



MEMORANDUM TO VENICE CITY COUNCIL

THROUGH CHARTER OFFICER: Olympia Buchailot, City Manager

E-SIGN:

THROUGH: Abby Flach, Utilities Director

FROM: Kendall Flach, Assistant Utilities Director

DEPARTMENT: Utilities

DATE: October 17, 2025

MEETING DATE: October 21, 2025

SUBJECT / TOPIC: Custom Potable Water Service

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The City currently operates a 4.49 Million Gallon per Day (MGD) Water Treatment Plant which provides drinking water to utility customers throughout the City. The water is safe to use for drinking, cooking, and bathing, yet many people rely on bottled water or other commercially available drinks instead of drinking tap water. While some cite safety as the reason, often customers would prefer better tasting tap water. Therefore, in order to provide higher quality, better tasting water, the Utilities Department would like to introduce individualized point-of-use flavor (POUF) injection systems at customers' water meters. The POUF devices are capable of injecting flavors, such as lemonade, mint, or tea, into the water service for continuous enjoyment. Some of the flavors, such as citrus and mint, can also be used in bathing for a spa-like experience. Customers would pay a one-time installation fee, then an additional charge on their monthly bill for the flavoring. Flavoring could be changed monthly, with seasonal offerings such as apple cider or peppermint tea. Also, additional filters would be supplied for bathing or automatic shutoff devices connected to the homes plumbing at the customer's request.

The Utilities Department proposes to purchase 1,000 POUFs for a pilot program to develop an interest in this delicious and refreshing offering. The current rate study includes an assessment of appropriate fees for the customized service, which will be included in the revised fee ordinance at a future Council meeting. Therefore, the Utilities Department is requesting approval to move forward with proposed pilot program and POUF purchase.

SUPPORTS STRATEGIC PLAN: Goal Four: Upgrade and Maintain City Infrastructure and Facilities

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED: Presentation with Action Requested

Yes N/A

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| ☐ | ☐ | Document(s) Reviewed for ADA compliance (required if for agenda posting) |
| ☐ | ☐ | City Attorney Reviewed/Approval |
| ☐ | ☐ | Risk Management Review |
| ☐ | ☐ | Finance Department Review/Approval |
| | | Funds Availability (account number): |

CC: