



## PRESS RELEASE

**Media Contact:**

Leslie Payne  
Sweetwater Authority  
Public Affairs Manager  
(619) 838-0384

February 2, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **SWEETWATER AUTHORITY RECEIVES FUNDING FROM STATE FOR WATER BILL DEBT ACCRUED DURING COVID-19**

**Mailing address:**

P.O. Box 2328  
Chula Vista, CA  
91912-2328

Chula Vista, CA – Sweetwater Authority (Authority) recently received \$633,540 from the COVID-19 relief fund. The money will cover residential and commercial water debt accrued between March 4, 2020 and June 15, 2021. Funds were distributed directly to the Authority and will be applied to delinquent accounts to cover outstanding balances. Unused funds will be returned to the state, as required.

**E-mail address:**

lpayne@sweetwater.org

**Offices:**

505 Garrett Avenue  
Chula Vista, CA 91910  
(619) 420-1413

Funding is from the California Water and Wastewater Arrearage Payment Program, and is administered by the California State Water Resources Control Board. This program offers \$985 million in federal COVID-19 relief funds to pay for water debt.

**General Manager:**

Carlos Quintero

“Our Board recognizes that the financial impacts of COVID-19 have adversely affected our community,” said Chair Alejandra Sotelo-Solis. “We are committed to working with our customers to make sure that everyone has access to safe and reliable water, and ample time to work through the challenges that we are still facing from the pandemic.”

**Assistant General Manager:**

Jennifer Sabine

**Governing Board:**

Alejandra Sotelo-Solis, Chair  
Paulina Martinez-Perez, Vice Chair  
Josie Calderon-Scott  
Steve Castaneda  
Hector Martinez  
Jose Preciado  
Mona Rios

To assist customers, the Governing Board extended payment plan options from twelve months to twenty-four months. The Authority has been working closely with customers to arrange payment plans and provide information on accounts. Customers are encouraged to reach out to the Authority’s Customer Service Department at (619) 420-1413 to discuss the specific needs of their account.

The Authority is also partnering with Union Bank to provide free personal budgeting workshops for Authority customers. Additional information on these workshops can be found at [www.sweetwater.org/webinar](http://www.sweetwater.org/webinar).

*Sweetwater Authority is a public water agency providing safe, reliable water to National City, Chula Vista and Bonita.*

-END-

