to three (3) minutes, speakers requiring a translator will have six (6) minutes, regardless of the number of agenda items to be addressed. Comments or discussion by the City Council, Board, and/or Commission Members, will only be made at the time the subject is scheduled for consideration.

**Disclaimer:** The City of Sugar Land reserves the right to remove any individual for comments deemed inappropriate, impertinent, profane, slanderous and/or for not adhering to the public comment rules outlined in this notice.

*For questions or assistance, please contact the Office of the City Secretary (281) 275-2730.*

### **III. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

- A. FIRST CONSIDERATION:** Consideration of and action on **CITY OF SUGAR LAND ORDINANCE NO. 2338:** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUGAR LAND, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 5 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY ADDING A NEW SCHOOL ZONE.

*Brian Butscher, Executive Director of Public Works*

- B. Consideration of and action on **CITY OF SUGAR LAND RESOLUTION NO. 24-20**: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF CITY OF SUGAR LAND, TEXAS, SUSPENDING THE APRIL 10, 2024 EFFECTIVE DATE OF CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC'S REQUESTED RATE CHANGE TO PERMIT THE CITY TIME TO STUDY THE REQUEST AND TO ESTABLISH REASONABLE RATES; APPROVING CONTINUED COOPERATION WITH THE GULF COAST COALITION OF CITIES; HIRING LLOYD GOSSELINK ATTORNEYS AND CONSULTING SERVICES TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE COMPANY AND DIRECT ANY NECESSARY LITIGATION AND APPEALS; REQUIRING REIMBURSEMENT OF CITIES' RATE CASE EXPENSES; AND REQUIRING NOTICE OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE COMPANY AND LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE GULF COAST COALITION OF CITIES.

*Meredith Riede, City Attorney*

#### **IV. WORKSHOP**

- A. Review of and discussion on the Police Department 2023 Annual Report.

*Mark Poland, Chief of Police*

#### **V. CITY COUNCIL CITY MANAGER REPORTS**

- A. City Council Member Reports

- Community Events Attended or Scheduled

- B. City Manager Report

- Community Events Attended or Scheduled
- Other Governmental Meetings Attended or Scheduled
- Council Meeting Schedule

**THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL RESERVE THE RIGHT, UPON MOTION, TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO CONSIDER BUSINESS OUT OF THE POSTED ORDER. IN ADDITION TO ANY EXECUTIVE SESSION LISTED ABOVE, THE CITY COUNCIL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT ANY TIME DURING THIS MEETING FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSULTATION WITH THE ATTORNEY AS AUTHORIZED BY TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTIONS 551.071 TO DISCUSS ANY OF THE MATTERS LISTED ABOVE.**

**IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THIS PUBLIC MEETING AND YOU HAVE A DISABILITY THAT REQUIRES SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS AT THE MEETING, PLEASE CONTACT THE CITY SECRETARY, (281) 275-2730. REQUESTS FOR SPECIAL SERVICES MUST BE RECEIVED FORTY-EIGHT (48) HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING TIME. REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS WILL BE MADE TO ASSIST YOUR NEEDS.**

**THE AGENDA AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION IS LOCATED ON THE CITY WEBSITE ([WWW.SUGARLANDTX.GOV](http://WWW.SUGARLANDTX.GOV)) UNDER MEETING AGENDAS.**

**Posted on this 22nd day of March, 2024 at 2:43 P.M.**



## City Council Agenda Request

MARCH 26, 2024

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**AGENDA REQUEST NO:** III.A.

**AGENDA OF:** City Council Meeting

**INITIATED BY:**

*Brian Butscher*

*Executive Director of Public Works*

**PRESENTED BY:**

*Brian Butscher, Executive Director of Public Works*

**RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT:** Public Works

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**AGENDA CAPTION:**

**FIRST CONSIDERATION:** Consideration of and action on **CITY OF SUGAR LAND ORDINANCE NO. 2338**: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUGAR LAND, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 5 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY ADDING A NEW SCHOOL ZONE.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Staff recommends approval of the First Reading of Ordinance No. 2338, amending Chapter 5-127 of the Code of Ordinances by adding a New School Zone for the Harmony Charter School located on FM1876.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The City of Sugar Land was recently notified that the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is planning to install a school zone for the Harmony Charter School along FM 1876 (Eldridge Parkway). Earlier this year a concerned citizen contacted TxDOT about the need for a school zone. TxDOT reviewed the request and determined the need for a school zone is warranted.

The Public Works Department met TxDOT on a number of occasions regarding this new zone and is in support of the proposed zone.

All school zone-related signs and beacons will be installed and maintained by TxDOT. All signs will be compliant with Ordinance No. 2338 if approved.

Staff recommends Approval of the First Reading of Ordinance No. 2338, amending Chapter 5-127 of the Code of Ordinances by adding a New School Zone for the Harmony Charter School located on FM1876.

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**BUDGET**

**EXPENDITURE REQUIRED: 0**

**CURRENT BUDGET: 0**

**ADDITIONAL FUNDING: 0**

**FUNDING SOURCE:0**

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**ATTACHMENTS:**

Description	Type
□ Ordinance	Contracts

**ORDINANCE NO. 2338**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUGAR LAND, TEXAS,  
AMENDING CHAPTER 5 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY ADDING A NEW SCHOOL  
ZONE.**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF SUGAR LAND, TEXAS:**

**Section 1.** That Section 5-127 of the Code of Ordinances is amended by adding a new subsection (11) to section (d) to read as follows:

**Sec. 5-127. Maximum limit in school zones.**

(d) *Other school zones.*

(11) *Harmony Charter School* - It is unlawful for a person to drive or operate a vehicle at a speed in excess of 30 miles per hour on the following streets, or portions thereof, hereby designated as school zones, when signs are in place giving notice of the speed limit, on Monday through Friday, when school is in session, during the hours of 7:15 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. and 3:25 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the following location:

FM 1876, from 270 feet north of Woodchester Road to 401 feet north of Bournewood Road.

**Section 2.** That the provisions of this ordinance are severable and the invalidity of any part of this ordinance will not affect the validity of the remainder of the ordinance.

**Section 3.** That any person found guilty of violating this ordinance will be fined not more than \$500.00 for each offense. Notice of the enactment of this ordinance will be given by publishing the ordinance or its descriptive caption and penalty in the City's official newspaper one time within thirty days of passage.

READ IN FULL on first consideration on \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

APPROVED upon second consideration on \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe R. Zimmerman, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ashley Newsome, Deputy City Secretary



## City Council Agenda Request

MARCH 26, 2024

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**AGENDA REQUEST NO:** III.B.

**AGENDA OF:** City Council Meeting

**INITIATED BY:** *Meredith Riede, City Attorney*

**PRESENTED BY:** *Meredith Riede, City Attorney*

**RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT:** Legal

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### **AGENDA CAPTION:**

Consideration of and action on **CITY OF SUGAR LAND RESOLUTION NO. 24-20**: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF CITY OF SUGAR LAND, TEXAS, SUSPENDING THE APRIL 10, 2024 EFFECTIVE DATE OF CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC'S REQUESTED RATE CHANGE TO PERMIT THE CITY TIME TO STUDY THE REQUEST AND TO ESTABLISH REASONABLE RATES; APPROVING CONTINUED COOPERATION WITH THE GULF COAST COALITION OF CITIES; HIRING LLOYD GOSSELINK ATTORNEYS AND CONSULTING SERVICES TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE COMPANY AND DIRECT ANY NECESSARY LITIGATION AND APPEALS; REQUIRING REIMBURSEMENT OF CITIES' RATE CASE EXPENSES; AND REQUIRING NOTICE OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE COMPANY AND LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE GULF COAST COALITION OF CITIES.

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Approve Resolution 24-20 suspending CenterPoint's requested rate increase

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC ("CenterPoint" or "Company") filed an application on March 6, 2024 with cities retaining original jurisdiction seeking to increase system-wide transmission and distribution rates by \$60 million per year. The Company asks

the City to approve an increase of \$17 million in retail transmission and distribution rates (an increase of about 1%) and \$43 million in wholesale transmission rates (an increase of about 6.6%). According to CenterPoint, the impact on an average residential customer would be an increase of about \$1.25 per month.

Resolution 24-20 suspends the April 10, 2024 effective date of the Company's rate increase for the maximum period permitted by law to allow the City, working in conjunction with other members of GCCC served by CenterPoint to evaluate the filing, determine whether the filing complies with law, and if lawful, to determine what further strategy, including settlement, to pursue.

The law provides that a rate request made by an electric utility cannot become effective until at least 35 days following the filing of the application to change rates. The law permits the City to suspend the rate change for 90 days after the date the rate change would otherwise be effective. **If the City fails to take some action regarding the filing before the effective date, CenterPoint's rate request is deemed approved.**

The City of Sugar Land, Texas is a member of a coalition of political subdivisions in the Greater Houston area known as the Gulf Coast Coalition of Cities ("GCCC"). GCCC has been in existence since the early 1990s. The GCCC represents the interests of its members on gas and electric utility matters before the Public Utility Commission of Texas, the Railroad Commission of Texas, the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, and the courts. For the past 20 years, GCCC has protected the authority of municipalities over monopoly electric and natural gas providers and has defended the interests of the residential and small commercial customers within the cities. Cities are often the only consumer advocates that work to keep utility rates reasonable. The work undertaken by GCCC has saved ratepayers millions of dollars in unreasonable charges. GCCC has previously approved the hiring of Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C. and consultants to intervene in matters related to the electric utility rate case filings, representing GCCC members' interests.

Current members include the following 44 cities: Alvin, Brazos Country, Brookshire, Bunker Hill Village, Clear Lake Shores, Deer Park, Dickinson, Fairchilds, Friendswood, Fulshear, Galveston, Hedwig Village, Hilshire Village, Hunters Creek, Iowa Colony, Jersey Village, Jones Creek, Kemah, La Marque, Lake Jackson, Manvel, Missouri City, Mont Belvieu, Morgan's Point, Nassau Bay, Oyster Creek, Pattison, Piney Point Village, Pleak, Prairie View, Rosenberg, Santa Fe, Seabrook, Sealy, Simonton, South Houston, Spring Valley Village, Stafford, Sugar Land, Taylor Lake Village, Texas City, Tiki Island, Webster, and Weston Lakes.

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## **BUDGET**

**EXPENDITURE REQUIRED:**

**CURRENT BUDGET:**

**ADDITIONAL FUNDING:**

**FUNDING SOURCE:**

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**ATTACHMENTS:**

Description	Type
▣ Resolution 24-20	Resolutions



## **RESOLUTION NO. 24-20**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF CITY OF SUGAR LAND, TEXAS SUSPENDING THE APRIL 10, 2024 EFFECTIVE DATE OF CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC'S REQUESTED RATE CHANGE TO PERMIT THE CITY TIME TO STUDY THE REQUEST AND TO ESTABLISH REASONABLE RATES; APPROVING CONTINUED COOPERATION WITH THE GULF COAST COALITION OF CITIES; HIRING LLOYD GOSSELINK ATTORNEYS AND CONSULTING SERVICES TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE COMPANY AND DIRECT ANY NECESSARY LITIGATION AND APPEALS; REQUIRING REIMBURSEMENT OF CITIES' RATE CASE EXPENSES; AND REQUIRING NOTICE OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE COMPANY AND LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE GULF COAST COALITION OF CITIES**

**WHEREAS**, on or about March 6, 2024, CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC ("CenterPoint" or "Company"), pursuant to PURA §§ 33.001 and 36.001 filed with the City of Sugar Land, Texas ("City") a Statement of Intent to change electric delivery rates in all municipalities exercising original jurisdiction within its service area, effective April 10, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, the City is a member of the Gulf Coast Coalition of Cities ("GCCC") and will cooperate with the other similarly situated city members and other city participants in conducting a review of the Company's application and to hire and direct legal counsel and consultants to prepare a common response and to negotiate with the Company and direct any necessary litigation; and

**WHEREAS**, GCCC's member cities have previously authorized intervention in electric utility rate case proceedings before the Public Utility Commission of Texas ("Commission"); and

**WHEREAS**, GCCC has previously authorized the hiring of the law firm of Lloyd Gosselink and consultants to negotiate with the Company, to make recommendations regarding reasonable rates, and to direct any necessary administrative proceedings or court litigation associated with an appeal of a rate ordinance and the rate case filed with the City or the Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, PURA § 36.108 grants local regulatory authorities the right to suspend the effective date of proposed rate changes for ninety (90) days after the date the rate change would otherwise be effective; and

**WHEREAS**, PURA § 33.023 provides that costs incurred by cities in ratemaking activities are to be reimbursed by the regulated utility. **THEREFORE**,

### **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUGAR LAND, TEXAS:**

**Section 1.** That the April 10, 2024, effective date of the rate request submitted by CenterPoint on or about March 6, 2024, be suspended for the maximum period allowed by law to permit adequate time to review the proposed changes and to establish reasonable rates.

**Section 2.** That the City is authorized to cooperate with GCCC to coordinate efforts to protect the interests of the City and protect the interests of CenterPoint's end-use customers residing and conducting business within municipal limits.

**Section 3.** That the City's reasonable rate case expenses shall be reimbursed by CenterPoint on a timely basis.

**Section 4.** That it is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this Resolution is passed is open to the public as required by law and the public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given as required.

**Section 5.** That a copy of this Resolution shall be sent to CenterPoint, care of Patrick Peters, CenterPoint Energy, Inc., 1005 Congress Avenue, Suite 650, Austin, Texas 78701 (patrick.peters@centerpointenergy.com), and to Roslyn Dubberstein at Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C., 816 Congress Avenue, Suite 1900, Austin, Texas 78701 (rdubberstein@lglawfirm.com).

PASSED AND APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe Zimmerman, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ashley Newsome, Deputy City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



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Meredith Riede, City Attorney/Executive Director



## City Council Agenda Request

MARCH 26, 2024

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**AGENDA REQUEST NO:** IV.A.

**AGENDA OF:** City Council Meeting

**INITIATED BY:** *Larysa Chiski, Finance Manager - Police*

**PRESENTED BY:** *Mark Poland, Chief of Police*

**RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT:** Police

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**AGENDA CAPTION:**

Review of and discussion on the Police Department 2023 Annual Report.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Review of and discussion on City of Sugar Land Police Department 2023 Annual Report.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Sugar Land Police Department submits 2023 Annual Report presentation for review by Mayor and City Council.

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**BUDGET**

**EXPENDITURE REQUIRED:** n/a

**CURRENT BUDGET:** n/a

**ADDITIONAL FUNDING:** n/a

**FUNDING SOURCE:**n/a

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