

City of Tempe, Arizona

Water & Sewer Rate Study

Stakeholder Working Group Meeting #1 – "Rates 101"

June 2, 2020



Public Education and Participation

- Education
 - Introducing water infrastructure, industry, & challenges
 - Explaining how services are provided and charged
 - Providing the vocabulary to enable discussion
- Participation
 - Input on priorities
 - Input on levels of service

Agenda

- Introduction to Stantec
- The Water Industry & Rate Studies
- Examples from Prior Studies
- Public Education and Participation



Financial Services

300+ Combined years of experience

35+ Specialists in utility financial management

>300 Communities served



The Water Industry

Water is Increasingly Costly



\$200 \$200

Water prices pay for treating, pumping, and delivering water, while sewer prices cover the cost of cleansing the water that goes down the drain. Sewer prices are often higher than water prices because more energy and chemicals are required for treatment. Following the Clean Water Act, the federal government gave grants for new treatment plants during the 1970s and 1980s. Over the past three decades, however, new spending has been cut for local sewer infrastructure. Stormwater fees are not included in every city's monthly bill. Some cities use general tax revenues to pay for projects to reduce polluted runoff from streets and parking lots. However, these projects must then compete for funds with other departments like police and schools.



Rates current as of April 1, 2015. Monthly bil calculated for a family of four using 100 gallons per person per day. Source: Circle of Bue research, based on utility water rates.

The Water Industry

Utilities Face Steeper Increases in Costs Than We See in Overall Inflation

US CPI v. Water & Sewer Maintenance Series: Annual Percentage Change



Historically water and sewer rates have increased about twice the rate of inflation

Rate Comparisons are Rather Complex

The Water Industry



Gallons

A Comprehensive Rate Study is A Series of Connected Investigations

Rate Studies

How Much?



Revenue Sufficiency

- Policies & targets
- System investment needs and funding
- Sustainable operations

From Whom?



Defensible Allocation Methods

- Industry accepted approaches
- Inter and intra class equity
- Correct and appropriate units of service

How to Collect?



Simple, Equitable & Sustainable Rates

- Balance affordability and financial objectives
- Revenue stability
- Proposition 218 compliant rates

Revenue Requirements

Revenue Requirement

Components of the Revenue Requirement



THE COST TO FILL A GLASS OF WATER



Debt = \$21M

Capital = \$21M

Operating = \$32M

FY 2020

THE COST TO DRAIN A TUB

Debt = \$15M

Capital = \$16M

Operating = \$14M

FY 2020

Upward pressure on rates (Water)















Expenses by Type



Borrowing



More stable outlook (Sewer)

2017 Forecast









CIP Funding



Expenses by Type



Borrowing



Questions & Discussion Before Cost of Service

Customer Characteristics

15,000

10,000 5,000

Deep dive into customer data

Residential Volumes



COMML 19 COMML 20



Allocated each system's costs according to functions "by the book"



Allocation Process

	Source of Supply	Treatment	Transmission	Distribution	Customer
Base Capacity Average Day	100%	68%	68%	49%	0%
Extra Capacity Max Day	0%	32%	32%	23%	0%
Extra Capacity Peak Hour	0%	0%	0%	28%	0%
Customer	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Functionalizing System Costs



Customer Type Units of Service

Customer Type	# of Bills	Daily Demand (kgal)	Estimated Daily Max Day (kgal)	Estimated Daily Peak Hour (kgal)
Single Family	388,368	4,609,929	31,575	44,205
Multi-Family	52,366	2,648,644	14,513	19,956
Commercial	45,504	4,120,233	22,577	31,043
Construction	1,200	65,046	445	624
Industrial	840	1,688,874	6,940	9,254
Landscape	22,704	2,272,385	18,677	24,903









Water Cost to Serve vs. Current Revenue (\$M 2017)



Questions & Discussion Before Rate Design

Basis of proposed water rate structure

Rate Design



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Single Family
Tiered Rates
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Single family tiered rate calculations (\$/1,000 gal)



\$5.10

Water Rates

Non-single family volumetric rates

Class	Previous 2016 (per kgal)	Current (per kgal)
Multifamily	\$2.22	\$2.51
Commercial	\$2.46	\$2.59
Construction	\$4.07	\$4.07
Industrial	\$2.54	\$2.63
Landscaping	\$3.28	\$3.51

Monthly Single-Family Tier Sizing (Indoor)

Tier 1

Indoor Use



Large household: 5.26 people

• Tier 2

Single Family Parcel Distribution

16,000 sqft 95% 120% 1000 900 100% 800 700 80% 600 500 60% 400 40% 300 200 20% A DE LE COLLEGE 100 0 0% 10,600 11,300 12,000 13,400 14,100 14,800 15,500 16,200 16,900 17,600 18,300 19,000 19,700 20,400 21,100 21,800 22,500 23,200 23,900 24,600 25,300 26,000 26,700 28,100 28,800 29,500 1,500 4,300 5,000 5,700 7,100 7,800 8,500 12,700 27,400 100 800 2,200 2,900 3,600 6,400 9,200 9,900

Outdoor Use

Outdoor Use

Calculating irrigation requirements for the mean parcel (8,000 ft²)



Parcel Size: 8,000 Landscape Area: 2,000



Beneficial Rainfall: 4 Inches

Crop Type





Irrigation System Efficiency: 70%

= 8,000 GAL

Evapotranspiration: 81 Inches

Outdoor Use

Calculating irrigation requirements for the 90th percentile parcel (16,000 ft²)



Parcel Size: 16,000 Landscape Area: 6,500



Beneficial Rainfall: 4 Inches

Сгор Туре





Irrigation System Efficiency: 70%

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= 20,000 GAL
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Evapotranspiration: 81 Inches



Single family water use by tier



Questions & Discussion Before Customer Impacts

Bill Impacts: Single Family Customers

Customer with water, sewer, and sanitation service Two-person household with indoor-only use 7,000 gal per month



Bill Impacts: Single Family Customers

Customer with water, sewer, and sanitation service Two-person household with outdoor use or larger family 10,000 gal per month





- 5/8" Meter
- 10,000 gal water use
- 7,000 gal sewer use

Bill Impacts: Single Family Customers

Customer with water, sewer, and sanitation service Two-person household with significant outdoor use 50,000 gal per month





- 5/8" Meter
- 50,000 gal water use
- 12,000 gal sewer use

Stakeholder Engagement

AMI – A Tool for Smart Water Use

AMI and WaterSmart

- Interactive water management portal
- Easy way to access and interpret water use
- Conservation recommendations
- Potential leak alerts





Slide from June 2020 Water and Wastewater Rate Study Public Meeting

Stakeholder Working Group Engagement

Summary of Activities

- "Rates 101" (Today)
 - Rate Study process, group role, desired outcomes
- Revenue Sufficiency Workshop (6/9/2020)
 - Annual O&M, debt service, and capital needs of water and sewer funds
- Cost of Service Workshop (7/7/2020)
 - Allocation of revenue requirements to customer classes
- Rate Structure Workshop (8/11/2020)
 - Customer class-specific rate structure enhancements

Example Link: <u>https://www.bismarcknd.gov/1849/Utility-Cost-of-Service-</u> Rate-Design-Stud

Questions & Discussion