ORANGE COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Interoffice Memorandum

June 22, 2020

TO:

Mayor Jerry L. Demings

and Board of County Commissioners

FROM:

Raymond E. Hanson, P. E., Director

Utilities Department

SUBJECT:

BCC AGENDA ITEM -- Consent Agenda

July 7, 2020 BCC Meeting

Temporary Suspension of Orange County Utilities Residential

Disconnections and Late Fees Resolution

Contact Person:

Tim Armstrong, Assistant Director

Utilities Department

407-254-9745

As a result of the Orange County Mayor issuing Emergency Executive Order 2020-01, on March 13, 2020, and issuing Emergency Executive Orders 2020-04 and 2020-05, on March 24, 2020, the decision was made in consultation with County Administration and the County Attorney's Office to temporarily suspend Orange County Utilities (OCU) residential service disconnections for non-payment on March 16, 2020, and temporarily suspend OCU residential late fees on March 24, 2020. This action provides temporary relief to OCU residential customers negatively impacted by the COVID-19 virus pandemic, and is consistent with the actions of several other peer water utilities in our region. Both temporary suspensions will continue through the state of local emergency, as it may be extended, or such earlier date as may be determined by the Mayor.

Section 10.03 of the County Administrative Regulations and various County resolutions provide for OCU to access late fees and to disconnect service for non-payment on accounts with an outstanding balance. This resolution was prepared by the County's legal staff, County Administration, and the Orange County Comptroller's Office.

The Orange County Attorney's Office has reviewed the resolution and finds it acceptable as to form and content. Orange County Utilities Department staff recommends approval.

Action Requested:

Approval and execution of Resolution of the Orange County Board of County Commissioners regarding the temporary suspension of Orange County Utilities disconnections and late fees.

All Districts.