

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## THE CITY OF NEWPORT FINANCE DEPARTMENT INVITES ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS TO PARTICIPATE IN LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR WATER AND SEWER BILL PAYMENTS

Beginning February 4, 2019, the City of Newport, will be taking applications through the Community Services Consortium (CSC) for the Low-Income Assistance Program. The eligibility requirements for the program are as follows:

- 1. You are low income; your annual income is at or below 60% of the 2018 Lincoln County median income based on family size.
- 2. You are a current residential utility service of the City of Newport; the utility bill is in your name; and the service address is your primary residence.
- 3. You live in the City limits of Newport.
- 4. You have made a good faith effort to pay your utility bill on a regular basis.

If you meet all four of the criteria above and wish to apply for assistance, please contact the Community Service Consortium (CSC) at 1.800.851.0242 for further details.

Please note: this program is scheduled to operate from January 1 through December 31 of each year and in order to participate you must apply annually. However because we are implementing the program late you will have to complete two application periods this year. Thus, in order to begin the initial participation you will have from February 4 to March 22 to complete your first application. Beginning November 1 through December 31, you will have to have your eligibility recertified to continue participating in the program.

Further details can be found on the city's website at the following link: <u>http://newportoregon.gov/dept/fin/utilitybilling.asp</u> For more information, please e-mail Richelle Burns at <u>r.burns@newportoregon.gov</u> or Mike Murzynsky at <u>m.murzynsky@newportoregon.gov</u>. Please allow 48 hours for a response.

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