

**City of Las Vegas  
Office of the Mayor  
1700 N. Grand Ave.  
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PRESS RELEASE

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### **City Lowers Gas Fees and Offers Budget Billing**

LAS VEGAS, NM – City of Las Vegas gas customers may be happy to learn that the administrative fee on their gas bill will go down to 9 percent, and they also may spread out their winter gas charges over a 12-month period.

On July 31, the Las Vegas City Council approved the lower fee, which goes to the city's general fund. The percentage will drop every year until it is at 6 percent. Now, for example, if a customer has a bill of \$200, the administrative fee will be \$18 instead of the original \$22.

This will be a cut of approximately \$72,000 for the city, the mayor said.

“We live in a community with a limited tax base, and we are working hard to make city government more accountable and efficient,” said Mayor Tony E. Marquez, Jr. “So I’m proud to announce that my administration, along with council, will be adjusting the city budget accordingly. Just as our residents need to adjust their own budgets in these tough economic times, the city needs to tighten its belt as well.”

The new “budget billing” plan is an adjustment for winter rates that allows a customer to lower their winter payments by dispersing them throughout the year. Utilities Director George DuFour came up with the plan to help utility customers during the winter. Customers just need to contact the utilities department to sign up.

“This is available, but many don’t know about it,” DuFour said. “People who are on the plan still need to pay their bill each month. It’s not a savings account; it’s simply a process of spreading out the charges so customers are not hit so hard in the winter.”

For more information call the utilities department at 454-1401 or go to 905 12<sup>th</sup> St.

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