



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

Governance and Utilities Committee

Agenda

Thursday, July 9, 2026

9:30 AM

Council Chamber, City Hall
600 4th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Joy Hollingsworth, Chair
Debora Juarez, Vice-Chair
Robert Kettle, Member
Maritza Rivera, Member
Dan Strauss, Member

Chair Info: 206-684-8803; Joy.Hollingsworth@seattle.gov

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SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL
Governance and Utilities Committee
Agenda
July 9, 2026 - 9:30 AM

Meeting Location:

Council Chamber, City Hall, 600 4th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104

Committee Website:

<https://seattle.gov/council/governance-and-utilities>

This meeting also constitutes a meeting of the City Council, provided that the meeting shall be conducted as a committee meeting under the Council Rules and Procedures, and Council action shall be limited to committee business.

Members of the public may register for remote or in-person Public Comment to address the Council. Please register in advance in order to be recognized by the Chair. Details on how to register for Public Comment are listed below:

Remote Public Comment - Register online to speak during the Public Comment period at the meeting at <https://www.seattle.gov/council/committees/public-comment>. Online registration to speak will begin one hour before the meeting start time, and registration will end at the conclusion of the Public Comment period during the meeting.

In-Person Public Comment - Register to speak on the public comment sign-up sheet located inside Council Chambers at least 15 minutes prior to the meeting start time. Registration will end at the conclusion of the Public Comment period during the meeting.

Please submit written comments no later than four business hours prior to the start of the meeting to ensure that they are distributed to Councilmembers prior to the meeting. Comments may be submitted at Council@seattle.gov or at Seattle City Hall, Attn: Council Public Comment, 600 4th Ave., Floor 2, Seattle, WA 98104. Business hours are considered 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Comments received after that time will be distributed after the meeting to Councilmembers and included as part of the public record.

Please Note: Times listed are estimated

A. Call To Order

B. Approval of the Agenda

C. Public Comment

Members of the public may address items on the agenda and matters within the purview of the committee. Please register in advance to be recognized by the Chair.

D. Items of Business

1. [Appt 03542](#) **Appointment of Zahoor Ahmed as member, Washington State Convention Center Public Facilities District Board, for a term to July 30, 2030.**

Attachments: [Appointment Packet](#)

Briefing, Discussion, and Possible Vote (5 minutes)

Presenter: Jennifer LeMaster, President and CEO, Seattle Convention Center

2. **Audit Recommendation Updates**

Supporting Documents: [Presentation](#)

Briefing and Discussion (15 minutes)

Presenters: Melissa Allman, Sarah Bland, Dr. Claudia Gross-Shader, and Arushi Thakorlal, Acting City Auditor, Office of City Auditor

3. [CB 121222](#) **An ordinance relating to the Utility Discount Program; amending the income threshold for the utility discount program for water, wastewater, drainage, solid waste, and electric utility services; and amending Sections 21.49.040 and 21.76.030 of the Seattle Municipal Code.**

*Supporting
Documents:*

[Summary and Fiscal Note](#)

[Presentation](#)

[Presentation \(7/9/26\)](#)

[Amendment 1](#)

Briefing, Discussion, and Possible Vote (15 minutes)

Presenters: Brian Goodnight and Eric McConaghy, Council Central Staff

4. [CB 121245](#) **An ordinance relating to rates and charges for water services of Seattle Public Utilities; revising water rates and charges; revising qualification requirements for the utility discount program; revising credits to low-income customers; and amending Sections 21.04.430, 21.04.440, 21.76.030, and 21.76.040 of the Seattle Municipal Code.**

*Supporting
Documents:*

[Summary and Fiscal Note](#)

[Summary Ex A - 2027-2029 Water Rate Study](#)

[Presentation](#)

Briefing and Discussion (20 minutes)

Presenters: Andrew Lee, General Manager and CEO, and Paul Hanna, Seattle Public Utilities

5. [CB 121246](#) **An ordinance relating to emergency assistance for Seattle Public Utilities customers; amending Section 21.76.065 of the Seattle Municipal Code to adjust program terms and conditions and expand eligibility guidelines for emergency bill assistance.**

*Supporting
Documents:*

[Summary and Fiscal Note
Presentation](#)

Briefing and Discussion (10 minutes)

Presenters: Andrew Lee, General Manager and CEO, and Leslie Brinson, Seattle Public Utilities; Rob Santoff, Interim General Manager and CEO, and Marcus Jackson, Seattle City Light

6. [CB 121247](#) **An ordinance relating to the City Light Department's emergency bill assistance program; amending Section 21.49.042 of the Seattle Municipal Code to adjust program terms and conditions and expand eligibility guidelines for emergency bill assistance.**

*Supporting
Documents:*

[Summary and Fiscal Note
Presentation](#)

Briefing and Discussion (10 minutes)

Presenters: Andrew Lee, General Manager and CEO, and Leslie Brinson, Seattle Public Utilities; Rob Santoff, Interim General Manager and CEO, and Marcus Jackson, Seattle City Light

E. Adjournment



Legislation Text

File #: Appt 03542, **Version:** 1

Appointment of Zahoor Ahmed as member, Washington State Convention Center Public Facilities District Board, for a term to July 30, 2030.

The Appointment packet is provided as an attachment.

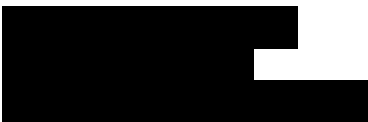


City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: <i>Zahoor Ahmed</i>		
Board/Commission Name: <i>Washington State Convention Center Public Facilities District</i>		Position Title: <i>Member</i>
☒ Appointment OR ☐ Reappointment		City Council Confirmation required? ☒ Yes ☐ No
Appointing Authority: ☐ City Council ☒ Mayor ☐ Other: <i>Fill in appointing authority</i>		Term of Position: * <i>7/31/2026</i> to <i>7/30/2030</i> ☐ <i>Serving remaining term of a vacant position</i>
Residential Neighborhood: <i>Shoreline</i>	Zip Code: <i>98177</i>	Contact Phone No.: <i>[REDACTED]</i>
Background: <i>R.C. Hedreen Co – Chief Financial Officer and VP Hotel Operations – from August 2000</i> <i>Hyatt Regency San Francisco – Senior Controller</i> <i>Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport – Senior Controller</i> <i>Grand Hyatt San Francisco – Controller</i> <i>Park Hyatt San Francisco Controller</i> <i>Education: B.S. Hotel Administration – University of Nevada Las Vegas</i> <i>B.Commerce – University of Karachi, Pakistan</i>		
Authorizing Signature (original signature): <i>Katie B. Wilson</i> Date Signed (appointed): 6/4/26		Appointing Signatory: <i>Katie B. Wilson</i> Mayor of Seattle

*Term begin and end date is fixed and tied to the position and not the appointment date.

Biodata

NAME	Zahoor Ahmed
CURRENT TITLE	Chief Financial Officer and VP R.C. Hedreen Co 
PLACE OF BIRTH	Karachi - Pakistan
EDUCATION	Bachelors of Commerce; University of Karachi, Pakistan, 1979 BS Hotel and Restaurant Administration; University of Nevada, Las Vegas; 1984
PROJECTS AND ACCLOMPLISHMENTS	Largest hotel in Pacific Northwest – 1260 Rooms and over 100,000 sq. ft of meeting space, Hyatt Regency Seattle opened in December 2018. Significant involvement in construction financing, hotel programs, sales goals and tracking of advance bookings, pre-opening offices, construction contracts with General Contractor as well as Sub-contractors, post opening placing of permanent financing of \$435 million. Overseeing the management of Renaissance Seattle – all aspects, Finance, Human Resources, Sales and Marketing, and Engineering – tracking competition to stay ahead of the trends Asset Managing of Grand Hyatt and Hyatt @ Olive 8, tracking sales performance, providing guidance to the hotels to improve sales and future revenue opportunities Hedge Funds and Stock portfolio management Over \$1.2 billion in long term financing over the last three years.

**Credit lines and banking relationship
Internal Controls for all businesses in compliance with GAAP
and Uniform Systems of Accounts.**

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

**CFO – VP Hotel Operations – R.C. Hedreen Co; 2006 - present
Senior Controller/Controller – R.C. Hedreen Co and Grand Hyatt Seattle;
2001 - 2006
Senior Controller – Hyatt Regency San Francisco; 1995 - 2000
Regional Controller – Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport; 1990 - 1995
Controller – Grand Hyatt Seattle; 1990 - 1992
Controller – Park Hyatt San Francisco; 1988 - 1990
CMT – Asst Controller – Hyatt Regency San Francisco; 1984 – 1988**

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

**2007 – Present Board Member
Washington Hospitality Association
Past Board Chair**

**1988 – 2016 Board Member - Hospitality Finance and Technology
Professionals**

**2010 – Present – Board Member
Visit Seattle
Past Board Chair and Finance Chair**

**2013 – Present - Board Member
Downtown Seattle Association
Past Board Chair – Downtown Seattle Association**

Washington State Convention Center Public Facilities District

9 Members: Pursuant to RCW 36.100.020 and King County Ordinance 16883, 3 members subject to Seattle City Council confirmation, 4-year terms:

- 3 Appointed by the Governor
- 3 Appointed by the County Executive, confirmed by the County Council
- 3 Appointed by the Mayor, confirmed by the City Council
 - 1 mayoral appointment must represent organized labor, except that this requirement does not apply to the initial board

Roster: 2026 6.8.26

*D	**G	RD	Pos. No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Position	Appointed By
2	F	N/A	1.	Member	Deryl Brown-Archie	7/31/10	7/30/26	2	Law: Health, Insurance	County
6	M	N/A	2.	Chair	Frank K. Finneran	7/31/10	7/30/26	2	Hospitality	County
6	M	7	3.	Member	Stuart Rolfe	7/31/24	7/30/28	2	Hospitality	County
3	N/A	N/A	4.	Member	Rachel Smith	4/16/26	7/30/28	3	Business	Governor
6	M	N/A	5.	Member	Tom Norwalk	01/01/23	7/30/26	1	Hospitality	Governor
6	M	7	6.	Vice Chair	Craig Schafer	7/31/20	7/30/28	2	Hospitality	Governor
6	F	2	7.	Member	Katie Garrow	7/31/22	7/30/26	1	Organized Labor	Mayor
2	M	NA	8.	Member	Zahoor Ahmed	7/31/26	7/30/30	1	Hospitality	Mayor
1	F	7	9.	Member	Joy Shigaki	7/31/24	7/30/28	1	Business	Mayor

SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART

SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART					(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
	Male	Female	Transgender	NB/ O/ U	Asian	Black/ African American	Hispanic/ Latino	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Other	Caucasian/ Non-Hispanic	Pacific Islander	Middle Eastern	Multiracial
Governor	2	1								2			
County Executive	2	1				1				2			
Mayor	1	2			1					1			
Total					1	1	1			5			

Key:

- *D List the corresponding Diversity Chart number (1 through 9)
- **G List gender, M= Male, F= Female, T= Transgender, NB= Non-Binary O= Other U= Unknown
- RD Residential Council District number 1 through 7 or N/A



Legislation Text

File #: Inf 2919, **Version:** 1

Audit Recommendation Updates

City Auditor Recommendation Follow-up

2025 Annual Status Report

July 9, 2026

Seattle City Council - Governance & Utilities Committee

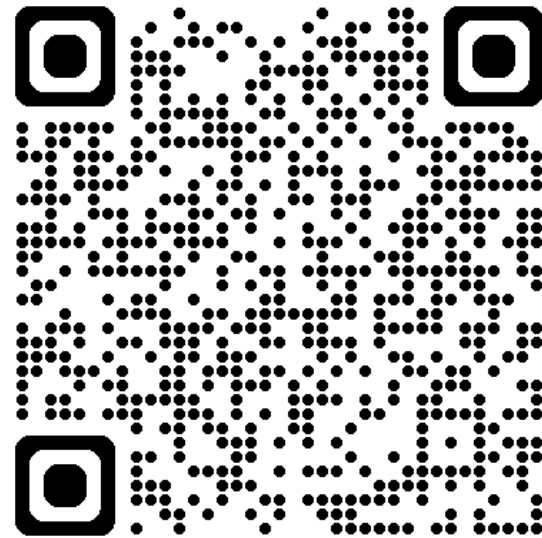


Seattle Office of City Auditor

Agenda

1. Implemented in 2025
2. Pending in 2026
& Progress Highlights
3. Public Dashboard

Check out our 2025 Annual
Recommendation Follow-up Report and
our interactive dashboard



Seattle Office of City Auditor

<https://www.seattle.gov/city-auditor/recommendations>

Overall Progress

72% Overall Implementation Rate

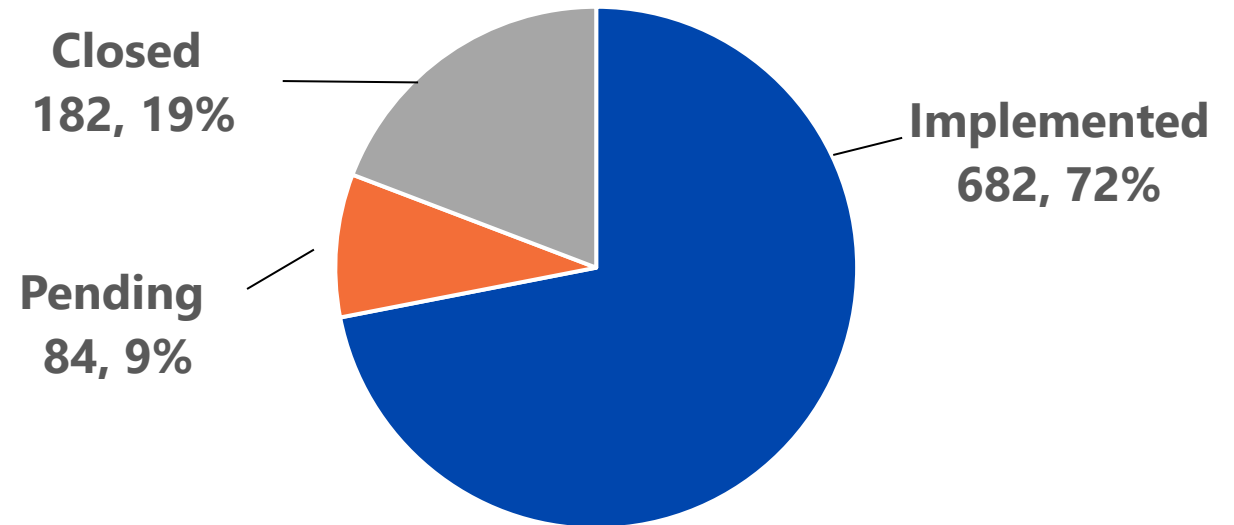
**948 Total Recommendations
(2007 – 2025)**

91 Reports



Seattle Office of City Auditor

Status of All 948 Recommendations Since 2007



Progress Made in 2025

IMPLEMENTED:

The recommendation, or intent, has been met.

PENDING:

We will continue to follow up on these recommendations.

CLOSED:

Either the recommendation is no longer relevant, or implementation is not feasible or will not occur.

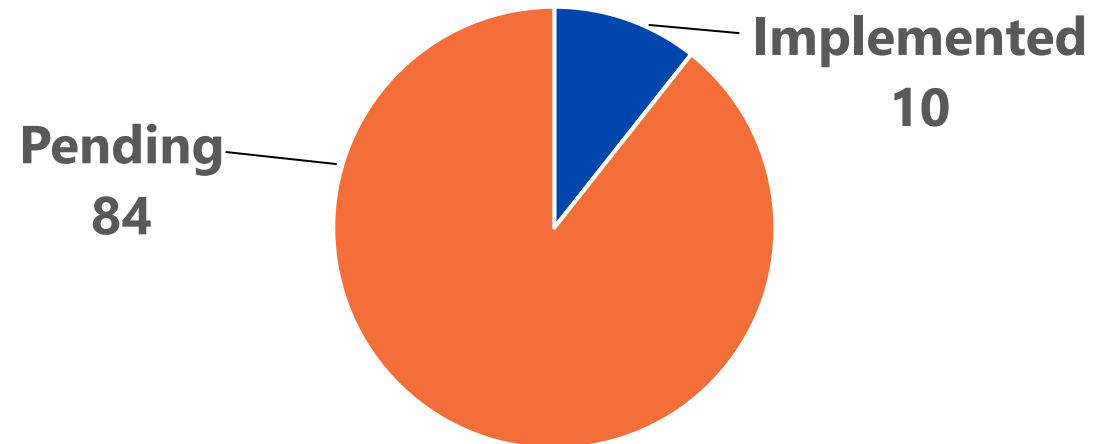


Seattle Office of City Auditor

We tracked the progress of 94 recommendations across 20 audit reports involving 14 departments in 2025.

10 were implemented.

**Recommendation Status as of
December 31, 2025**



Recommendations Implemented in 2025 (1 of 3)

Rental Registration and Inspection Ordinance (RRIO) Program Audit:

5 Implemented
SDCI (4)
City Council (1)

Audit Published: December 21, 2023

Recommendations Issued: 9

Total Implemented: 6 (5 in 2025), *Remaining: 3*

- **Short Term Rental licensing and Rental Registration and Inspection Ordinance (RRIO) registration information is now accessible across departments via Accela.**
- **City Council held public comment sessions and adopted regulatory changes to Neighborhood Residential zones through [Ordinance 127376](#). City Council also adopted new RRIO program fees in the 2026 budget.**

Recommendations Implemented in 2025 (2 of 3)

SPU Residential Solid Waste Billing Controls Audit:

2 Implemented

Audit Published: March 30, 2022

Recommendations Issued: 12

Total Implemented: 8 (2 in 2025), *Remaining: 4*

- **Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) reported alignment of job aids for internal Billing & Compliance teams.**
- **SPU identified and documented key controls, and the recommended solid waste billing risk assessment is underway.**

Recommendations Implemented in 2025 (3 of 3)

**2024 Annual
Surveillance
Technology Usage
Review:
2 Implemented**

Audit Published: September 30, 2025

Recommendations Issued: 8

Total Implemented: 2 (2 in 2025), *Remaining: 6*

- **SDOT's current CCTV Traffic Camera Surveillance Impact Report (SIR) is posted to the City's public website and SDOT has a process for future updates to be posted.**

**Workforce Equity in
Promotions Audit:
1 Implemented**

Audit Published: September 19, 2023

Recommendations Issued: 4

Total Implemented: 3 (1 in 2025), *Remaining: 1*

- **Seattle Department of Human Resources created internal workforce data dashboards with key workforce metrics.**

Progress on Pending Recommendations:

Updates on a selection of the remaining recommendations



Seattle Office of City Auditor

City Should Reassess Approach to Park Restroom Cleanliness and Availability



SPR is piloting new restroom cleaning standards for dry, wet, and deep cleans



SPR started to implement a routine monitoring program with crew chiefs and managers to complete monthly inspections across all park maintenance districts



SPR filled vacant positions and hired more seasonal staff to assist with cleaning restrooms and related park maintenance

**Audit Published:
February 4, 2025**

**Recommendations
Issued: 6**

**Previously
Implemented: 0**

City's Construction Permitting Needs More Customer Focus and Consistency



SDCI launched a public Construction Permit Performance Page with performance goals and current timelines



The Permitting and Customer Trust (PACT) Team initiative was created and work to collaborate across departments is underway



SDCI began integrating feedback software and establishing customer satisfaction scores

**Audit Published:
October 18, 2023**

**Recommendations
Issued: 11**

**Previously
Implemented: 0**

Four Recommendations to Better Understand and Address Current Gun Violence Patterns in Seattle – Update on Progress



Mayor Wilson's Office has begun development of a comprehensive gun violence reduction strategy.

Audit Published: March 25, 2025

Recommendations Issued: 4

Previously Implemented: 0

Addressing Places in Seattle Where Overdoses and Crime are Concentrated: An Evidence-Based Approach – Update on Progress



Mayor Wilson's Office reported they will collaborate with public health, public safety, and community partners to establish agreed upon metrics for success for each location and reporting expectations.

Audit Published: July 9, 2024

Recommendations Issued: 8

Previously Implemented: 2

The City Can Do More to Tackle Organized Retail Crime in Seattle



Mayor Wilson's Office reported that the Seattle Police Department relaunched its Organized Retail Theft program, clarifying and strengthening processes, and rebuilding relationships with businesses.

Audit Published: July 21, 2023

Recommendations Issued: 10

Previously Implemented: 4

Public Safety Audit Themes

- During this reporting period, no (zero) recommendations were fully implemented for our three open public safety audits (16 recommendations pending).
- The Mayor's Office is willing to present to Council jointly with our office on their progress on our public safety audit recommendations.
- There has been significant turnover in public safety leadership.
- A common theme from our audits – evidence-based coordination systems are needed (e.g., gun violence audit).

Changes in Seattle's Public Safety Leadership 2013 to 2026



7 Mayors
(including
2 interim)



8 Police
Chiefs
(including
5 interim)



14 South Precinct Captains (including 1 interim)

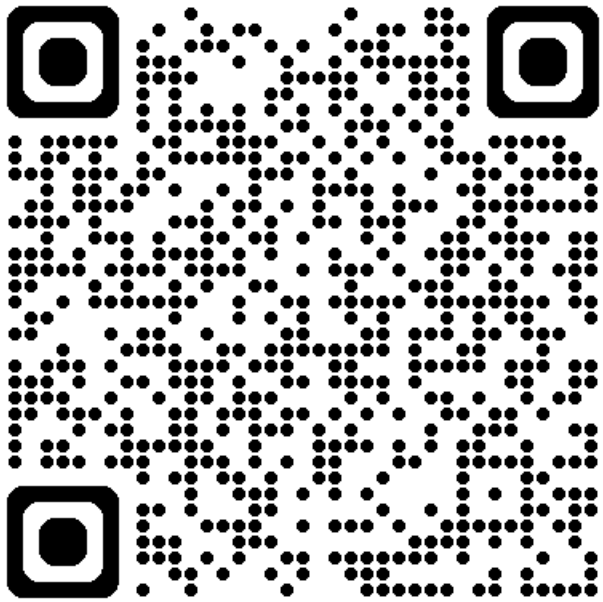
Recurring Recommendation Theme:

Evidence-based strategies for communication and problem-solving to address crime



Photo: [Violence Reduction Councils](#), Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Bloomberg American Health Initiative

Public Dashboard - More Information



<https://www.seattle.gov/city-auditor/recommendations>

THANK YOU



**Seattle Office of
City Auditor**



Legislation Text

File #: CB 121222, **Version:** 1

Screen Reader Users: Make sure settings include reading strikethrough and underline font attributes.

The City of Seattle

Ordinance

Council Bill

An ordinance relating to the Utility Discount Program; amending the income threshold for the utility discount program for water, wastewater, drainage, solid waste, and electric utility services; and amending Sections 21.49.040 and 21.76.030 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

Recitals:

The Utility Discount Program (UDP) is one of The City of Seattle's (City's) largest and most popular affordability programs.

The program has helped people in need of economic assistance since 1975.

Through the UDP, eligible households can receive a 60 percent discount on their Seattle City Light bills and a 50 percent discount on their Seattle Public Utilities bills.

The UDP has been identified as a key piece of the City's Anti-Displacement Action Plan, the City's strategy for preventing and reducing displacement as the city grows.

Washington's Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA), signed into law in 2019, requires electric utilities to demonstrate progress toward making energy assistance funds available to low-income households, defined as household incomes that do not exceed 80 percent of the area median income.

The City's UDP is currently only available to people with incomes that do not exceed 70 percent of

the state median income.

Using Seattle's area median income, which is much higher than Washington's state median income, would better align with CETA's definition of low income and with CETA's intent to make discounts more available for energy assistance.

The UDP currently uses the same income eligibility threshold for both Seattle City Light and Seattle Public Utilities, and the City wishes to maintain consistent eligibility thresholds going forward. The Council envisions this eligibility threshold adjustment as the first step of a three-step process to expand UDP eligibility to households with incomes up to 80 percent of area median income. Therefore,

Be it ordained by The City of Seattle as follows:

Section 1. Section 21.49.040 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance 125171, is amended as follows:

21.49.040 Residential rate assistance

A. Utility discount program established

1. The City has established a utility discount program to assist qualified low-income residential utility customers with the costs of utility services provided by the City, including electric utility services.
2. The utility discount program is available to qualified low-income residential customers in accordance with this Chapter 21.49.
3. The utility discount program is available for separately metered residential service provided to customers who show satisfactory proof that they have a City Light residential account and reside in the dwelling unit where the account is billed and that they:
 - a. Receive Supplemental Security Income pursuant to 42 USC Sections 1381-1383; or
 - b. Reside in a household in which the annual income of all household members together does not exceed ((70)) 60 percent of the ((Washington State)) area median income for the number of individuals in the household as computed annually by the ((state or the City)) United States Department of Housing and Urban Development in the Multifamily Tax Subsidy Projects Income Limits for the Seattle-Bellevue, WA Metro Fair Market Rent

Area.

* * *

Section 2. Section 21.76.030 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance 125050, is amended as follows:

21.76.030 Utility discount program qualification

A. Water, wastewater, drainage, and solid waste rate discounts are available for residential utility services provided by the City upon satisfactory proof that a member of the household is billed directly for utility services provided by the Department and receives a bill from Seattle Public Utilities or a third party biller, or the household pays for utility services provided by the Department indirectly through its rent and is either billed by City Light for its electric utilities or the building owner of the household's residence has entered an agreement under Section 21.76.050, and:

1. Receives Supplemental Security Income pursuant to 42 USC Sections 1381 through 1383; or
2. Has annual income that when combined with the annual income of all household members does not exceed ((70)) 60 percent of the ((Washington State)) area median income for the number of individuals in the household as computed annually by the ((State or the City)) United States Department of Housing and Urban Development in the Multifamily Tax Subsidy Projects Income Limits for the Seattle-Bellevue, WA Metro Fair Market Rent Area.

* * *

Section 3. The City Council intends to consider legislation in 2027 to extend Utility Discount Program benefits to households with incomes up to 70 percent of area median income by April 1, 2028, and to households with incomes up to 80 percent of area median income by April 1, 2029. The City Council desires to collaborate with the Mayor and Executive departments to determine whether to tier Utility Discount Program benefits for households at income levels above 60 percent.

Section 4. Sections 1 and 2 of this ordinance shall take effect on April 1, 2027.

This ordinance shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Sections 1.04.020 and 1.04.070.

Passed by the City Council and signed in open session in authentication of its passage on .

President of the City Council
on .

Katie B. Wilson, Mayor

Attested on .

Scheereen Dedman, City Clerk

Seal

Summary and Fiscal Note

1. Legislation Summary

Department: Legislative

Title: An ordinance relating to the Utility Discount Program; amending the income threshold for the utility discount program for water, wastewater, drainage, solid waste, and electric utility services; and amending Sections 21.49.040 and 21.76.030 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

Background: Through the Utility Discount Program (UDP), eligible households can receive a 60 percent discount on their Seattle City Light (SCL) bills and a 50 percent discount on their Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) bills. The City's UDP is currently only available to people with incomes that do not exceed 70 percent of the state median income.

As of December 31, 2025, roughly 39,000 customers were enrolled in UDP, about 36 percent of eligible customers. In 2025, SCL and SPU provided \$50.1 million in assistance to customers through ongoing UDP bill discounts. SCL and SPU partner with, and fund, the Human Services Department (HSD) to administer UDP.

This legislation would change the unit of measure of household income for the UDP from state median income to Seattle's area median income, which is much higher than Washington's state median income. Specifically, this legislation would change the income threshold for the UDP to 60 percent of the area median income for the number of individuals in the household as computed annually by the United States Department

of Housing and Urban Development in the Multifamily Tax Subsidy Projects Income
Limits for the Seattle-Bellevue, WA Metro Fair Market Rent Area.

Washington's Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA), signed into law in 2019, requires electric utilities to demonstrate progress toward making energy assistance funds available to low-income households, defined as household incomes that do not exceed 80 percent of the area median income. The eligibility change in this legislation would better align with CETA's definition of low income and with CETA's intent to make discounts more available for energy assistance. The UDP currently uses the same income eligibility threshold for both SCL and SPU, and this legislation would change income eligibility threshold for both to maintain consistency going forward.

This legislation anticipates future modification to eligibility for the UDP. The eligibility threshold adjustment in this legislation would be the first step of a three-step process to expand UDP eligibility to households with incomes up to 80 percent of area median income.

Summary Attachments: none

2. Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project?

☐ Yes

☒ No

a. CIP Project Name:

b. Master Project ID:

c. Project Location:

d. Start Date:

e. End Date:

f. Total Project Cost Through 2030:

3. Summary of Financial Implications

Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City?

☒ Yes

☐ No

3d. Other Financial Impacts

a. Does this legislation create any other financial impacts for The City of Seattle, such as direct or indirect costs, one-time or ongoing, that aren't mentioned above? If yes, please explain these impacts. This legislation would result in "contra revenue" for the utilities. Contra revenue is revenue not collected, in this context the bill discounts offered via UDP. The contra revenue resulting from the passage of this legislation could be balanced with commensurate rate increases for SCL rates and the SPU water rates legislation expected for Council consideration and action in summer 2026. The Executive's estimate(s) of financial impacts for changing the income threshold for UDP from 70% of SMI to 60% AMI beginning in April 2027 would be \$5 million for SCL and \$13.9 million for SPU.

b. If the legislation has costs that can be covered within the current budget, explain how. Does the department have extra resources in its budget to handle these costs? Or does the department need to shift resources away from other work to handle these costs? N/A

c. What financial costs or other impacts might happen if this legislation is not implemented? None known

d. How might this legislation affect other City departments besides the one that proposed it? This legislation would cause SCL and SPU to change their communication about UDP and billing systems accordingly and change how HSD administers the UDP program.

4. Other Impacts

a. Does this legislation require a public hearing?

☒ Yes

☒ No

b. Does this legislation require a notice to be published in The Daily Journal of Commerce and/or The Seattle Times?

☐ Yes

☒ No

c. Does this legislation affect a piece of property? No.

d. Race and Social Justice Initiative impacts:

1. How does this legislation affect vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you come to this conclusion?

The legislation would increase the number of utility customers eligible based on household income for the UDP.

Please consider both impacts within City government (like employees and internal programs) and in the broader community.

2. Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses used to develop or assess this legislation. none

3. What is the Language Access Plan for communicating with the public about this legislation? none

e. Climate change impacts:

1. Emissions: Will this legislation significantly increase or decrease carbon emissions? Attach any studies or materials that inform your answer. N/A

2. Resiliency: Will this legislation make Seattle more or less able to adapt to climate change? If it reduces resiliency, explain what can be done to lessen the impact. N/A

f. If this legislation creates a new program or expands an existing one, what are the long-term, measurable goals? How will this legislation help achieve those goals? What methods will be used to track progress? N/A

g. Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP that involves shared funding with a non-City partner or organization? No.



Utility Discount Program (UDP) Phased Eligibility Increase Ordinance

BRIAN GOODNIGHT AND ERIC MCCONAGHY, ANALYSTS

GOVERNANCE AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

JUNE 11, 2026

Council Bill 121222

Sponsor: CM Strauss

April 1, 2027: Increase threshold for UDP eligibility

70% State Median Income (SMI) to 60% Area Median Income (AMI)

2027: Legislation to extend threshold for UDP eligibility in phases

- April 1, 2028 to 70% of AMI
- April 1, 2029 to 80% of AMI

Questions?



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL
CENTRAL STAFF

Utility Discount Program (UDP) Phased Eligibility Increase Ordinance

BRIAN GOODNIGHT AND ERIC MCCONAGHY, ANALYSTS

GOVERNANCE AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

JULY 9, 2026

Background

- UDP Eligibility: household incomes must be equal to or less than 70% of the State Median Income (SMI)
- UDP provides eligible households:
 - 60% discount on Seattle City Light (SCL) bills
 - 50% discount on Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) bills
- For enrolled customers that do not directly receive an SPU bill, they receive a credit on their SCL bills
- As of December 2025, about 39,000 customers enrolled in UDP

Background (cont'd)

- In Fall 2025, CM Strauss sponsored Statement of Legislative Intent (SLI) SPU-012S-A
- SLI requested departments to evaluate the rate impacts of expanding UDP eligibility
- Departments provided a written SLI response in May, and presented to the Committee on June 11

Council Bill 121222 Summary

1. Modifies UDP eligibility threshold from 70% SMI to 60% Area Median Income (AMI)
2. States Council's intent to consider legislation in 2027 to extend UDP benefits to additional households:
 - 70% AMI in 2028
 - 80% AMI in 2029
3. Effective April 1, 2027

Amendment 1

1. Changes effective date to January 1, 2027
2. Revises dates for future eligibility increases in 2028 and 2029 from April to January
3. Adds a new section requesting the departments to publish an annual report on UDP participation rates and department efforts to increase program participation
 - Reports should be published by April 1 each year, beginning in 2027 and ending in 2031

Questions?

Screen Reader Users: Make sure settings include reading strikethrough and underline font attributes.

**Amendment 1 Version 1 to CB 121222 – Utility Discount Program Phased
Eligibility Increase**

Sponsor: Councilmember Strauss

Modifying effective dates and requesting annual reporting

Effect: This amendment would modify the effective date for the Utility Discount Program (UDP) eligibility threshold change from April 1, 2027 to January 1, 2027. It would also move the intended dates for further UDP threshold changes from April to January in 2028 and 2029. Lastly, the amendment would add a new section requesting Executive departments to issue annual reports on UDP participation rates and efforts to increase participation.

1. Amend Section 3 of CB 121222 as follows:

Section 3. The City Council intends to consider legislation in 2027 to extend Utility Discount Program benefits to households with incomes up to 70 percent of area median income by ~~April 1, 2028~~ January 1, 2028, and to households with incomes up to 80 percent of area median income by ~~April 1, 2029~~ January 1, 2029. The City Council desires to collaborate with the Mayor and Executive departments to determine whether to tier Utility Discount Program benefits for households at income levels above 60 percent.

2. Amend Section 4 of CB 121222 as follows:

Section 4. Sections 1 and 2 of this ordinance shall take effect on ~~April 1, 2027~~ January 1, 2027.

3. Add a new Section 4 to CB 121222 as follows and renumber subsequent sections as appropriate:

Section 4. The City Council requests that Seattle Public Utilities, in coordination with Seattle City Light and the Human Services Department, publish an annual report on Utility Discount Program participation rates and departmental

Brian Goodnight/Eric McConaghy
Governance and Utilities Committee
July 9, 2026
D1

efforts during the previous calendar year to increase program participation. The
annual reports should be published by April 1 of each year, beginning in 2027 and
ending in 2031.



Legislation Text

File #: CB 121245, **Version:** 1

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The City of Seattle

Ordinance

Council Bill

An ordinance relating to rates and charges for water services of Seattle Public Utilities; revising water rates and charges; revising qualification requirements for the utility discount program; revising credits to low-income customers; and amending Sections 21.04.430, 21.04.440, 21.76.030, and 21.76.040 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

Recitals:

Seattle Public Utilities recently completed a rate study incorporating guidance of its 2025-2030 Strategic Business Plan, adopted by the Seattle City Council in Resolution 32136.

The water rates authorized by this ordinance are consistent with the general rate-making policies set forth in Resolution 30742, adopted March 28, 2005.

Ordinance 121761, passed on March 28, 2005, established a minimum balance for the Water Fund Revenue Stabilization Subfund of \$9,000,000 and permits funds in excess of this amount to be used to meet operating expenses, pay Capital Improvement Program expenditures, or to comply with financial policies.

The current balance of the Water Fund Revenue Stabilization Subfund exceeds the minimum balance.

Seattle Public Utilities plans to use a portion of the excess funds to be withdrawn to reduce the Water

Fund revenue requirement and thereby reduce otherwise necessary increases in water rates. Qualifications for participation in the Utility Discount Program needs to be revised and credits for qualified low-income customers should be revised when water rates change. Therefore,

Be it ordained by The City of Seattle as follows:

Section 1. Section 21.04.430 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance 126909, is amended as follows:

21.04.430 Rates inside Seattle

All water used inside Seattle for domestic and commercial purposes shall be supplied by meter only at the following rates and charges. Seasonal rates shall be prorated. For usage representing fractional parts of a month, the base service charge and all components of the commodity charge shall be prorated using a 30-day month. The additional cost of funding the Revenue Stabilization Subfund shall be specifically indicated in the billings. Seattle Public Utilities shall continue to incorporate arts funding into its capital projects constructed within the municipal boundaries of Seattle at the one percent level; however, the department shall not be permitted to fund any such program from the Water Fund on any capital project outside the city limits.

A. Residential. The rates for metered water supplied to single-family and duplex residences within Seattle in one month, or fractional part thereof, shall be based on a commodity charge and a base service charge, in accordance with the following schedules:

Schedule WIR. Schedule WIR is for all single-family and duplex residences within Seattle except those billed on Schedule WIRM.

Commodity Charge per 100 Cubic Feet

Summer (May 16-September 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Summer (May 16th-September 15th)
))First 500 cubic feet per residence ((~~\$5.92~~ ~~\$5.92~~ ~~\$5.95~~))\$5.98 \$6.32\$6.63\$6.92Next 1,300 cubic feet per residence ((
~~\$7.32~~ ~~\$7.32~~ ~~\$7.36~~))\$7.39 \$7.81\$8.19\$8.55All over 1,800 cubic feet per residence ((~~\$11.80~~ ~~\$11.80~~ ~~\$11.80~~))\$11.80
\$11.80\$11.80\$11.80

Winter (September 16-May 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Winter (September 16th-May 15th))All
usage ((~~\$5.76~~ ~~\$5.76~~ ~~\$5.79~~))\$5.82 \$6.15\$6.45\$6.73

Base Service Charge per Month

Meter Size ((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 3/4 inch and less ((\$19.60 \$19.60 \$20.45
))- \$21.35 \$22.50\$23.85\$25.30 1 inch ((\$20.20 \$20.20 \$21.10))- \$22.00 \$23.20\$24.60\$26.10 1-1/2 inch ((\$31.15 \$31.15
\$32.50))- \$33.95 \$35.75\$37.90\$40.20 2 inch ((\$34.50 \$34.50 \$36.00))- \$37.60 \$39.60\$42.00\$44.55 3 inch ((\$127.80
\$127.80 \$133.35))- \$139.20 \$146.70\$155.50\$164.95 4 inch and larger ((\$183.05 \$183.05 \$191.00))- \$199.00
\$210.00\$223.00\$236.00

Schedule WIRM. Schedule WIRM is for single-family and duplex residences within Seattle in which one or more persons require medical life support equipment that uses mechanical or artificial means to sustain, restore, or supplant a vital function, and which uses a disproportionate amount of water.

Commodity Charge per 100 Cubic Feet

Summer (May 16-September 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Summer (May 16th-September 15th))
))First 500 cubic feet per residence ((\$5.92 \$5.92 \$5.95))- \$5.98 \$6.32\$6.63\$6.92 All over 500 cubic feet per residence ((
\$7.32 \$7.32 \$7.36))- \$7.39 \$7.81\$8.19\$8.55

Winter (September 16-May 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Winter (September 16th-May 15th)))All
usage ((\$5.76 \$5.76 \$5.79))- \$5.82\$6.15\$6.45\$6.73

Base Service Charge per Month

Meter Size ((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 3/4 inch and less ((\$19.60 \$19.60 \$20.45
))- \$21.35 \$22.50\$23.85\$25.30 1 inch ((\$20.20 \$20.20 \$21.10))- \$22.00 \$23.20\$24.60\$26.10 1-1/2 inch ((\$31.15 \$31.15
\$32.50))- \$33.95 \$35.75\$37.90\$40.20 2 inch ((\$34.50 \$34.50 \$36.00))- \$37.60 \$39.60\$42.00\$44.55 3 inch ((\$127.80
\$127.80 \$133.35))- \$139.20 \$146.70\$155.50\$164.95 4 inch and larger ((\$183.05 \$183.05 \$191.00))- \$199.00
\$210.00\$223.00\$236.00

1. Master metered residential development: multiple parcels. The rates for residential developments with master meters of 1-1/2 inches or larger, which operate and maintain their own distribution systems on private property, and which use water primarily to serve single-family, detached residences on at least two separate legal parcels, shall be based on a commodity charge and a base service charge, in accordance with the following schedule:

Commodity Charge per 100 Cubic Feet

Summer (May 16-September 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Summer (May 16th-September 15th))

~~))First 500 cubic feet per residence ((\$5.92-\$5.92-\$5.95))-\$5.98 \$6.32\$6.63\$6.92~~Next 1,300 cubic feet per residence (~~(\$7.32-\$7.32-\$7.36))-\$7.39 \$7.81\$8.19\$8.55~~All over 1,800 cubic feet per residence (~~(\$11.80-\$11.80-\$11.80))-\$11.80 \$11.80\$11.80\$11.80~~

Winter (September 16-May 15)

~~Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026~~
~~Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Winter (September 16th-May 15th)))~~All
usage (~~(\$5.76-\$5.76-\$5.79))-\$5.82\$6.15\$6.45\$6.73~~

Base Service Charge per Month

Meter Size (~~(Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026~~
~~Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029~~ 1-1/2 inch (~~(\$31.15-\$31.15-\$32.50))-~~
~~\$33.95 \$35.75\$37.90\$40.20~~ 2 inch (~~(\$34.50-\$34.50-\$36.00))-\$37.60 \$39.60\$42.00\$44.55~~ 3 inch (~~(\$127.80-\$127.80~~
~~\$133.35))-\$139.20 \$146.70\$155.50\$164.95~~ 4 inch (~~(\$183.05-\$183.05-\$191.00))-\$199.00 \$210.00\$223.00\$236.00~~ 6 inch (~~(\$225.00-\$225.00-\$235.00))-\$245.00 \$259.00\$274.00\$291.00~~ 8 inch (~~(\$265.00-\$265.00-\$277.00))-\$289.00~~
~~\$304.00\$323.00\$342.00~~ 10 inch (~~(\$324.00-\$324.00-\$338.00))-\$353.00 \$372.00\$394.00\$418.00~~ 12 inch (~~(\$437.00-\$437.00~~
~~\$456.00))-\$477.00 \$502.00\$532.00\$565.00~~ 16 inch (~~(\$491.00-\$491.00-\$512.00))-\$535.00 \$564.00\$598.00\$634.00~~ 20 inch
(~~(\$614.00-\$614.00-\$614.00))-\$614.00 \$644.00\$682.00\$724.00~~ 24 inch (~~(\$771.00-\$771.00-\$771.00))-\$771.00~~
~~\$771.00\$775.00\$822.00~~

B. General service. The rates for metered water supplied to houseboats and premises other than single-family, duplex residences, and master-metered residential developments within Seattle in one month, or fractional part thereof, shall be based on a commodity charge and a base service charge in accordance with the following schedule:

Commodity Charge per 100 Cubic Feet

Summer (May 16-September 15)

~~Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026~~
~~Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Summer (May 16th-September 15th)))~~
~~))All usage (((\$7.27-\$7.50-\$7.60))-\$7.70 \$7.89\$8.13\$8.44~~

Winter (September 16-May 15)

~~Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026~~
~~Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Winter (September 16th-May 15th)))~~All
usage(~~(\$5.72-\$5.90-\$5.98))\$6.06 \$6.21\$6.40\$6.64~~

Base Service Charge per Month

Meter Size (~~(Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026~~
~~Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029~~ 3/4 inch and less (~~(\$19.55-\$21.90-\$23.50~~
~~))- \$25.20 \$25.75\$27.25\$28.80~~ 1 inch (~~(\$20.15-\$22.60-\$24.25))-\$26.00 \$26.55\$28.10\$29.70~~ 1-1/2 inch (~~(\$31.10-\$34.80~~
~~\$37.35))-\$40.05 \$40.95\$43.30\$45.80~~ 2 inch (~~(\$34.40-\$38.55-\$41.40))-\$44.35 \$45.35\$48.00\$50.70~~ 3 inch (~~(\$127.45~~
~~\$143.00-\$153.00))-\$164.00 \$168.00\$178.00\$188.00~~ 4 inch (~~(\$182.60-\$205.00-\$219.00))-\$235.00~~
~~\$241.00\$255.00\$269.00~~ 6 inch (~~(\$225.00-\$252.00-\$270.00))-\$290.00 \$296.00\$313.00\$331.00~~ 8 inch (~~(\$264.00-\$296.00~~
~~\$318.00))-\$341.00 \$348.00\$369.00\$389.00~~ 10 inch (~~(\$323.00-\$362.00-\$389.00))-\$417.00 \$426.00\$451.00\$476.00~~ 12 inch
(~~(\$436.00-\$489.00-\$525.00))-\$562.00 \$575.00\$608.00\$643.00~~ 16 inch (~~(\$490.00-\$549.00-\$589.00))-\$631.00~~

~~\$645.00~~~~\$683.00~~~~\$722.00~~ 20 inch ((~~\$614.00~~ ~~\$627.00~~ ~~\$672.00~~))-~~\$721.00~~ \$737.00\$780.00\$824.00 24 inch ((~~\$771.00~~ ~~\$771.00~~ ~~\$771.00~~))\$819.00 \$837.00\$885.00\$936.00

C. Fire service

1. Fire hydrants. The rates for fire hydrants, including test water and water used to extinguish fires, shall be deemed service charges and shall be for any one year, or fractional part thereof, as follows:

Hydrant Type ((~~Effective January 1, 2023~~ ~~Effective January 1, 2024~~ ~~Effective January 1, 2025~~)-~~Effective January 1, 2026~~ Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028 Effective January 1, 2029 Hydrants on 4 inch or smaller mains ((~~\$521.70~~ ~~\$528.17~~ ~~\$545.26~~))-\$556.68 \$590.76 \$616.60 \$643.74 Hydrants on 6 inch or larger mains ((~~\$692.60~~ ~~\$703.13~~ ~~\$725.88~~))\$741.09 \$950.95 \$992.54 \$1,036.23

2. Metered fire services. The rates for metered water services supplied for fire protection purposes exclusively, including a monthly allowance for test water and water used to extinguish fires, shall be deemed service charges and shall be for any one month, or fractional part thereof, as follows:

Service Charge per Month

Service Size Effective January 1, 2020 2 inch and less \$17.75 3 inch \$23.00 4 inch \$43.00 6 inch \$73.00 8 inch \$115.00 10 inch \$166.00 12 inch \$242.00

For each 100 cubic feet of water consumption in excess of the monthly allowance described below, the charge shall be an additional \$20.

Size of Service Monthly Allowance 2 inch and less 100 cubic feet 3 inch 500 cubic feet 4 inch 500 cubic feet 6 inch 500 cubic feet 8 inch 1,000 cubic feet 10 inch 1,000 cubic feet 12 inch 1,000 cubic feet

Section 2. Section 21.04.440 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance 126909, is amended as follows:

21.04.440 Rates outside Seattle

Except as otherwise provided in this Chapter 21.04, the rates and charges for water supplied to customers located outside Seattle shall be as specified in this Section 21.04.440. Seasonal rates shall be prorated. For usage representing fractional parts of a month, the base service charge and all components of the commodity charge shall be prorated using a 30-day month.

A. Residential. The rates for metered water supplied to single-family and duplex residences except for those located in the cities of Shoreline and Lake Forest Park and those served under the terms of a wholesale contract, in one month, or fractional part thereof, shall be based on a commodity charge and a base service charge, in accordance with the following schedules:

Schedule WOR. Schedule WOR is for all single-family and duplex residences except those billed on Schedule WORM.

Commodity Charge per 100 Cubic Feet

Summer (May 16-September 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Summer (May 16th-September 15th)
))First 500 cubic feet per residence ((~~\$6.75~~ ~~\$6.75~~ ~~\$6.78~~))-~~\$6.82~~ ~~\$7.20~~~~\$7.56~~~~\$7.89~~Next 1,300 cubic feet per residence ((
~~\$8.34~~ ~~\$8.34~~ ~~\$8.39~~))-~~\$8.42~~ ~~\$8.90~~~~\$9.34~~~~\$9.75~~All over 1,800 cubic feet per residence ((~~\$13.45~~ ~~\$13.45~~ ~~\$13.45~~))-~~\$13.45~~
~~\$13.45~~~~\$13.45~~~~\$13.45~~

Winter (September 16-May 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Winter (September 16th-May 15th)))All
usage ((~~\$6.57~~ ~~\$6.57~~ ~~\$6.60~~))-~~\$6.63~~ ~~\$7.01~~~~\$7.35~~~~\$7.67~~

Base Service Charge per Month

Meter Size ((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 3/4 inch and less ((~~\$22.35~~ ~~\$22.35~~ ~~\$23.30~~
~~))~~-\$24.35 ~~\$25.65~~~~\$27.20~~~~\$28.85~~1 inch ((~~\$23.05~~ ~~\$23.05~~ ~~\$24.05~~))-~~\$25.10~~ ~~\$26.45~~~~\$28.05~~~~\$29.75~~1-1/2 inch ((~~\$35.50~~ ~~\$35.50~~
~~\$37.05~~))-~~\$38.70~~ ~~\$40.75~~~~\$43.20~~~~\$45.85~~2 inch ((~~\$39.35~~ ~~\$39.35~~ ~~\$41.05~~))-~~\$42.85~~ ~~\$45.15~~~~\$47.90~~~~\$50.80~~3 inch ((~~\$145.70~~
~~\$145.70~~ ~~\$152.00~~))-~~\$158.70~~ ~~\$167.25~~~~\$177.25~~~~\$188.05~~4 inch and larger ((~~\$208.70~~ ~~\$208.70~~ ~~\$217.75~~))-~~\$227.00~~
~~\$239.00~~~~\$254.00~~~~\$269.00~~

Schedule WORM. Schedule WORM is for single-family and duplex residences in which one or more persons require medical life support equipment that uses mechanical or artificial means to sustain, restore, or supplant a vital function, and which uses a disproportionate amount of water.

Commodity Charge per 100 Cubic Feet

Summer (May 16-September 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Summer (May 16th-September 15th)
))First 500 cubic feet per residence ((~~\$6.75~~ ~~\$6.75~~ ~~\$6.78~~))-~~\$6.82~~ ~~\$7.20~~~~\$7.56~~~~\$7.89~~All over 500 cubic feet per residence ((
~~\$8.34~~ ~~\$8.34~~ ~~\$8.39~~))-~~\$8.42~~ ~~\$8.90~~~~\$9.34~~~~\$9.75~~

Winter (September 16-May 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Winter (September 16th-May 15th)))All
usage ((~~\$6.57~~ ~~\$6.57~~ ~~\$6.60~~))-~~\$6.63~~ ~~\$7.01~~~~\$7.35~~~~\$7.67~~

Base Service Charge per Month

Meter Size ((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026

~~Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025~~ ~~Effective January 1, 2026~~
~~Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028 Effective January 1, 2029~~ 3/4 inch and less ((~~\$22.35 \$22.35 \$23.30~~
~~))-\$24.35 \$25.65\$27.20\$28.85~~ 1 inch ((~~\$23.05 \$23.05 \$24.05~~)) \$25.10 \$26.45\$28.05\$29.75 1-1/2 inch ((~~\$35.50 \$35.50~~
~~\$37.05~~))-\$38.70 \$40.75\$43.20\$45.85 2 inch ((~~\$39.35 \$39.35 \$41.05~~))-\$42.85 \$45.15\$47.90\$50.80 3 inch ((~~\$145.70~~
~~\$145.70 \$152.00~~))-\$158.70 \$167.25\$177.25\$188.05 4 inch and larger ((~~\$208.70 \$208.70 \$217.75~~))-\$227.00
~~\$239.00\$254.00\$269.00~~

1. Master metered residential developments. The rates for residential developments with master meters of 1-1/2 inches or larger, which operate and maintain their own distribution systems on private property and which use water primarily to serve single-family, detached residences on at least two separate legal parcels, shall be based on a commodity charge and a base service charge, in accordance with the following schedule:

Commodity Charge per 100 Cubic Feet

Summer (May 16-September 15)

~~Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))~~ Effective January 1, 2026
~~Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028 Effective January 1, 2029~~ ((~~Summer (May 16th-September 15th)~~
~~))~~ First 500 cubic feet per residence ((~~\$6.75 \$6.75 \$6.78~~))-\$6.82 \$7.20\$7.56\$7.89 Next 1,300 cubic feet per residence ((
~~\$8.34 \$8.34 \$8.39~~))-\$8.42 \$8.90\$9.34\$9.75 All over 1,800 cubic feet per residence ((~~\$13.45 \$13.45 \$13.45~~))-\$13.45
\$13.45\$13.45\$13.45

Winter (September 16-May 15)

~~Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))~~ Effective January 1, 2026
~~Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028 Effective January 1, 2029~~ ((~~Winter (September 16th-May 15th)~~)) All
usage ((~~\$6.57 \$6.57 \$6.60~~))-\$6.63 \$7.01\$7.35\$7.67

Base Service Charge per Month

Meter Size ((~~Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025~~)) Effective January 1, 2026
~~Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028 Effective January 1, 2029~~ 1-1/2 inch ((~~\$35.50 \$35.50 \$37.05~~))-
~~\$38.70 \$40.75\$43.20\$45.85~~ 2 inch ((~~\$39.35 \$39.35 \$41.05~~))-\$42.85 \$45.15\$47.90\$50.80 3 inch ((~~\$145.70 \$145.70~~
~~\$152.00~~))-\$158.70 \$167.25\$177.25\$188.05 4 inch ((~~\$208.70 \$208.70 \$217.75~~))-\$227.00 \$239.00\$254.00\$269.00 6 inch ((
~~\$257.00 \$257.00 \$268.00~~))-\$279.00 \$295.00\$312.00\$332.00 8 inch ((~~\$302.00 \$302.00 \$316.00~~))-\$329.00
\$347.00\$368.00\$390.00 10 inch ((~~\$369.00 \$369.00 \$385.00~~))-\$402.00 \$424.00\$449.00\$477.00 12 inch ((~~\$498.00 \$498.00~~
~~\$520.00~~))-\$544.00 \$572.00\$606.00\$644.00 16 inch ((~~\$560.00 \$560.00 \$584.00~~))-\$610.00 \$643.00\$682.00\$723.00 20 inch
((~~\$700.00 \$700.00 \$700.00~~))-\$700.00 \$734.00\$777.00\$825.00 24 inch ((~~\$879.00 \$879.00 \$879.00~~))-\$879.00
\$879.00\$884.00\$937.00

B. General service. The rates for metered water supplied to premises other than single-family, duplex residences, and master-metered residential developments (except for those located in the cities of Shoreline and Lake Forest Park and those served under the terms of a wholesale contract) in one month, or fractional part thereof, shall be based on a commodity charge, and a base service charge in accordance with the following schedule:

Commodity Charge per 100 Cubic Feet

Summer (May 16-September 15)

~~Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))~~Effective January 1, 2026
~~Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Summer (May 16th-September 15th))~~
~~))All usage ((~~\$8.29 \$8.55 \$8.66~~))-~~\$8.78 \$8.99\$9.27\$9.62~~~~

~~Winter (September 16-May 15)~~

~~Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))~~Effective January 1, 2026
~~Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Winter (September 16th-May 15th)))~~ All
usage ((~~\$6.52 \$6.73 \$6.82~~))-~~\$6.91 \$7.08\$7.30\$7.57~~

Base Service Charge per Month

Meter Size ((~~Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025~~))-Effective January 1, 2026
~~Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029~~ 3/4 inch and less ((~~\$22.30 \$24.95 \$26.80~~
~~))-~~\$28.75 \$29.35\$31.05\$32.85~~ 1 inch ((~~\$22.95 \$25.75 \$27.65~~))-~~\$29.65 \$30.25\$32.05\$33.85~~ 1-1/2 inch ((~~\$35.45 \$39.65~~
~~\$42.60~~))-~~\$45.65 \$46.70\$49.35\$52.20~~ 2 inch ((~~\$39.20 \$43.95 \$47.20~~))-~~\$50.55 \$51.70\$54.70\$57.80~~ 3 inch ((~~\$145.30~~
~~\$163.00 \$174.40~~))-~~\$186.95 \$191.50\$202.90\$214.30~~ 4 inch ((~~\$208.15 \$233.70 \$249.65~~))-~~\$267.90~~
~~\$274.75\$290.70\$306.65~~ 6 inch ((~~\$257.00 \$287.00 \$308.00~~))-~~\$331.00 \$337.00\$357.00\$377.00~~ 8 inch ((~~\$301.00 \$337.00~~
~~\$363.00~~))-~~\$389.00 \$397.00\$421.00\$443.00~~ 10 inch ((~~\$368.00 \$413.00 \$443.00~~))-~~\$475.00 \$486.00\$514.00\$543.00~~ 12 inch
~~((~~\$497.00 \$557.00 \$599.00~~))-~~\$641.00 \$656.00\$693.00\$733.00~~ 16 inch ((~~\$559.00 \$626.00 \$671.00~~))-~~\$719.00~~
~~\$735.00\$779.00\$823.00~~ 20 inch ((~~\$700.00 \$715.00 \$766.00~~))-~~\$822.00 \$840.00\$889.00\$939.00~~ 24 inch ((~~\$879.00 \$879.00~~
~~\$879.00~~))-~~\$934.00 \$954.00\$1,009.00\$1,067.00~~~~~~

C. Fire service

1. Fire hydrants. Except as provided in subsection 21.04.440.D, the rates for fire hydrants, including test water and water used to extinguish fires, shall be deemed service charges and shall be for any one year, or fractional part thereof, as follows:

Hydrant Type ((~~Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025~~))-Effective January 1, 2026
~~Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029~~ Hydrants on 4 inch or smaller mains
~~((~~\$521.70 \$528.17 \$545.26~~))-~~\$556.68 \$590.76 \$616.60 \$643.74~~ Hydrants on 6 inch or larger mains ((~~\$694.51 \$703.13~~
~~\$725.88~~))-~~\$741.09 \$950.95 \$992.54 \$1,036.23~~~~

2. Metered fire services. The rates for metered water services supplied for fire protection purposes exclusively, including a monthly allowance for test water and water used to extinguish fires, shall be deemed service charges and shall be for any one month, or fractional part thereof, as follows:

Service Charge per Month

Service Size Effective January 1, 2020 2 inch and less \$20.00 3 inch \$26.00 4 inch \$49.00 6 inch \$83.00 8 inch \$131.00
10 inch \$189.00 12 inch \$276.00

For each 100 cubic feet of water consumption in excess of the monthly allowance described below, the charge shall be an additional \$22.80.

Service Size Monthly Allowance 2 inch and less 100 cubic feet 3 inch 500 cubic feet 4 inch 500 cubic feet 6 inch 500
cubic feet 8 inch 1,000 cubic feet 10 inch 1,000 cubic feet 12 inch 1,000 cubic feet

D. Rates inside the cities of Shoreline, Lake Forest Park, Burien, and Mercer Island. Rates and charges in this subsection 21.04.440.D apply to retail customers of Seattle Public Utilities located within the cities of Shoreline, Lake Forest Park, Burien, and Mercer Island who are not served under the terms of a wholesale contract. Seasonal rates shall be prorated. For usage representing fractional parts of a month, the base service charge and all components of the commodity charge shall be prorated using a 30-day month. Except as otherwise provided in this Chapter 21.04, the rates and charges for water supplied shall be as follows:

1. Shoreline and Lake Forest Park residential. Except for Shoreline and Lake Forest Park master metered residential developments, the rates for metered water supplied to single-family and duplex residences in one month, or fractional part thereof, shall be based on a commodity charge and a base service charge, in accordance with the following schedules:

Schedules WARSL and Schedule WARLF. Schedules WARSL and WARLF are for all single-family and duplex residences except those billed on Schedules WARMSL and WARMLF.

Commodity Charge per 100 Cubic Feet

Summer (May 16-September 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Summer (May 16th-September 15th))
))First 500 cubic feet per residence ((~~\$7.18~~ ~~\$7.18~~ ~~\$7.22~~))-~~\$7.25~~ ~~\$7.66~~~~\$8.04~~~~\$8.39~~Next 1,300 cubic feet per residence ((
~~\$8.88~~ ~~\$8.88~~ ~~\$8.93~~))-~~\$8.96~~ ~~\$9.47~~~~\$9.93~~~~\$10.37~~All over 1,800 cubic feet per residence ((~~\$14.31~~ ~~\$14.31~~ ~~\$14.31~~))-~~\$14.31~~
~~\$14.31~~~~\$14.31~~~~\$14.31~~

Winter (September 16-May 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Winter (September 16th-May 15th)))
All usage ((~~\$6.99~~ ~~\$6.99~~ ~~\$7.02~~))-~~\$7.06~~ ~~\$7.46~~~~\$7.82~~~~\$8.16~~

Base Service Charge per Month

Meter Size ((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 3/4 inch and less ((~~\$23.75~~ ~~\$23.75~~ ~~\$24.80~~
))-~~\$25.90~~ ~~\$27.30~~~~\$28.90~~~~\$30.70~~1 inch ((~~\$24.50~~ ~~\$24.50~~ ~~\$25.60~~))-~~\$26.70~~ ~~\$28.15~~~~\$29.85~~~~\$31.65~~1-1/2 inch ((~~\$37.80~~ ~~\$37.80~~
~~\$39.40~~))-~~\$41.15~~ ~~\$43.35~~~~\$45.95~~~~\$48.75~~2 inch ((~~\$41.85~~ ~~\$41.85~~ ~~\$43.65~~))-~~\$45.60~~ ~~\$48.05~~~~\$50.95~~~~\$54.05~~3 inch ((~~\$155.00~~
~~\$155.00~~ ~~\$161.70~~))-~~\$168.80~~ ~~\$177.90~~~~\$188.60~~~~\$200.05~~4 inch and larger ((~~\$222.00~~ ~~\$222.00~~ ~~\$231.65~~))-~~\$241.00~~
~~\$255.00~~~~\$270.00~~~~\$286.00~~

Schedules WARMSL and WARMLF. Schedules WARMSL and WARMLF are for single-family and duplex residences in which one or more persons require medical life support equipment that uses mechanical or artificial

means to sustain, restore, or supplant a vital function, and which uses a disproportionate amount of water.

Commodity Charge per 100 Cubic Feet

Summer (May 16-September 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Summer (May 16th-September 15th))
))First 500 cubic feet per residence ((~~\$7.18~~ ~~\$7.18~~ ~~\$7.22~~))-~~\$7.25~~ ~~\$7.66~~~~\$8.04~~~~\$8.39~~All over 500 cubic feet per residence ((
~~\$8.88~~ ~~\$8.88~~ ~~\$8.93~~))-~~\$8.96~~ ~~\$9.47~~~~\$9.93~~~~\$10.37~~

Winter (September 16-May 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Winter (September 16th-May 15th))) All
usage ((~~\$6.99~~ ~~\$6.99~~ ~~\$7.02~~))-~~\$7.06~~ ~~\$7.46~~~~\$7.82~~~~\$8.16~~

Base Service Charge per Month

Meter Size ((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 3/4 inch and less ((~~\$23.75~~ ~~\$23.75~~ ~~\$24.80~~
))-~~\$25.90~~ ~~\$27.30~~~~\$28.90~~~~\$30.70~~1 inch ((~~\$24.50~~ ~~\$24.50~~ ~~\$25.60~~))-~~\$26.70~~ ~~\$28.15~~~~\$29.85~~~~\$31.65~~1-1/2 inch ((~~\$37.80~~ ~~\$37.80~~
~~\$39.40~~))-~~\$41.15~~ ~~\$43.35~~~~\$45.95~~~~\$48.75~~2 inch ((~~\$41.85~~ ~~\$41.85~~ ~~\$43.65~~))-~~\$45.60~~ ~~\$48.05~~~~\$50.95~~~~\$54.05~~3 inch ((~~\$155.00~~
~~\$155.00~~ ~~\$161.70~~))-~~\$168.80~~ ~~\$177.90~~~~\$188.60~~~~\$200.05~~4 inch and larger ((~~\$222.00~~ ~~\$222.00~~ ~~\$231.65~~))-~~\$241.00~~
~~\$255.00~~~~\$270.00~~~~\$286.00~~

2. Shoreline and Lake Forest Park master metered residential developments

a. The rates for residential developments with master meters of 1-1/2 inches or larger, which operate and maintain their own distribution systems on private property, use water primarily to serve single-family, detached residences on at least two separate legal parcels, and do not pay public utility taxes under chapter 82.16 RCW directly to the State of Washington, shall be based on a commodity charge and a base service charge, in accordance with the following schedule:

Commodity Charge per 100 Cubic Feet

Summer (May 16-September 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Summer (May 16th-September 15th))
))First 500 cubic feet per residence ((~~\$7.18~~ ~~\$7.18~~ ~~\$7.22~~))-~~\$7.25~~ ~~\$7.66~~~~\$8.04~~~~\$8.39~~Next 1,300 cubic feet per residence ((
~~\$8.88~~ ~~\$8.88~~ ~~\$8.93~~))-~~\$8.96~~ ~~\$9.47~~~~\$9.93~~~~\$10.37~~All over 1,800 cubic feet per residence ((~~\$14.31~~ ~~\$14.31~~ ~~\$14.31~~))-~~\$14.31~~
~~\$14.31~~~~\$14.31~~~~\$14.31~~

Winter (September 16-May 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Winter (September 16th-May 15th))) All
usage ((~~\$6.99~~ ~~\$6.99~~ ~~\$7.02~~))-~~\$7.06~~ ~~\$7.46~~~~\$7.82~~~~\$8.16~~

Base Service Charge per Month

Meter Size ((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 1-1/2 inch ((~~\$37.80 \$37.80 \$39.40~~))-
\$41.15 \$43.35\$45.95\$48.752 inch ((~~\$41.85 \$41.85 \$43.65~~))-45.60 \$48.05\$50.95\$54.053 inch ((~~\$155.00 \$155.00~~
~~\$161.70~~))-168.80 \$177.90\$188.60\$200.054 inch ((~~\$222.00 \$222.00 \$231.65~~))-241.00 \$255.00\$270.00\$286.006 inch ((
~~\$273.00 \$273.00 \$285.00~~))-297.00 \$314.00\$332.00\$353.008 inch ((~~\$321.00 \$321.00 \$336.00~~))-350.00
~~\$369.00\$392.00\$415.00~~10 inch ((~~\$393.00 \$393.00 \$410.00~~))-428.00 \$451.00\$478.00\$507.0012 inch ((~~\$530.00 \$530.00~~
~~\$553.00~~))-578.00 \$609.00\$645.00\$685.0016 inch ((~~\$595.00 \$595.00 \$621.00~~))-649.00 \$684.00\$725.00\$769.0020 inch
((~~\$745.00 \$745.00 \$745.00~~))-745.00 \$781.00\$827.00\$878.0024 inch ((~~\$935.00 \$935.00 \$935.00~~))-935.00
\$935.00\$940.00\$997.00

b. The rates for residential developments with master meters of 1-1/2 inches or larger, which operate and maintain their own distribution systems on private property, use water primarily to serve single-family, detached residences on at least two separate legal parcels, and do pay public utility taxes under chapter 82.16 RCW directly to the State of Washington, shall be based on a commodity charge and a base service charge, in accordance with the following schedule:

Commodity Charge per 100 Cubic Feet

Summer (May 16-September 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Summer (May 16th-September 15th))
))First 500 cubic feet per residence ((~~\$6.72 \$6.72 \$6.75~~))-6.79 \$7.17\$7.53\$7.85Next 1,300 cubic feet per residence ((
~~\$8.31 \$8.31 \$8.35~~))-8.39 \$8.86\$9.30\$9.70All over 1,800 cubic feet per residence ((~~\$13.39 \$13.39 \$13.39~~))-13.39
\$13.39\$13.39\$13.39

Winter (September 16-May 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Winter (September 16th-May 15th)))All
usage ((~~\$6.54 \$6.54 \$6.57~~))-6.61 \$6.98\$7.32\$7.64

Base Service Charge per Month

Meter Size ((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 1-1/2 inch ((~~\$35.40 \$35.40 \$36.90~~))-
\$38.55 \$40.65\$43.00\$45.652 inch ((~~\$39.15 \$39.15 \$40.85~~))-42.70 \$44.95\$47.65\$50.553 inch ((~~\$145.05 \$145.05~~
~~\$151.35~~))-158.00 \$166.50\$176.50\$187.204 inch ((~~\$207.75 \$207.75 \$216.80~~))-225.85 \$238.35\$253.10\$267.856 inch ((
~~\$255.50 \$255.50 \$267.00~~))-278.00 \$278.00\$311.00\$330.008 inch ((~~\$300.00 \$300.00 \$314.00~~))-328.00
~~\$328.00\$367.00\$388.00~~10 inch ((~~\$368.00 \$368.00 \$384.00~~))-401.00 \$422.00\$447.00\$474.0012 inch ((~~\$496.00 \$496.00~~
~~\$518.00~~))-541.00 \$570.00\$604.00\$641.0016 inch ((~~\$557.00 \$557.00 \$581.00~~))-607.00 \$640.00\$679.00\$720.0020 inch
((~~\$697.00 \$697.00 \$697.00~~))-697.00 \$731.00\$774.00\$822.0024 inch ((~~\$875.00 \$875.00 \$875.00~~))-875.00
\$875.00\$880.00\$933.00

3. Shoreline and Lake Forest Park general service. The rates for metered water supplied to premises

other than single-family, duplex residences, and master-metered residential developments within the cities of Shoreline and Lake Forest Park in one month, or fractional part thereof, shall be based on a commodity charge, and a base service charge in accordance with the following schedule:

Commodity Charge per 100 Cubic Feet

Summer (May 16-September 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Summer (May 16th-September 15th))
))All usage ((\$8.82 \$9.10 \$9.22))-\$9.34 \$9.57\$9.86\$10.24

Winter (September 16-May 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Winter (September 16th-May 15th)))
usage ((\$6.94 \$7.16 \$7.25))\$7.35 \$7.53\$7.76\$8.05

Base Service Charge per Month

Meter Size ((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 3/4 inch and less ((\$23.70 \$26.55 \$28.50
))- \$30.55 \$31.25\$33.05\$34.951 inch ((\$24.45 \$27.40 \$29.40))- \$31.55 \$32.20\$34.10\$36.001-1/2 inch ((\$37.70 \$42.20
\$45.30))- \$48.55 \$49.65\$52.50\$55.552 inch ((\$41.70 \$46.75 \$50.20))- \$53.80 \$55.00\$58.20\$61.503 inch ((\$154.55
\$173.45 \$185.55))- \$198.90 \$203.75\$215.85\$228.004 inch ((\$221.45 \$248.60 \$265.60))- \$285.00
\$292.30\$309.25\$326.256 inch ((\$273.00 \$306.00 \$327.00))- \$352.00 \$359.00\$380.00\$401.008 inch ((\$320.00 \$359.00
\$386.00))- \$414.00 \$422.00\$448.00\$472.0010 inch ((\$392.00 \$439.00 \$472.00))- \$506.00 \$517.00\$547.00\$577.0012 inch
(((\$529.00 \$593.00 \$637.00))- \$682.00 \$697.00\$737.00\$780.0016 inch ((\$594.00 \$666.00 \$714.00))- \$765.00
\$782.00\$828.00\$876.0020 inch ((\$745.00 \$760.00 \$815.00))- \$874.00 \$894.00\$946.00\$999.0024 inch ((\$935.00 \$935.00
\$935.00))\$993.00 \$1,015.00\$1,073.00\$1,135.00

4. Shoreline and Lake Forest Park metered fire services. The rates for metered water services supplied for fire protection purposes exclusively, including a monthly allowance for test water and water used to extinguish fires, shall be deemed service charges and shall be for any one month, or fractional part thereof, as follows:

Service Charge per Month

Service Size Effective January 1, 2020 2 inch and less \$22.00 3 inch \$28.00 4 inch \$52.00 6 inch \$89.00 8 inch \$139.00
10 inch \$201.00 12 inch \$293.00

For each 100 cubic feet of water consumption in excess of the monthly allowance described below, the charge shall be an additional \$24.30.

Service Size Monthly Allowance 2 inch and less 100 cubic feet 3 inch 500 cubic feet 4 inch 500 cubic feet 6 inch 500
cubic feet 8 inch 1,000 cubic feet 10 inch 1,000 cubic feet 12 inch 1,000 cubic feet

5. Burien residential. Except for Burien master metered residential developments, the rates for metered

water supplied to single-family and duplex residences in one month, or fractional part thereof, shall be based on a commodity charge and a base service charge, in accordance with the following schedules:

Schedule WBUR. Schedule WBUR is for all single-family and duplex residences except those billed on Schedule WBURL.

Commodity Charge per 100 Cubic Feet

Summer (May 16-September 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Summer (May 16th-September 15th))
))First 500 cubic feet per residence ((~~\$7.53~~ ~~\$7.34~~ ~~\$7.37~~))-~~\$7.41~~ ~~\$7.83~~~~\$8.22~~~~\$8.57~~Next 1,300 cubic feet per residence ((
~~\$9.26~~ ~~\$9.07~~ ~~\$9.12~~))-~~\$9.16~~ ~~\$9.68~~~~\$10.15~~~~\$10.59~~All over 1,800 cubic feet per residence ((~~\$14.62~~ ~~\$14.62~~ ~~\$14.62~~))-~~\$14.62~~
~~\$14.62~~~~\$14.62~~~~\$14.62~~

Winter (September 16-May 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Winter (September 16th-May 15th)))All
usage ((~~\$7.33~~ ~~\$7.14~~ ~~\$7.17~~))-~~\$7.21~~ ~~\$7.62~~~~\$7.99~~~~\$8.34~~

Base Service Charge per Month

Meter Size ((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 3/4 inch and less ((~~\$24.85~~ ~~\$24.30~~ ~~\$25.35~~
))-~~\$26.45~~ ~~\$27.90~~~~\$29.55~~~~\$31.35~~ 1 inch ((~~\$25.60~~ ~~\$25.05~~ ~~\$26.15~~))-~~\$27.25~~ ~~\$28.75~~~~\$30.50~~~~\$32.35~~ 1-1/2 inch ((~~\$39.15~~ ~~\$38.60~~
~~\$40.25~~))-~~\$42.05~~ ~~\$44.30~~~~\$46.95~~~~\$49.80~~ 2 inch ((~~\$43.30~~ ~~\$42.75~~ ~~\$44.60~~))-~~\$46.60~~ ~~\$49.05~~~~\$52.05~~~~\$55.20~~ 3 inch ((~~\$159.35~~
~~\$158.35~~ ~~\$165.25~~))-~~\$172.50~~ ~~\$181.80~~~~\$192.70~~~~\$204.40~~ 4 inch and larger ((~~\$227.80~~ ~~\$226.80~~ ~~\$236.65~~))-~~\$247.00~~
~~\$260.00~~~~\$276.00~~~~\$292.00~~

Schedule WBURL. Schedule WBURL is for single-family and duplex residences in which one or more persons require medical life support equipment that uses mechanical or artificial means to sustain, restore or supplant a vital function, and which uses a disproportionate amount of water.

Commodity Charge per 100 Cubic Feet

Summer (May 16-September 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Summer (May 16th-September 15th))
))First 500 cubic feet per residence((~~\$7.53~~ ~~\$7.34~~ ~~\$7.37~~))-~~\$7.41~~ ~~\$7.83~~~~\$8.22~~~~\$8.57~~Next 1,300 cubic feet per residence((
~~\$9.26~~ ~~\$9.07~~ ~~\$9.12~~))-~~\$9.16~~ ~~\$9.68~~~~\$10.15~~~~\$10.59~~

Winter (September 16-May 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Winter (September 16th-May 15th)))All
usage((~~\$7.33~~ ~~\$7.14~~ ~~\$7.17~~))-~~\$7.21~~ ~~\$7.62~~~~\$7.99~~~~\$8.34~~

Base Service Charge per Month

Meter Size ((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028 Effective January 1, 2029 3/4 inch and less ((~~\$24.85~~ ~~\$24.30~~ ~~\$25.35~~
)-\$26.45 ~~\$27.90~~ ~~\$29.55~~ ~~\$31.35~~ 1 inch ((~~\$25.60~~ ~~\$25.05~~ ~~\$26.15~~))-~~\$27.25~~ ~~\$28.75~~ ~~\$30.50~~ ~~\$32.35~~ 1-1/2 inch ((~~\$39.15~~ ~~\$38.60~~
~~\$40.25~~))-~~\$42.05~~ ~~\$44.30~~ ~~\$46.95~~ ~~\$49.80~~ 2 inch ((~~\$43.30~~ ~~\$42.75~~ ~~\$44.60~~))-~~\$46.60~~ ~~\$49.05~~ ~~\$52.05~~ ~~\$55.20~~ 3 inch ((~~\$159.35~~
~~\$158.35~~ ~~\$165.25~~))-~~\$172.50~~ ~~\$181.80~~ ~~\$192.70~~ ~~\$204.40~~ 4 inch and larger ((~~\$227.80~~ ~~\$226.80~~ ~~\$236.65~~))-~~\$247.00~~
~~\$260.00~~ ~~\$276.00~~ ~~\$292.00~~

6. Burien master metered residential developments. The rates for residential developments with master meters of 1-1/2 inches or larger, which operate and maintain their own distribution systems on private property and which use water primarily to serve single-family, detached residences on at least two separate legal parcels, shall be based on a commodity charge and a base service charge, in accordance with the following schedule:

Commodity Charge per 100 Cubic Feet

Summer (May 16-September 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028 Effective January 1, 2029 ((Summer (May 16th-September 15th)
))First 500 cubic feet per residence ((~~\$7.53~~ ~~\$7.34~~ ~~\$7.37~~))-~~\$7.41~~ ~~\$7.83~~ ~~\$8.22~~ ~~\$8.57~~ Next 1,300 cubic feet per residence ((
~~\$9.26~~ ~~\$9.07~~ ~~\$9.12~~))-~~\$9.16~~ ~~\$9.68~~ ~~\$10.15~~ ~~\$10.59~~ All over 1,800 cubic feet per residence ((~~\$14.62~~ ~~\$14.62~~ ~~\$14.62~~))-~~\$14.62~~
~~\$14.62~~ ~~\$14.62~~ ~~\$14.62~~

Winter (September 16-May 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028 Effective January 1, 2029 ((Winter (September 16th-May 15th))) All
usage ((~~\$7.33~~ ~~\$7.14~~ ~~\$7.17~~))-~~\$7.21~~ ~~\$7.62~~ ~~\$7.99~~ ~~\$8.34~~

Base Service Charge per Month

Meter Size ((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))-Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028 Effective January 1, 2029 1-1/2 inch ((~~\$39.15~~ ~~\$38.60~~ ~~\$40.25~~))-
~~\$42.05~~ ~~\$44.30~~ ~~\$46.95~~ ~~\$49.80~~ 2 inch ((~~\$43.30~~ ~~\$42.75~~ ~~\$44.60~~))-~~\$46.60~~ ~~\$49.05~~ ~~\$52.05~~ ~~\$55.20~~ 3 inch ((~~\$159.35~~ ~~\$158.35~~
~~\$165.25~~))-~~\$172.50~~ ~~\$181.80~~ ~~\$192.70~~ ~~\$204.40~~ 4 inch ((~~\$227.80~~ ~~\$226.80~~ ~~\$236.65~~))-~~\$247.00~~ ~~\$260.00~~ ~~\$276.00~~ ~~\$292.00~~ 6 inch ((
~~\$280.00~~ ~~\$279.00~~ ~~\$291.00~~))-~~\$304.00~~ ~~\$321.00~~ ~~\$340.00~~ ~~\$361.00~~ 8 inch ((~~\$329.00~~ ~~\$328.00~~ ~~\$343.00~~))-~~\$358.00~~
~~\$377.00~~ ~~\$400.00~~ ~~\$424.00~~ 10 inch ((~~\$402.00~~ ~~\$401.00~~ ~~\$419.00~~))-~~\$437.00~~ ~~\$461.00~~ ~~\$488.00~~ ~~\$518.00~~ 12 inch ((~~\$543.00~~ ~~\$542.00~~
~~\$565.00~~))-~~\$591.00~~ ~~\$622.00~~ ~~\$659.00~~ ~~\$700.00~~ 16 inch ((~~\$609.00~~ ~~\$608.00~~ ~~\$634.00~~))-~~\$663.00~~ ~~\$699.00~~ ~~\$741.00~~ ~~\$786.00~~ 20 inch
((~~\$762.00~~ ~~\$761.00~~ ~~\$761.00~~))-~~\$761.00~~ ~~\$798.00~~ ~~\$845.00~~ ~~\$897.00~~ 24 inch ((~~\$956.00~~ ~~\$955.00~~ ~~\$955.00~~))-~~\$955.00~~
~~\$955.00~~ ~~\$960.00~~ ~~\$1,019.00~~

7. Burien general service. The rates for metered water supplied to premises other than single-family, duplex residences, and master-metered residential developments within the city of Burien in one month, or fractional part thereof, shall be based on a commodity charge, and a base service charge in accordance with the following schedule:

Commodity Charge per 100 Cubic Feet

Summer (May 16-September 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Summer (May 16th-September 15th))
))All usage ((\$9.21 \$9.29 \$9.42))-\$9.54 \$9.78\$10.07\$10.46

Winter (September 16-May 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Winter (September 16th-May 15th)))All
usage ((\$7.29 \$7.31 \$7.44))\$7.51 \$7.70\$7.93\$8.23

Base Service Charge per Month

Meter Size ((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 3/4 inch and less ((\$24.85 \$27.15 \$29.10
))-\$31.25 \$31.90\$33.75\$35.701 inch ((\$25.55 \$28.00 \$30.05))-\$32.20 \$32.90\$34.80\$36.801-1/2 inch ((\$39.15 \$43.10
\$46.30))-\$49.65 \$50.75\$53.65\$56.752 inch ((\$43.25 \$47.75 \$51.30))-\$54.95 \$56.20\$59.50\$62.803 inch ((\$162.95
\$177.20 \$189.60))-\$203.20 \$208.15\$220.55\$232.954 inch ((\$231.25 \$254.00 \$271.35))-\$291.20
\$298.65\$316.00\$333.356 inch ((\$284.00 \$312.00 \$335.00))-\$359.00 \$367.00\$388.00\$410.008 inch ((\$332.00 \$367.00
\$394.00))-\$423.00 \$431.00\$457.00\$482.0010 inch ((\$405.00 \$449.00 \$482.00))-\$517.00 \$528.00\$559.00\$590.0012 inch
((\$545.00 \$606.00 \$651.00))-\$696.00 \$713.00\$753.00\$797.0016 inch ((\$612.00 \$680.00 \$730.00))-\$782.00
\$799.00\$846.00\$895.0020 inch ((\$766.00 \$777.00 \$833.00))-\$893.00 \$913.00\$967.00\$1,021.0024 inch ((\$960.00
\$955.00 \$955.00))-\$1,015.00 \$1,037.00\$1,097.00\$1,160.00

8. Burien fire hydrants. The rates for fire hydrants, including test water and water used to extinguish fires, shall be deemed service charges and shall be for any one year, or fractional part thereof, as follows:

Hydrant Type ((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))Effective January 1, 2026
Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 Hydrants on 4 inch or smaller mains
((\$567.06 \$574.09 \$592.68))-\$605.09 \$642.14 \$670.22 \$699.72 Hydrants on 6 inch or larger mains ((\$754.90 \$764.27
\$789.04))-\$805.53 \$1,033.64 \$1,078.85 \$1,126.34

9. Burien metered fire services. The rates for metered water services supplied for fire protection purposes exclusively, including a monthly allowance for test water and water used to extinguish fires, shall be deemed service charges and shall be for any one month, or fractional part thereof, as follows:

Service Charge per Month

Service Size Effective January 1, 2022 2 inch and less \$22.00 3 inch \$29.00 4 inch \$53.00 6 inch \$90.00 8 inch \$143.00
10 inch \$206.00 12 inch \$300.00

For each 100 cubic feet of water consumption in excess of the monthly allowance described below, the charge shall be an additional \$24.80.

Service Size Monthly Allowance 2 inch and less 100 cubic feet 3 inch 500 cubic feet 4 inch 500 cubic feet 6 inch 500
cubic feet 8 inch 1,000 cubic feet 10 inch 1,000 cubic feet 12 inch 1,000 cubic feet

10. Mercer Island general service. The rates for metered water supplied to premises other than single-family, duplex residences, and master-metered residential developments within the city of Mercer Island in one month, or fractional part thereof, shall be based on a commodity charge, and a base service charge in accordance with the following schedule:

Commodity Charge per 100 Cubic Feet

Summer (May 16-September 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))Effective January 1, 2026 Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Summer (May 16th-September 15th))All usage ((\$8.75 \$9.03 \$9.15))-\$9.27 \$9.50\$9.79\$10.16

Winter (September 16-May 15)

Usage((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))Effective January 1, 2026 Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 ((Winter (September 16th-May 15th))All usage ((\$6.89 \$7.10 \$7.20))\$7.30 \$7.48\$7.70\$7.99

Base Service Charge per Month

Meter Size ((Effective January 1, 2023 Effective January 1, 2024 Effective January 1, 2025))Effective January 1, 2026 Effective January 1, 2027 Effective January 1, 2028Effective January 1, 2029 8 inch ((\$318.00 \$356.00 \$383.00))- \$410.00 \$419.00\$444.00\$468.0010 inch ((\$389.00 \$436.00 \$468.00))- \$502.00 \$513.00\$543.00\$573.00

* * *

Section 3. Section 21.76.030 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance 125050, is amended as follows:

21.76.030 Utility discount program qualification

A. Water, wastewater, drainage, and solid waste rate discounts are available for residential utility services provided by the City upon satisfactory proof that a member of the household is billed directly for utility services provided by the Department and receives a bill from Seattle Public Utilities or a third party biller, or the household pays for utility services provided by the Department indirectly through its rent and is either billed by City Light for its electric utilities or the building owner of the household's residence has entered an agreement under Section 21.76.050, and:

1. Receives Supplemental Security Income pursuant to 42 USC Sections 1381 through 1383; or
2. Has annual income, that when combined with the annual income of all household members, does not exceed ((70)) 60 percent of the ((Washington State)) area median income for the number of individuals in the household as computed annually by the ((State or the City)) United States Department of Housing and Urban Development in the

Multifamily Tax Subsidy Projects Income Limits for the Seattle-Bellevue, WA Metro Fair Market Rent Area.

* * *

Section 4. Section 21.76.040 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance 127322, is amended as follows:

21.76.040 Rate discounts

A. Drainage, wastewater, and water. Certified customers will receive rate discounts (or credits) in the following amounts:

1. Wastewater. Certified customers billed directly for Seattle Public Utilities wastewater services will receive a rate discount equal to 0.5 times the total current wastewater volume charge.

At the time of a change to the wastewater volume charge described in Section 21.28.040, the Director of Seattle Public Utilities shall calculate new credits for certified customers who pay for wastewater services indirectly through rent. The rate credit for single-family and duplex customers shall be 0.5 times the wastewater volume charge multiplied by 430 cubic feet (4.3 CCF), which is typical single-family residential sewer billed consumption. The rate credit for multifamily dwelling customers shall be 0.5 times the wastewater volume charge multiplied by 3.0 CCF, which is typical multifamily sewer billed consumption.

2. Drainage. Certified customers residing inside Seattle shall receive the following rate credits for drainage services based on dwelling type:

Single-Family One-half of one-twelfth of the annual drainage rate for small residential parcels 5,000-7,999 square feet as described in subsection 21.33.030.D Duplex 50% of the single-family rate credit Multifamily 10.7% of the single-family rate credit

3. Water. Certified customers billed directly for Seattle Public Utilities water services shall receive a rate discount equal to 0.5 times the total current commodity and base service charges. Certified customers who pay for water services indirectly through their rent shall receive the following rate credits based on dwelling type and consistent with Section 21.76.050:

Effective date Single-family and duplex dwellings Multifamily dwellings ((~~January 1, 2023 \$24.33 per month \$13.25 per month~~ ~~January 1, 2024 \$24.33 per month \$13.73 per month~~ ~~January 1, 2025 \$24.83 per month \$13.96 per month~~ ~~January 1, 2026 \$25.36 per month \$14.19 per month~~ ~~January 1, 2027 \$26.76 per month \$14.54 per month~~ ~~January 1, 2028 \$28.20 per month \$15.01 per month~~ ~~January 1, 2029 \$29.63 per month \$15.59 per month~~)

* * *

Section 5. In order to lessen the increases in water rates necessary to meet the revenue requirements of the

Water Fund, the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of Seattle Public Utilities (GM/CEO) is authorized, while the rates authorized by this ordinance are in effect, to make one or more withdrawals of funds up to a cumulative maximum of \$19,800,000 from the Revenue Stabilization Subfund to Operating Cash. The GM/CEO may withdraw funds in order to meet operating expenses, pay Capital Improvement Program expenditures, or comply with the Water Fund financial policies adopted by the City Council, so long as the balance of the Revenue Stabilization Subfund never falls below \$17,100,000.

Section 6. Prior ordinances of the City setting rates and charges for water services of Seattle Public Utilities shall continue in effect with respect to obligations incurred for water services rendered before the effective date of this ordinance, unless and until such prior ordinances expire of their own terms or are superseded.

Section 7. Section 3 of this ordinance shall take effect on April 10, 2027.

This ordinance shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Sections 1.04.020 and 1.04.070.

Passed by the City Council and signed in open session in authentication of its passage on .

President of the City Council
on .

Katie B. Wilson, Mayor

Attested on .

Scheereen Dedman, City Clerk

Seal

Summary and Fiscal Note

1. Legislation Summary

Department: Seattle Public Utilities

Title: An ordinance relating to rates and charges for water services of Seattle Public Utilities; revising water rates and charges; revising qualification requirements for the utility discount program; revising credits to low-income customers; and amending Sections 21.04.430, 21.04.440, and 21.76.040 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

Background:

This ordinance would revise retail water rates for residential, general service, and public fire customers, adjust low-income assistance credits for water customers, expand eligibility requirements for SPU's low-income assistance program for all SPU utilities in April 2027, and allow a withdrawal from the Revenue Stabilization Account. It would adjust rates to meet policy targets and fund spending decisions. This legislation proposes three years of rates and assistance credit updates.

In September 2024, the City Council adopted Resolution 32136, which approved SPU's 2025-2030 Strategic Business Plan (SBP). As part of the SBP, SPU estimates the rate path for each line of business and follows up with legislation to adopt rates. This legislation formally adopts the Water Fund rates. The rates proposed in this legislation compared to those in the adopted SBP are depicted below.

Retail Rate Adjustment Summary

	2025	2026	2028	2028	2029	2030	AVG
SBP RATE PATH	2.0%	2.0%	6.3%	3.3%	6.5%	3.8%	4.0%
RATE STUDY PROPOSAL	2.0%	2.0%	4.3%	4.3%	4.3%	3.7%	3.4%

The rate study proposal is lower for 2027-29 and the 6-year average than the SBP-estimated rate path. In part, reduced debt burdens result in a better starting financial position. This proposal meets all financial policy targets and maintains the Water Rate Stabilization Fund at \$17.1 million, which is above the minimum required. This ordinance would also allow SPU Water to withdraw up to \$19 million from the Revenue Stabilization Account to use for capital projects, thereby reducing the debt burden, and indirectly, Water Fund rates.

This ordinance also expands eligibility for the Utility Discount Program (UDP) for all SPU rates, raising eligibility from 70 percent of State Median Income to 60 percent of Area Media Income, as computed by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. SPU customers enrolled in UDP receive a 50% discount on their SPU bill. This change will increase eligibility by 31,000 customers, 24,000 of which are served directly or indirectly by SPU. This change will increase the overall average SBP increases by 0.1% per year. Seattle City Light (SCL) also participates in the UDP and concurrent SCL rate legislation makes the same change in eligibility.

Summary Attachments:

Summary Exhibit A – 2027-2029 Water Rate Study

2. Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project?

☐ Yes

☒ No

3. Summary of Financial Implications

Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City?

☒ Yes

☐ No

a. Revenue Change to Other Funds

2026	2027 est.	2028 est.	2029 est.	2030 est.
	\$11,322,723	\$11,259,249	\$11,826,869	\$0

3b. Revenues/Reimbursements

This legislation adds, changes, or deletes revenues or reimbursements.

Anticipated Revenue/Reimbursement Resulting from This Legislation:

Fund Name and Number	Dept.	Revenue Source	2026 Revenue	2027 Estimated Revenue
43000 – Water Fund	SPU	Water Sales	\$0	\$11,322,723

TOTAL 2026 Revenue	TOTAL 2027 Estimated Revenue
\$0	\$11,322,723

Revenue/Reimbursement Notes:

3d. Other Financial Impacts

a. Does this legislation create any other financial impacts for The City of Seattle, such as direct or indirect costs, one-time or ongoing, that aren't mentioned above? If yes, please explain these impacts.

The Water Fund pays City taxes on all retail water sold. The rate proposal in this ordinance would increase the amount of City taxes paid by SPU by about \$1.8 million each year for the three years covered by the rate study.

b. If the legislation has costs that can be covered within the current budget, explain how. Does the department have extra resources in its budget to handle these costs? Or does the department need to shift resources away from other work to handle these costs?

N/A

c. What financial costs or other impacts might happen if this legislation is not implemented?

The Water Fund would not receive sufficient revenue to meet financial policy goals or would be forced to cut or delay operational and capital spending. In addition, in May 2026, Moody's affirmed the Water Fund bond rating of 'Aaa.' Not implementing this legislation could result in that upgrade being revoked. Revoking the Aaa rating, or other rating downgrades, would increase the cost of borrowing, thereby increasing rates paid by customers.

d. How might this legislation affect other City departments besides the one that proposed it?

Several City departments incur water costs. Water fees for these departments will change commensurately with the rates proposed in this legislation. The impacted departments include: Seattle Center, City Budget Office, Seattle City Light, Department of Neighborhoods, Seattle Department of Transportation, Department of Parks and Recreation, Seattle Police Department, Seattle Public Utilities, and Seattle Public Library.

In addition, the City's General Fund receives a bill for public fire service, which is sometimes called 'hydrant' service. This bill will increase from \$12,849,118 in 2026 to \$16,473,414 in 2027 and estimates of \$17,193,872 and \$17,950,651 in 2028 and 2029, respectively.

4. Other Impacts

a. Does this legislation require a public hearing?

☐ Yes

☒ No

b. Does this legislation require a notice to be published in The Daily Journal of Commerce and/or The Seattle Times?

☐ Yes

☒ No

c. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?

No.

d. Race and Social Justice Initiative impacts:

1. How does this legislation affect vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you come to this conclusion? Please consider both impacts within City government (like employees and internal programs) and in the broader community.

This legislation impacts all residential and general service water customers and will increase the cost of living for residents and increase operating expenses for businesses in the retail service area. Cost of living increases disproportionately affect low-income residents.

This legislation also adjusts low-income credits for residents that are not direct customers of SPU and pay utilities through rent. These customers will continue to receive a 50% credit.

To mitigate the increased costs for some customers, utility discount program income limits are increased in this legislation. It is expected that an additional 10,000 households will be eligible for discounted utility bills through this expansion.

2. Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses used to develop or assess this legislation.

3. What is the Language Access Plan for communicating with the public about this legislation?

There is no Language Access Plan for this legislation.

e. Climate change impacts:

1. Emissions: Will this legislation significantly increase or decrease carbon emissions? Attach any studies or materials that inform your answer.

No.

2. Resiliency: Will this legislation make Seattle more or less able to adapt to climate change? If it reduces resiliency, explain what can be done to lessen the impact.

No.

f. If this legislation creates a new program or expands an existing one, what are the long-term, measurable goals? How will this legislation help achieve those goals? What methods will be used to track progress?

N/A.

g. Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP that involves shared funding with a non-City partner or organization?

No.

EXHIBIT A



**Seattle Public Utilities
2027-2029 Water Rate Study**

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PREFACE – STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN COMPARISON

Seattle City Council, through Resolution 32136, passed in September 2024, adopted a six-year Strategic Business Plan (SBP) for Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) which guides utility investments, service levels, and rate paths through 2030. While not a formal rate package, the SBP does give guidance and create accountability for the rate setting process. **Table P-1** compares the overall retail water increases for 2027-2029 proposed as part of this legislation with those in the SBP.

Table P-1			
Comparison of Proposed and Adopted Retail Water Rates			
	2027	2028	2029
Adopted Strategic Business Plan Update	6.3%	3.3%	6.5%
Proposed Water Rate Study	4.3%	4.3%	4.3%

The cumulative rate increase over the three-year rate study period, 13.5%, is less than the cumulative increase over the same period in the SBP, 16.9%. For the rate study, increases have been flattened to ease the burden of increases for customers.

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The water system is financed through an enterprise fund of the City of Seattle that is wholly supported by rate and fee revenues related to water service. In any given year, these rates and fees must be sufficient to pay the total costs of the water system and meet financial targets. This total cost is known as the **water system revenue requirement**. Most of the water system's revenues are from direct service ("rates") revenues from wholesale and retail customers. Wholesale contracts determine the amount SPU charges for wholesale service in a given year. Thus, retail water rates and other revenues are the "balancing entries" that generate the difference between each year's total water system revenue requirement and wholesale revenues.

This study focuses on proposed retail water rates. **Chapter 1** provides an overview of proposed changes to the revenue requirement and their drivers, bill impacts, and projected financial performance. **Chapter 2** gives an overview of financial policy targets resulting from the development of the revenue requirement. **Chapter 3** provides additional detail on the various components of the proposed revenue requirements, including a discussion of demand and the low-income rate assistance program. **Chapter 4** discusses how the proposed revenue requirement is allocated between different customer classes. **Chapter 5** presents proposed rates by customer class, as well as an overview of the rate design, or rate structure, for each class. The **Appendices** present additional supporting data.

The proposed retail rates support increases to the retail rate revenue requirement of \$11.3 million in 2027, \$11.3 million in 2028, and \$11.8 million in 2029, for a combined \$34.4 million over the three-year period. **Table 1-1** presents the change in the retail revenue requirement and the monthly impact of proposed rate increases on typical residential customers and a sampling of general service customers. The proposed rates will affect customer bills to varying degrees depending on the volume of water used.

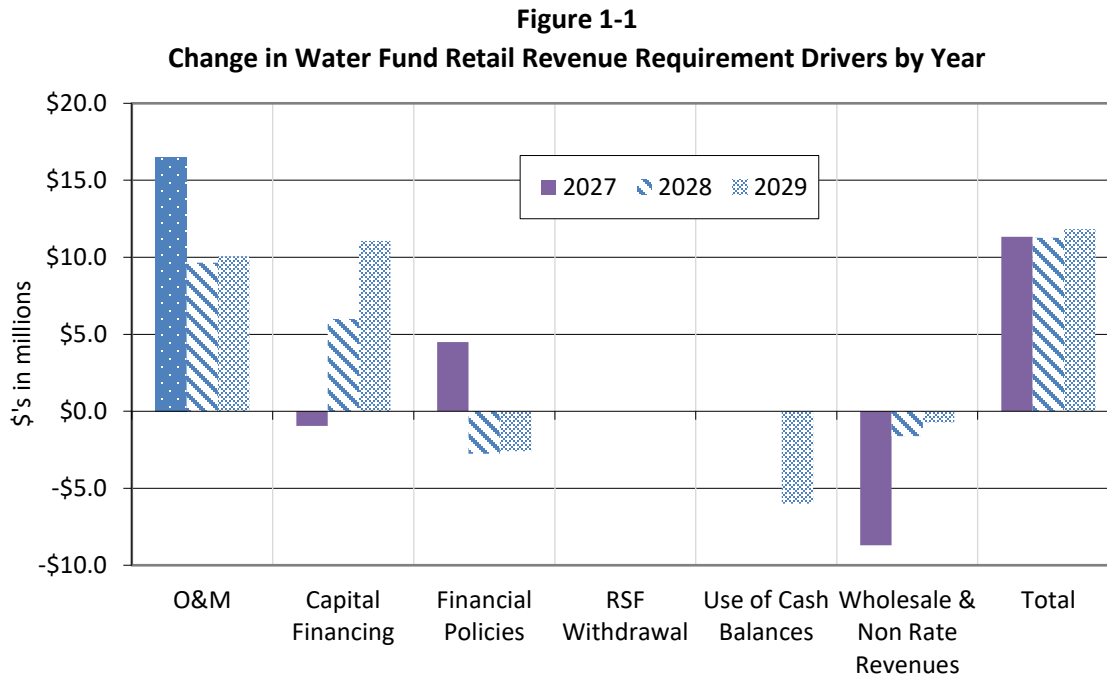
Table 1-1
Proposed Water System Revenue Requirement and Bill Impacts

2026*		2027		2028		2029	
		Proposed	Change from 2026	Proposed	Change from 2027	Proposed	Change from 2028
Retail Revenue Requirement	\$246,122,210	\$257,444,932	\$11,322,723	\$268,704,181	\$11,259,249	\$280,531,050	\$11,826,869
Typical Monthly Water Bills							
Residential	\$50.71	\$53.53	\$2.82	\$56.39	\$2.87	\$59.26	\$2.87
Convenience Store	\$125.10	\$128.10	\$3.00	\$132.75	\$4.65	\$138.30	\$5.55
Small Office Building	\$392	\$401	\$10	\$415	\$14	\$432	\$17
Apartment Bldg (90 units)	\$1,478	\$1,515	\$36	\$1,566	\$51	\$1,628	\$62
Medium Hotel	\$9,060	\$9,283	\$223	\$9,574	\$291	\$9,942	\$368
Large Industrial	\$21,818	\$22,356	\$538	\$23,049	\$693	\$23,924	\$875

*2026 assumptions used in the 2024-2026 rate study

The overall water system expenditure is expected to increase \$51.5 million between 2026 (the final year of the most recent rate study) and 2029. Proposed O&M spending increases of \$36.2 million account for most of the spending increase. Capital financing, consisting of required cash contributions and debt service, add an additional \$16.1 million in spending over the three year period.

Retail rate revenue requirement changes are comprised of multiple drivers. **Figure 1-1** breaks down the change in each retail revenue driver by year. The drivers of a new rate are based on the change in each underlying assumption used to create the previous rate. Therefore, assumptions for 2027 are compared to assumptions used for 2026 rates in the 2024-2026 rate study, 2028 assumptions are compared to 2027, and so on. See Chapter 3 for more detail.



The following section provides further description of the drivers presented in Figure 1-1. See Chapter 3 for further detail.

O&M (and Taxes)

Branch O&M has increased \$14.2 million between the 2026 rate study and 2027 due to updated growth assumptions in labor costs, city central costs, and investments identified in the SBP. Taxes increased \$2.3 million from the 2026 rate study amount.

Capital Financing

Figure 1-1 shows the combined impact of *cash* and *debt financing* of the capital program on the revenue requirement for 2027-2029. Capital financing is similar in 2027 to levels planned in the 2026 rate study. Decreased debt service, related to better borrowing terms and bond refundings, is mostly offset by increased cash financing requirements of the capital program.

Financial Policies

The Water Fund has four primary financial targets. Typically, rates are set to just meet all financial policies in each year. For this rate study, however, rates are set to smooth rate increases over the study period as part of the goal to minimize rate spikes. As a result, additional revenue is generated in the first two years of the period to build the cash balance to be spent in 2029. See Use of Cash Balances. Increasing the cash balance in 2027 and 2028 are policy choices that lift rates above the binding policy target. See Chapter 2 for more detail on binding policy targets.

Revenue Stabilization Fund (RSF) Withdrawal

In this rate study, SPU is not proposing any withdrawals. Withdrawals from the RSF can be used to increase cash contributions to CIP or reduce retail rate revenue requirements.

Use of Cash Balances

After a review of financial policies and assessment of current finances, SPU is proposing to keep cash balances higher than the formal policy target. The long-term planning goal is to keep 120 days of

operating expense, including taxes, in operating cash. In 2027, proposed operating cash is \$114 million; the target is \$77.4 million. Because current cash balances are higher than the target, the current proposal is to end the rate study period at the same level as the previous rate study and allow the 120-day policy target to increase until it meets the cash balance.

For this rate study, cash balances are increasing in 2027 and 2028. The cash balance will be drawn down to the starting balance of \$110 million in 2029. The draw down in 2029 acts to mitigate the rate impact of the large increase in capital financing projected in that year.

The proposal to not draw down cash over the whole rate period is based on long-term spending projections. Drawing cash down to the planning target would allow the fund to increase cash funding of capital in the near term, but future rate periods would be negatively affected as cash would become the binding constraint and create a volatile rate path. In the capital program projection period of 2027-2032, which falls partially outside this rate study, spending, and therefore cash financing, is increasing at such a pace that rates would have to increase rapidly. Maintaining the \$110 million balance mitigates rate impacts through the end of the decade and eliminates cash balances as a driver in this study period.

Wholesale & Non-Rate Revenues

Non-Rate Revenues are projected to increase during the rate study period. Changes in wholesale revenue, development related revenue, and interest income on cash balances account for nearly all funding changes in this category. Other non-rate revenues are projected to be relatively stable.

Effects of Changes in Demand and Utility Discount Program (UDP)

While generally not a *revenue requirement* driver, changing demand for water is typically a significant *rate* driver. **Table 1-2** shows the impact of demand and UDP changes on the overall average rate increase. Projected water demand in the rate study is similar to 2026. Small increases in system connections allow for the revenue requirement to be spread among more customers, lowering rates for all customers. UDP growth is a rate driver as the program is set to expand in 2027. Enrollment is expected to continue expanding as program awareness increases amongst newly eligible customers. See Section 3.5 and Section 3.6 for more detail.

Table 1-2
Impacts of Demand and UDP on Rate Increase

	2027	2028	2029
Revenue Requirement Increase	4.6%	4.4%	4.4%
Demand/Connections Impact	-1.5%	-0.3%	-0.3%
Utility Discount Program Impact	1.1%	0.2%	0.2%
Average Rate Increase*	4.3%	4.3%	4.3%

*Rates may not total due to rounding.

Financial Performance

The 2027-2029 rate study exceeds all water system financial policy targets during the rate period as shown in **Table 1-3**. See Chapter 2 for further discussion of financial policy targets and their impact on rate setting.

Table 1-3
Water Fund Projected Financial Performance

(\$ in 1,000's)	Target	Actual 2024	Actual 2025	Projected 2026	Proposed 2027	Proposed 2028	Proposed 2029
Net Income	positive	\$47,684	\$37,226	\$47,675	\$29,332	\$27,690	\$27,448
Debt Service Coverage	1.7x	2.25	2.01	2.32	2.05	2.03	1.95
Cash Financing of the Capital Program	20%*	42.3%	35.1%	25.4%	25.6%	24.5%	23.5%
<i>from Contributions in Aid of Construction</i>		10.7%	7.0%	6.2%	8.9%	8.2%	7.2%
<i>from Rate Revenues</i>		31.6%	28.1%	19.2%	16.7%	16.3%	16.3%
Year-End Operating Cash	varies**	\$113,269	\$130,569	\$110,000	\$114,000	\$116,000	\$110,000
Days of Operating Cash		204	201	174	175	171	156

* Current revenues should be used to finance no less than 15% of the CIP in any one year, and average not less than 20% over each rate proposal period.

** Planning target for year-end operating cash is 120 days of operating expense, or \$77.4 million in 2027.

2. FINANCIAL POLICY OVERVIEW

Financial policies provide a guiding framework for the finances of the water utility. They represent a balance between the competing goals of fiscal conservatism through higher rates today and minimizing these same rates by spreading costs over time to future ratepayers. The direct effect of the policies is to determine the level at which water rates shall be set, given estimated costs and demand, and to define how the capital improvement program is to be financed.

The indirect effects of the policies are to:

- Shape the financial profile the utility presents to the financial community;
- Establish the utility's exposure to financial risk; and
- Allocate the utility's costs between current and future ratepayers.

In 2005, City Council passed Resolution 30742, which adopted new water system financial policies that reflect changes and additions to the financial policies initially adopted in 1992. The financial policies are as follows:

1. **Maintenance of Capital Assets.** For the benefit of both current and future ratepayers, the municipal water system will seek to maintain its assets in sound working condition. Future revenue requirement analyses will include provision for maintenance and rehabilitation of facilities at a level intended to minimize total cost while continuing to provide reliable, high-quality service.
2. **Debt Service Coverage.** Debt service coverage on first-lien debt should be at least 1.7 times debt service cost in each year on a planning basis.
3. **Net Income.** Net income should generally be positive.
4. **Cash Funding of the Capital Improvement Program.** Current revenues should be used to finance no less than 15 percent of the municipal water system's adopted CIP in any year, and not less than 20 percent of the CIP over the period of each rate proposal. Cash in excess of working capital requirements may be used to help fund the CIP.
5. **Eligibility for Debt Financing.** Unless otherwise authorized by Council, the following criteria must be met before project expenditures are eligible for debt financing:
 - i) Project is included in the CIP.
 - ii) Total project cost exceeds \$50,000.
 - iii) Project has expected useful life of more than two years (more than five years for information technology projects).
 - iv) Resulting asset will be owned or controlled by Seattle Public Utilities (SPU), is part of the regional utility infrastructure, or represents a long-term investment for water conservation.
 - v) Consistent with generally accepted accounting practices, project costs include those indirect costs, such as administrative overhead and program management, that can be reasonably attributed to the individual CIP project.
6. **Revenue Stabilization Fund (RSF).** Ordinance 121761 requires that a target balance of \$9 million be maintained in the RSF, except when withdrawals below this level are needed to offset shortfalls in metered water sales revenues, or to meet financial policy requirements. Withdrawals of funds in excess of the minimum balance will be used to meet operating expenses, to pay CIP expenditures, or

to meet financial policy requirements. Withdrawals from the RSF must be authorized by ordinance, except that Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Account funds may be withdrawn based on BPA spending.

The Water Fund must deposit revenues in excess of planned metered water sales to the RSF in years where all financial policy targets are exceeded.

SPU may also make discretionary deposits to the RSF, provided that these discretionary deposits are in excess of the amounts required to meet the financial policy requirements. Should the RSF balance fall below the target balance, SPU will submit a water rate proposal that rebuilds the balance in the RSF within one year.

7. **Cash Target.** The adopted target for the year-end operating fund cash balance is one-twelfth of the current year's operating expenditures. SPU plans and targets a higher level of liquidity than the adopted policy in order to be responsive to changing market expectations from bond holders and rating agencies. The planning target is 120 days of operating expense including taxes. For this rate study SPU has modeled year-end cash in excess of the planning target. Keeping cash above the planning target eases cash demands in the years following the Strategic Business Plan. Keeping cash above the planning target prevents a situation where cash balances are required to increase along with increasing capital funding requirements creating additional rate volatility.
8. **Variable Rate Debt.** Variable rate debt should not exceed 15 percent of total outstanding debt. Annual principal payments shall be made on variable rate debt in a manner consistent with fixed rate debt.

In any future year, the minimum revenue requirement is the lowest amount of money necessary to simultaneously satisfy all financial policies in that year. At this level of revenues, some financial policies may be exceeded, but none will be missed – the financial policy that is exactly met is known as the binding constraint. For this rate study, however, rates are set to just meet financial policies only in 2029. In the first two years of the rate study, rates are set to increase cash balances, which will then be spent in 2029. This is a process commonly called rate “smoothing”. Proposed rates in all years will meet or exceed all financial policy minimums.

3. RETAIL WATER REVENUE REQUIREMENT

The **water system revenue requirement** is the minimum amount of operating revenue required to fund the water system operating budget and meet financial policy targets for net income, cash balances, cash financing of the CIP, Revenue Stabilization Fund balances, and debt service coverage. The component requiring the greatest amount of revenue generation (budgetary expenses or one of the financial policy requirements) is termed the “binding constraint.” The **retail water revenue requirement** is equal to the water system revenue requirement, less funding from sources other than retail rates including wholesale revenues, drawdowns of cash balances, withdrawals from the Revenue Stabilization Fund, and other operating/non-operating revenues.

Rate increases are required to fund increases in the revenue requirement from one rate setting period to the next. Where demand is constant, the average rate increase will equal the increase in the revenue requirement. Increasing demand (i.e., customers buying more units of water or more customer meters) will reduce the required rate increase and declining demand will increase the rate increase relative to the change in the revenue requirement. In addition, changes in participation in the utility discount program affect rate changes. Increased participation in the program reduces revenues as more households are paying a discounted rate. The reduction in revenue must be made up through an increase in standard rates.

Table 3-1 summarizes the components of the change in the retail water revenue requirement during the proposed rate period. Current (2026) rates were set in 2023 based on planned expenditures, demand, and other funding sources for the prior rate setting period (2024-2026). The change in the 2027 revenue requirement in Table 3-1, and throughout this section, is relative to the 2026 plan assumed in the 2024-2026 rate study. Likewise, the 2028 changes are relative to the planned revenue requirement in 2027.

Table 3-1
Components of the Change in the Retail Water Revenue Requirement

(\$1,000's)	2026 Rate Study	2027	\$ Change in Rev Req	% Change in Total Rev Req	2028	\$ Change in Rev Req	% Change in Total Rev Req	2029	\$ Change in Rev Req	% Change in Total Rev Req
Expenditure										
Operations and Maintenance Expense										
Branch Operations & Maintenance	167,951	182,158	14,208	5.8%	189,445	7,286	2.8%	197,022	7,578	2.8%
Taxes	53,241	55,509	2,269	0.9%	57,874	2,365	0.9%	60,365	2,491	0.9%
Total	221,191	237,668	16,476	6.7%	247,319	9,651	3.7%	257,388	10,069	3.7%
Capital Financing										
Cash financing (target)	23,415	25,784	2,369	1.0%	28,641	2,856	1.1%	33,420	4,780	1.8%
Debt Service	82,284	78,972	-3,312	-1.3%	82,104	3,132	1.2%	88,395	6,291	2.3%
Total	105,699	104,756	-943	-0.4%	110,744	5,988	2.3%	121,815	11,071	4.1%
Other Financial Policy Targets										
Increase Cash Balance	0	4,000	4,000	1.6%	2,000	-2,000	-0.8%	0	-2,000	-0.7%
Additional Capital Program Funding	6,766	7,266	501	0.2%	6,510	-756	-0.3%	5,921	-589	-0.2%
Total	6,766	11,266	4,501	1.8%	8,510	-2,756	-1.1%	5,921	-2,589	-1.0%
Total Expenditure	333,656	353,690	20,034	8.1%	366,573	12,883	5.0%	385,124	18,551	6.9%
Other Funding Sources										
Wholesale Revenues	-60,628	-62,234	-1,606	-0.7%	-62,952	-718	-0.3%	-64,978	-2,026	-0.8%
Non-rate revenues	-26,905	-34,011	-7,105	-2.9%	-34,917	-906	-0.4%	-33,615	1,302	0.5%
RSF withdrawal	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%
Decrease Cash Balance	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	-6,000	-6,000	-2.2%
Total	-87,533	-96,245	-8,712	-3.5%	-97,869	-1,624	-0.6%	-104,593	-6,724	-2.5%
Net Retail Rates Revenue Target	246,122	257,445	11,323	4.6%	268,704	11,259	4.4%	280,531	11,827	4.4%
Impact of Demand/Connections Utility Discount Program	6,366	9,151	2,785	1.1%	9,599	448	0.2%	10,072	473	0.2%
Effective Increase in Retail Rates				4.3%			4.3%			4.3%

The **Expenditure** section of Table 3-1 presents the operating fund cash spending components that make up the water system revenue requirement. The **Other Funding Sources** section presents other sources of funding which reduce the amount of expenditure that must be recovered through retail rates. The final section of the table presents two items, “**Demand**” and “**Utility Discount Program**,” that do not affect the revenue requirement but do affect rates. For example, total expenditure increases the total revenue requirement by 8.1 percent from 2026 to 2027. However, increases in other funding sources (wholesale revenues and non-rate revenues) decrease the retail revenue requirement by 3.5 percent, resulting in a net increase of 4.6 percent in the 2027 retail rates revenue requirement. The actual average rate increase of 4.3 percent is lower than the revenue requirement increase, due to a projected increase in demand, which is partially offset by an increase in utility discount projections.

The following sections include more detailed descriptions of the components of change in the revenue requirement.

3.1. Operations and Maintenance Expense (O&M)

The water system O&M expenditure requirement includes costs attributable to water operations, as well as a portion of administrative expenses that water shares with other SPU funds (e.g., finance, customer service, etc.). For rate study purposes, O&M includes taxes but does not include debt service, which is discussed under capital financing. O&M is broken into two categories: Branch O&M and taxes.

Branch O&M equals the spending required to support operations and maintenance functions of the water utility. Under this proposal, 2027 Branch O&M increases \$14.2 million from the 2026 amount as projected in the 2024-2026 rate study due to cost changes associated with updated growth assumptions in city central costs, pensions, and labor costs. The proposal assumes an increase in Branch O&M of \$7.3 million in 2028 and \$7.6 million in 2029.

SPU pays three primary taxes, the City of Seattle Water Utility Tax, Washington State Utility Tax, and the Washington State B&O Tax. While all three taxes are not applicable to all revenue sources, they all are revenue-based taxes. As such, as revenue increases, tax expense increases. Taxes increase \$2.3 million in 2027, \$2.4 million in 2027, and \$2.5 million in 2029 due to a higher projected tax revenue base.

3.2. Capital Financing Expense

Financing of the capital program will decrease the expenditure requirement by 0.4 percent in 2027, and increase the requirement by 2.3 percent and 4.1 percent in 2028 and 2029, respectively, as presented in Table 3-1.

Major water capital programs to be funded during this period include:

- Distribution System Improvements
- Transmission System Rehabilitation
- ‘Move Seattle’ Utility Relocation Projects
- Dam Safety Improvements
- Service Renewals and Retirements
- Automated Meter Infrastructure

SPU funds water system capital projects through a combination of cash (from direct service and non-rates revenue) and debt financing (revenue bonds and low-interest loans serviced by rates revenue). As discussed in Section 3.2.2, SPU will be issuing bonds in each year of the rate study. This rate study forecasts CIP cash financing that will exceed the financial target of 20 percent of CIP over the three-year rate period. The remaining CIP will be funded with revenue bond and low interest loan proceeds. **Table 3-2** presents CIP spending and financing assumptions during the rate period.

Table 3-2
Capital Spending and Financing Assumptions

(\$1,000's)	2027	2028	2029	Rate Study Average
CIP Spending Assumption	128,922	143,203	167,102	
CIP Financing Breakdown				
Cash Financed	33,051	35,151	39,342	
Debt Financing				
Low Interest Loan	5,000	0	0	
Bond Financing	90,871	108,052	127,761	
Cash Financed Percentage	25.6%	24.5%	23.5%	24.5%
Debt Financed Percentage	74.4%	75.5%	76.5%	75.5%

3.2.1. Cash Financing (Target Only)

Water system financial policies require that a minimum of 20 percent of the CIP be financed with current cash revenues (as opposed to debt proceeds) over the rate period. The sources of cash that assist in meeting this 20 percent target are operating revenues, cash on hand, and contributions in aid of construction¹.

Although CIP cash financing is projected to exceed the financial policy target, this section discusses only the cash necessary to meet the 20 percent cash financing target. The additional capital funding, over and above the cash financing target, is discussed in Section 3.3.

As presented in **Table 3-3**, targeted cash financing of the CIP increases \$2.4 million in 2027, \$2.9 million in 2028, and \$4.8 million in 2029.

Table 3-3
Change in Target Cash Financing

(\$1,000's)	2026*	2027	\$ Change	2028	\$ Change	2029	\$ Change
Cash Financed (Target)	23,415	25,784	2,369	28,641	2,856	33,420	4,780

* 2026 assumptions used in the 2024-2026 rate study

3.2.2. Debt Service

Table 3-4 presents projected Water Fund debt service, by source, during the rate period.

Table 3-4

¹ Customers often pay for water facilities when they connect to the water system or cause the relocation of water facilities. For example, a developer pays for installation of a water meter and service line when building a new house.

Change in Water Fund Debt Service

(\$1,000's)	2026*	2027	\$ Change	2028	\$ Change	2029	\$ Change
Debt Service Details							
Debt service for existing bond issues	80,692	76,203	(4,489)	72,222	(3,981)	70,992	(1,230)
2027 bond debt service**			0	7,307	7,307	7,307	0
2028 bond debt service**					0	7,554	7,554
2029 bond debt service**					0		0
Low interest loan debt service	1,592	2,769	1,177	2,574	(195)	2,542	(33)
Total Debt Service	82,284	78,972	(3,312)	82,104	3,132	88,395	6,291

* 2026 assumptions used in the 2024-2026 rate study

** Bond principal and interest payments are assumed to begin in the year following issue.

In the first half of 2027, SPU expects to issue approximately \$112 million in new revenue bonds. An additional \$116 million and \$126 million of new money bonds are expected to be issued in the third quarters of 2028 and 2029, respectively. SPU is proposing to issue bonds that are expected to fund roughly one year of CIP needs.

3.3. Other Financial Policy Requirements

As discussed in Chapter 2, proposed rates for 2027 – 2029 are designed to smooth the rate path. Because revenues in these years are not set to just meet a binding financial target, all policy minimums are exceeded.

The revenue collected above the minimum required can be used to increase cash balances or provide additional cash funding of the capital program. In this rate study period, the 2029 capital program is considerably larger than previous years. To smooth the impact of that increased cash demand, 2027 and 2028 rates are increased above the minimum requirement to increase the cash balance by \$5 million. That money will be used in 2029, leveling the rate path and leaving the fund with the same \$110 million the rate period begins with. Additionally, the capital program will be funded by more than the minimum required by approximately \$20 million over the three years.

Table 3-5 presents how SPU proposes to spend revenues generated from external policies over the three-year rate period.

Table 3-5

Impacts of Changes to Rate Policy

(\$1,000's)	2026*	2027	\$ Change	2028	\$ Change	2029	\$ Change
Increase Cash Balance	0	4,000	4,000	2,000	(2,000)	0	(2,000)
Additional Capital Program Funding	6,766	7,266	500	6,510	(756)	5,921	(589)
Financial Policies	6,766	11,266	4,500	8,510	(2,756)	5,921	(2,589)

* 2026 assumptions used in the 2024-2026 rate study

3.4. Other Funding Sources

A significant portion of the total water system expenditure requirement is funded through wholesale revenues, capital contributions, asset sales, and other operating and non-operating revenues. These other funding sources reduce the amount to be recovered through retail rates and therefore are reflected as reductions to the retail revenue requirement in each year. Other funding sources, primarily wholesale and non-rate revenues, are projected to increase from 2026 projections by \$8.7 million in 2027.

3.4.1. Wholesale Revenues

Revenues from wholesale customers, as presented in **Table 3-6**, are expected to increase \$1.6 million in 2027 from the assumed amount in the 2026 rate study.

Table 3-6
Change in Wholesale Revenues

(\$1,000's)	2026*	2027	\$ Change	2028	\$ Change	2029	\$ Change
Full & Partial Revenue**	32,059	29,463	(2,596)	30,958	1,495	32,059	1,101
Cascade Block Revenue	22,940	26,252	3,312	25,569	(683)	26,280	711
Northshore Block Revenue	5,629	6,519	890	6,426	(94)	6,639	213
Total	60,628	62,234	1,606	62,952	718	64,977	2,025

* 2026 assumptions used in the 2024-2026 rate study

** Includes facilities charge revenues and Renton conservation payment

Rates for wholesale customers are set in accordance with the wholesale contracts. These contracts define cost of service methodologies that determine how much the water system charges for wholesale service. Wholesale rate studies apply these methodologies based on expenditure projections (budget). Wholesale rates may be affected by actions that raise or lower the water system O&M or CIP budget. Outside of budget changes, there is very little flexibility to alter wholesale rates and revenues.

3.4.2. Non-rate Revenues

As presented in **Table 3-7**, other non-rate revenue (unmetered revenue) is projected to increase from \$26.9 million assumed for 2026 to \$34.0 million, \$34.9 million, and \$33.6 million in 2027, 2028 and 2029, respectively.

Table 3-7
Change in Non-Rate Revenues

(\$1,000's)	2026*	2027	\$ Change	2028	\$ Change	2029	\$ Change
Unmetered Revenues							
Capital Contributions & Tap Fees	15,292	18,102	2,810	18,472	370	18,851	379
Operating Fund Interest Income	21	4,731	4,710	4,829	98	4,678	(151)
Charges for Miscellaneous Services	4,994	6,535	1,541	6,698	163	6,866	167
Rentals & Others	3,630	3,338	(292)	3,420	83	3,505	85
Build America Bonds Reimbursement	1,597	0	(1,597)	0	0	0	0
Billing leads & lags	1,371	1,305	(66)	1,497	192	(284)	(1,781)
Total Unmetered Revenues	26,905	34,011	7,105	34,917	906	33,615	(1,302)

* 2026 assumptions used in the 2024-2026 rate study

The largest category of other non-rate revenues is capital contributions and tap fees, which are projected to be modestly higher during the rate period. While construction and development in Seattle have sustained a

torrid pace since 2013, the pace has slowed since 2023. The projection reflects a continued slower in-city development offset by increased development charges in the form of System Development Charges.

Billing leads and lags are year-end cash effects that adjust for differences in timing of expense (or revenue) recognition in SPU financial systems² versus when the associated cash is paid (or received). These lags/leads result in an impact on rates when their sum dollar amount changes from year to year. The leads/lags presented in Table 3-7 are primarily associated with changes in the timing of CIP billed to SPU from year to year.

3.4.3. Revenue Stabilization Fund Withdrawals

As discussed in Chapter 2, the minimum balance in the RSF is \$9 million. From a rates perspective, withdrawals from the RSF are part of the other funding sources pool. Increases in withdrawal size add to this pool and therefore reduce the retail rate revenue requirement. Decreases in withdrawal size reduce the size of this alternative funding pool and increase the direct service funding requirement.

The projected beginning balance for 2027 is \$19.2 million. In this rate proposal, SPU does not propose any withdrawals from the RSF from 2027-2029.

Table 3-8 presents projected RSF balances.

Table 3-8
Projected Water Revenue Stabilization Fund Balances

(\$1,000's)	2026*	2027	2028	2029
Beginning RSF Cash Balance	43,924	19,164	19,739	20,331
Interest	439	575	592	610
Deposit (Withdrawal)	0	0	0	0
Ending RSF Cash Balance	44,363	19,739	20,331	20,941

* 2026 assumptions used in the 2024-2026 rate study

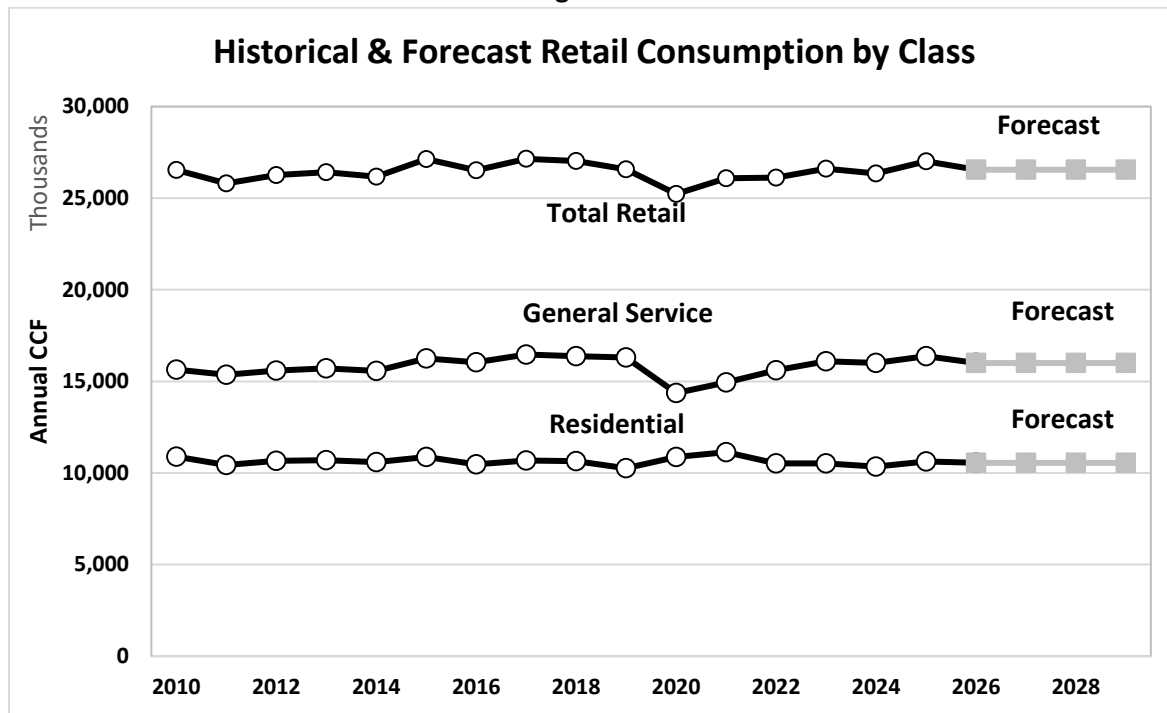
3.5. Effect of Demand

The volume of water sold to retail customers is projected to be constant over the forecast period. For the rate study period, total retail consumption is expected to remain at 26.6 million CCF per year.

Despite generally growing population and employment, water consumption through the 1990s and 2000s trended downwards due to various forms of conservation (programs, efficiency codes and standards, rising water and sewer rates, etc.). With the end of the 1% Conservation program in 2011 and a rebound in employment after the Great Recession, water consumption appeared to level off until 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted regular activity. As shown in **Figure 3-1**, consumption is expected to remain consistent throughout the rate study period as the effects of population increases are expected to be offset by conservation effects.

² In general, revenues are recorded when billed and expenses when invoiced.

Figure 3-1



Consumption levels for the rate study period are expected to be similar to the average consumption from 2012 through 2019. The COVID-19 pandemic, and the public health response, dramatically altered water consumption patterns in 2020 and 2021. State-mandated shutdowns of non-essential businesses, along with capacity limits on indoor spaces, dramatically reduced water consumption for the General Service class. Conversely, water consumption for the Residential class increased as many people spent more time at home, including working from home. Residual effects from the pandemic, primarily increased consumption in the Residential class and reduced General Service demand, have mostly disappeared.

For this Rate Study, consumption in the Residential class is expected to be flat each year of the Study. General Service consumption is forecasted to remain consistent with pre-pandemic levels, and flat each year. Rate Study water demand is shown in Figure 3-1 and in **Table 3-9**.

Table 3-9
Short Term Water Consumption Forecasts (Annual ccf)

	Residential		General Service		Total	
	Consumption (CCF)	Percent Change	Consumption (CCF)	Percent Change	Consumption (CCF)	Percent Change
Actual						
2022	10,527,097		15,596,609		26,123,706	
2023	10,515,036	-0.1%	16,093,244	3.2%	26,608,280	1.9%
2024	10,339,245	-1.7%	16,001,185	-0.6%	26,340,430	-1.0%
2025	10,635,519	2.9%	16,376,826	2.3%	27,012,345	2.6%
Projected						
2026*	10,550,000	-0.8%	16,000,000	-2.3%	26,550,000	-1.7%
2027	10,550,000	0.0%	16,000,000	0.0%	26,550,000	0.0%
2028	10,550,000	0.0%	16,000,000	0.0%	26,550,000	0.0%
2029	10,550,000	0.0%	16,000,000	0.0%	26,550,000	0.0%

* Projection in 2024-2026 rate study

In terms of the impact of demand on water rates, increases in consumption and the number of water meters partially offset increases in the retail revenue requirement. Water rates are made up of a fixed base service charge as well as a volume charge. Water consumption is the unit of demand for the volume charge while number of customers (measured by the number of meters) is the unit of demand for the base meter charge. When the number of meters increases, the customer base broadens. Residential meters are projected to increase 0.1 percent annually, and commercial meters are projected to increase by a smaller amount during the 2027-2029 rate period.

As mentioned above, these combined changes in consumption and meters are normally a portion of the difference between the increased revenue requirement and the average rate increase. The impact of these rate drivers is shown in **Table 3-10**. There is no change in consumption assumed, so all rate impacts are the result of increased meter demand.

Table 3-10
Effect of Demand on Rate Increase

	2026*	2027	\$ Change	2028	\$ Change	2029	\$ Change
Total Consumption (thousand ccf)	26,550	26,550	0	26,550	0	26,550	0
Total Retail Meters	204,484	205,384	900	205,584	200	205,784	200
Effect on Rate Increase			-1.5%		-0.3%		-0.3%

* 2026 assumptions used in the 2024-2026 rate study

3.6. Effect of Changes in the Utility Discount Program

Similar to demand, changes in customer participation in the UDP do not typically affect the Water Fund revenue requirement but do affect the rate increase. Increased participation in the program reduces revenues as more households are paying a discounted rate. The reduction in revenue must be made up through an increase in standard rates. Enrollment in the program has increased steadily since the mid-2010s, with a spike in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent economic disruption. **Table 3-11** presents the impact of UDP on rates.

Table 3-11
Effect of Changes to Utility Discount Program on Rate Increase

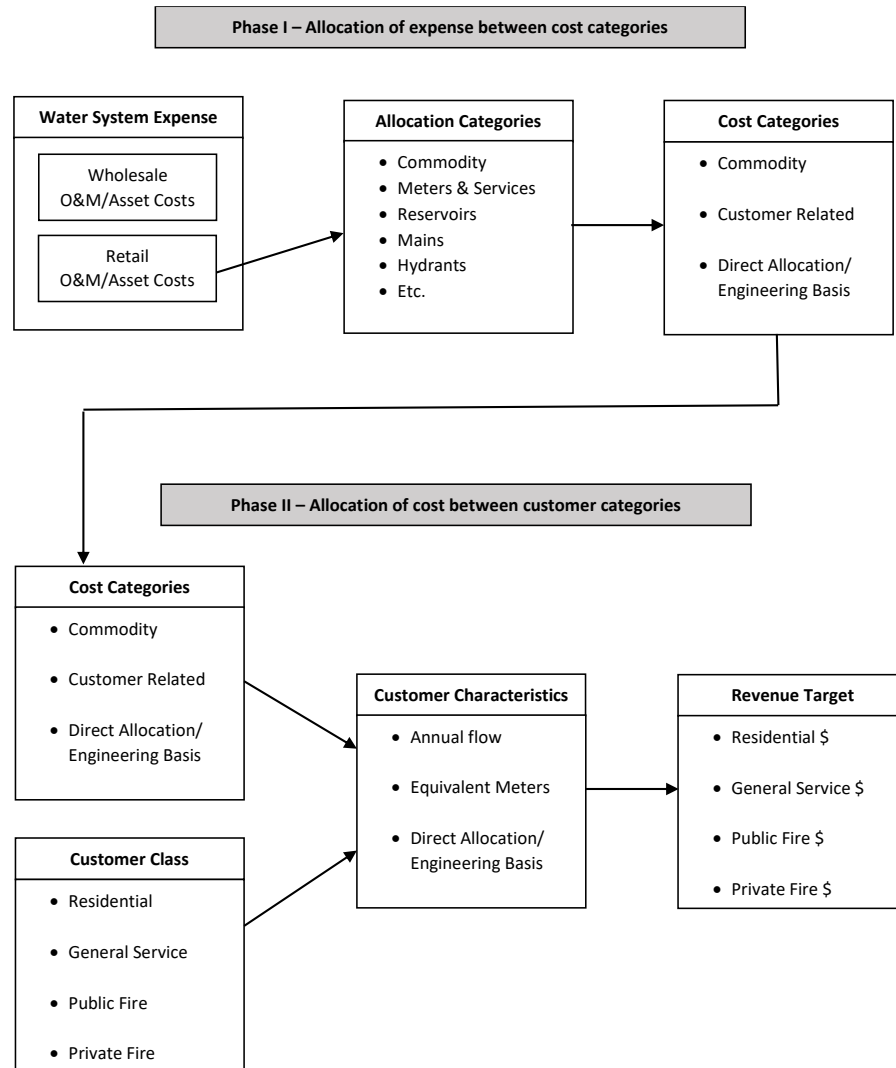
(\$1,000's)	2026*	2027	\$ Change	2028	\$ Change	2029	\$ Change
Total Discount	6,366	9,151	2,785	9,599	448	10,072	473
Effect on Rate Increase			1.1%		0.2%		0.2%

* 2026 assumptions used in the 2024-2026 rate study

4. COST ALLOCATION

Once the **retail revenue requirement** is set, it must be assigned to different customer classes, which is done through the “Cost Allocation Process” and described in **Figure 4-1**. A customer class is a group of customers that places a unique cost on the utility or is administratively easier to serve as a group. Figure 4-1 presents the multiple steps (divided into two phases) required to allocate water expense to individual customer classes. In Phase I, titled “Allocation of Expense Between Cost Categories,” the first box shows Water System Expense is allocated between Wholesale O&M/Asset Costs and Retail O&M/Asset Costs. The second box depicts how these retail costs are allocated across categories – Commodity, Meters & Services, Reservoirs, Mains, and Hydrants are the primary categories. The third box depicts these categories being assigned to Cost Categories, or groupings of cost items, that are driven by similar factors, which include Commodity, Customer Related, and Direct Allocation/Engineering Basis. In Phase II, titled “Allocation of Costs Between Customer Categories,” the cost categories assigned in Phase I are allocated between four customer classes (Residential, General Service, Public Fire, and Private Fire) based on defined customer characteristics outlined in the next box. The customer characteristics include Annual Flow, Equivalent Meters, and Direct Allocation/Engineering Basis. The final step of the process is the Revenue Requirement, depicted in the fourth box, where the revenue requirement is developed for each of the four revenue customer classes.

Figure 4-1
Cost Allocation Process



The cost allocation process presented above recognizes differences in the costs of providing service to different types of customers. For example, a customer class with higher consumption requires increased use of the water treatment plants, whereas a customer class with more accounts requires increased use of the customer billing system.

This chapter provides a general framework for **Phase I** of the cost allocation process, with complete details provided in Appendix A. This chapter then focuses on **Phase II** of the cost allocation process, organized as follows:

- Overview - cost categories
- Framework for allocation of retail water expense between cost categories (Phase I)
- Identification of customer classes and quantification of cost allocation characteristics (Phase II)
- Calculation of total cost of service, or revenue requirement, for each customer class (Phase II)

The current rate study does not propose any fundamental changes to the cost allocation methodology used in prior rate studies. While the cost category of capacity was eliminated from the 2016-2017 rate study, the effect on final allocations is negligible. The change was made for two reasons:

- 1) Due to falling demand, the current system is oversized from a cost allocation standpoint so very few assets were allocated using the capacity allocator, and
- 2) The difference in peaking characteristics of residential and general service has diminished as demand has fallen, so the allocator does not provide much distinction between customer classes.

4.1. Overview – Cost Categories

Retail water system costs are grouped into three main cost categories which can be allocated among customer classes based on customer characteristics: commodity, customer-related, and direct assignment. The costs assigned to the first two categories are shared among different customer classes based on characteristics such as total annual water volume and number of accounts. Costs included in the directly assigned category are assigned in their entirety to the applicable customer classes.

Commodity Costs. Commodity costs vary proportionately with the amount of water provided under average consumption conditions. These costs include items such as the Cedar and Tolt treatment plants, and chlorination at in-town reservoirs. They also include the cost of activities and assets that are shared with wholesale customers since the allocation between wholesale and retail is based on annual flow.

Customer-Related Costs. Customer-related costs encompass an umbrella of expenses associated with serving customers independent of the amount of water they use. These include the cost of meter maintenance and repair, meter reading, billing, customer accounting, and the call center.

Directly Assigned Costs. These are costs that are directly allocable to a single customer class. For this rate study, directly assigned costs are primarily fire hydrant asset and repair costs.

4.2. Framework for Allocation of Retail Expense to Cost Categories (Phase I)

The cost allocation framework for retail water rates uses the distribution of embedded or average costs from a prior period (“test year”) to allocate future revenue requirements between different cost categories. Therefore, the 2027-2029 retail water system revenue requirements are assigned to customer classes based on the actual distribution of expense between those categories in 2023 (the test year). The test year expense is defined according to a “utility basis” which is the sum of the following elements:

- Annual operations and maintenance (O&M) costs;
- Depreciation expenses on assets paid for by rates; and
- A return on assets calculated on infrastructure in service.

Phase I of the cost allocation involves the distribution of prior year expense between cost categories, as further described in Appendix A, Sections A1.2 and A1.3. Additional information on the “utility-basis” costing framework can be found in Appendix A, Section A1.1 to this study.

Table 4-1 presents the breakdown of 2023 retail water system expense by cost component (see **Appendix A** for the detail behind this data). As noted below, over two-thirds of retail water system expense is driven by annual water flow (usage).

Table 4-1
Water Cost Category Summary

Component Cost Category	2023 Revenue	% of Total
Annual Flow	132,577,706	67.1%

Equivalent Meters	51,616,665	26.1%
Direct/Engineering Basis*	13,380,975	6.8%
Total	197,575,346	100.0%

*Public Fire

Note: May not total due to rounding.

4.3. Retail Customer Classes and Characteristics (Phase II)

Retail water customers are divided into four customer classes.

- **Residential.** Customers living in single family or duplex residences.
- **General Service.** Commercial, governmental, and industrial customers as well as multi-family residential structures.
- **Private Fire.** The separately metered connections for fire-protection sprinkler systems installed on the customer's property. These customers pay a separate rate for these services in addition to their General Service or Residential rates for their domestic services.
- **Public Fire.** The governmental agencies responsible for providing public fire protection (hydrants).

Costs are assigned to these customer classes based on how the characteristics of each class drive water system costs. **Table 4-2** summarizes the allocator (customer characteristics) used to assign cost to each component cost category.

Table 4-2
Allocators by Cost Category

Allocation Category	Customer Characteristics	Comments
Commodity Costs	Annual flow	Actual 2023 total water consumption in hundreds of cubic feet (ccf).
Customer-Related Costs	Equivalent Meters	Equivalent Meters is a weighted count of different sized meters by class (See Appendix A1.5 for calculation details).
Direct Assignment	Class specific expense assigned directly to applicable class	These are costs for activities or assets that are dedicated to one customer class only.

Table 4-3 quantifies the key characteristics (by class) that are used to allocate commodity and customer-related costs in the current rate study.

Table 4-3
Key Customer Characteristics

Customer Class	Annual Flow	Equivalent Meters
Residential	39.4%	73.6%
General Service	60.3%	22.0%
Private Fire	0.1%	4.5%
Public Fire	0.3%	0.0%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

Note: May not total due to rounding.

As shown in the table, the residential class accounts for the majority of equivalent meters while the general service class accounts for the majority of annual water usage. Although public fire water use is not directly measured, the annual flow used is consistent with the estimate used for state non-revenue water reporting.

4.4. Cost of Service and Revenue Requirements by Customer Class (Phase II)

The customer characteristic percentages in Table 4-3 are applied to the appropriate 2023 cost categories in Table 4-1 to determine each customer class' actual 2023 cost of service. **Table 4-4** summarizes the results of this allocation process.

Table 4-4
Retail Water Cost of Service Based on 2023 Actual Financial Data

Customer Class	Annual Flow	Equivalent Meters	Direct/ Engineering Basis	Total \$	% of Total
Residential	52,217,217	37,965,445	0	90,182,662	45.6%
General Service	79,918,359	11,333,360	0	91,251,719	46.2%
Private Fire	73,680	2,317,861	0	2,391,540	1.2%
Public Fire	368,449	0	13,380,975	13,749,424	7.0%
Total	132,577,706	51,616,665	13,380,975	197,575,346	100.0%

Allocations to the general service and residential customer classes account for the bulk (91.8 percent) of the retail water cost of service. Public and private fire represents only about eight percent of the total. The general service class is allocated the largest single share (46.2 percent). This class accounts for 60.3 percent of annual flows, which is applied to the largest portion of the water system revenue requirement.

The rate revenue requirement for each rate class is calculated by applying each class' percent of total 2023 cost to the 2027-2029 retail rates revenue requirement, with results as presented in **Table 4-5**.

Table 4-5
2027-2029 Retail Revenue Requirement by Customer Class

Customer Class	2027	2028	2029	Cost of Service Percentage
Residential	117,509,952	122,649,201	128,047,540	45.6%
General Service	118,902,956	124,103,128	129,565,460	46.2%
Private Fire	3,116,229	3,252,516	3,395,673	1.2%
Public Fire	17,915,795	18,699,336	19,522,377	7.0%
Total	257,444,932	268,704,181	280,531,050	100.0%

Table 4-6 illustrates the changes for the 2027-2029 rate study relative to the 2022-2023 and 2024-2026 rate studies. See Appendix A for more information.

Table 4-6
Cost Shares by Customer Class

Customer Class	2022-2023 Rate Study	2024-2026 Rate Study	2027-2029 Rate Study
Residential	45.1%	45.1%	45.6%
General Service	48.0%	48.0%	46.2%
Private Fire	1.3%	1.3%	1.2%
Public Fire	5.7%	5.7%	7.0%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

5. RATE DESIGN

Rate design is the last element of the rate study. Chapter 3 presented the amount of retail water revenue required to fund proposed 2027-2029 O&M and capital programs while meeting other policy targets. Chapter 4 discussed the allocation of the revenue requirement between customer classes. This chapter identifies the rate structure and the proposed 2027-2029 rates, which will satisfy the retail revenue requirement and meet established rate design policy objectives.

The current rate study keeps the same rate structure as previous studies. However, some design practices are changed. The 2022-2023 study broke rate parity³, allowing meter and commodity rates for each class to move independently. In this study, meter and commodity rates continue to change independently between customer classes. A focus of this study is increasing fixed revenue by increasing meter rates more than commodity rates.

Continuing practice from previous rate studies, meter charges utilize the meter cost analysis from the 2009-2011 rate study in determining the differential (or progression) between charges for different size meters. No changes are proposed to some rates (larger meter charges), which are higher than their cost of service at current levels. Holding these rates constant rather than decreasing them somewhat mitigates the impact of the revenue requirement increase on the residential and general service commodity rate and provides rate stability.

The proposed rates increase the typical monthly residential bill by \$2.82 in 2027, \$2.87 in 2028, and \$2.87 in 2029. The total increase over the three-year period is \$8.56. Typical residential consumption has remained at 5.0 ccf per month in the 2027-2029 rate proposal. The exact increase in general service bills varies based on consumption and meter size. A typical convenience store would see increases of \$3.00, \$4.65, and \$5.55 per month for 2027, 2028, and 2029, respectively. Likewise, a typical 90-unit apartment building would see increases of \$36, \$51, and \$62 per month. Rates for public fire hydrants on larger mains increase 6.1 percent, 4.4 percent, and 4.4 percent in 2027, 2028, and 2029, respectively. Private fire meter rates and consumption rates do not increase in this rate study as current revenue meets revenue requirements for the study period.

5.1. Rate Design Overview

A utility rate structure, or rate design, typically considers three elements: classification of customers served, billing frequency, and schedule of charges for each customer class. The schedule of charges, or “rates,” is designed to recover the utility’s costs, given projected customer demand⁴. In addition to cost recovery, a rate structure should support and optimize a blend of various utility objectives and should work as a public information tool in communicating these objectives to customers.

5.1.1. Retail Water Rate Structure

Seattle’s retail water customers are grouped into four broad customer classifications: Residential, General Service, Private Fire (e.g., building sprinklers), and Public Fire (municipal hydrants). SPU has developed rate structures for each of these customer classes which reflect the classes’ cost of service structure, demand patterns, and policy objectives. A given rate class may be further divided into sub-classes. While the rate structure for each sub-class (under the same primary class) will be similar or identical, the actual rate

³ Rate parity began in 2008 when costs of service, consumption, and meter counts aligned to make it possible for rates to be equal between residential and general service classes.

⁴ Section 3.5 discusses projected customer demand and its influence on rates during the rate period.

assigned to each sub-class will vary based on actual differences in cost of service or historical contractual requirements. **Table 5-1** provides a summary of Seattle’s retail water rate classes, subclasses, and associated rate structures.

Table 5-1
Retail Water Rate Structure Summary

Class	Sub-class	Rate Structure
Residential	• In-City • Out-of-City • Shoreline Franchise • Lake Forest Park Franchise • Burien • Master-Metered Developments*	• Base Service Charge (meter-size based) • Single Off-Peak Commodity Rate • Tiered Peak Commodity Rate • Low-Income Rates
General Service	• In-City • Out-of-City • Shoreline Franchise • Lake Forest Park Franchise • Burien • Mercer Island	• Base Service Charge (meter-size based) • Single Off-Peak Commodity Rate • Single Peak Commodity Rate
Private Fire	• In-City • Out-of-City • Shoreline Franchise • Lake Forest Park Franchise • Burien	• Base Service Charge (meter-size based) • Commodity Penalty Rate
Public Fire (hydrants)	• In-City/Out-of-City • Burien	• Charge for 4-inch mains • Charge for larger mains

*For rate setting purposes, there are two kinds of Master Metered Residential Developments (MMRDs). MMRDs are eligible to be classified as water systems by the State of Washington. Customers that have achieved that designation, and pay State Public Utility Tax on their revenue, are eligible for a lower rate from SPU. SPU does not pay State Public Utility Tax on revenues from those customers. MMRDs that do not pay State Public Utility Tax are subject to regular rates.

Section 5.1.2 discusses the objectives that have been considered in the development of the rate structures outlined above. Sections 5.2 through 5.5 provide additional detail on the rate structures by customer class and subclass. **Appendix C** lists all 2027-2029 rate schedules by class and sub-class.

5.1.2. Rate Objectives

SPU staff, with input from past Rate Advisory Committees, have identified the following policy objectives for the retail water rate design:

- Provide financial soundness;
- Advance economic efficiency;

- Promote customer equity;
- Encourage customer conservation;
- Contribute to transparency and customer understanding; and
- Reduce impacts on low-income customers.

Some of these objectives imply different directions in rate design than others. An appropriate rate design must strike the best overall balance among conflicting objectives. The first objective of financial soundness is overriding and should be met by all rate designs considered. In this study, there was additional focus on providing soundness through rate design by increasing the amount of fixed revenue to the utility. The final objective of reducing impacts on low-income customers is partly met by a citywide program, in which SPU participates, to provide discounts to low-income and disabled customers. The remaining objectives are met to varying degrees by the individual rate structures, as further discussed in Sections 5.2 through 5.5.

5.2. Residential Rate Design

Residential accounts represent about 88 percent of total SPU retail water accounts. Residential customers are further broken into five subclasses: in-City customers, City of Shoreline/City of Lake Forest Park customers, Burien customers, other out-of-City customers, and master-metered customers. Low-income customers in any of these residential subclasses may qualify for a discount on their water utility bill. This section provides additional detail on the components of the residential rate design, the residential rate changes, residential rate subclasses and the UDP.

Under the proposed rates, a typical (median) single family residential bill will increase by **\$2.82** per month in 2027, **\$2.87** per month in 2028, and **\$2.87** per month in 2029 (given constant consumption). The impact for different residential customers can vary based on the amount of water used, as presented in **Table 5-2**.

Table 5-2
Monthly Residential Bills at Proposed Rates

Customer Type	Monthly Consumption		2026 Adopted	2027 Proposed	Change from 2026	2028 Proposed	Change from 2027	2029 Proposed	Change from 2028
Low Volume User (30th %tile)	Winter	2.9	\$38.23	\$40.34	\$2.11	\$42.56	\$2.22	\$44.82	\$2.26
	Summer	3.8	\$44.07	\$46.52	\$2.44	\$49.04	\$2.53	\$51.60	\$2.55
	Average	3.2	\$40.18	\$42.40	\$2.22	\$44.72	\$2.32	\$47.08	\$2.36
Median User (50th %tile)	Winter	4.7	\$48.70	\$51.41	\$2.70	\$54.17	\$2.76	\$56.93	\$2.77
	Summer	5.5	\$54.72	\$57.77	\$3.05	\$60.85	\$3.08	\$63.92	\$3.07
	Average	5.0	\$50.71	\$53.53	\$2.82	\$56.39	\$2.87	\$59.26	\$2.87
High Volume User	Winter	9.8	\$78.39	\$82.77	\$4.38	\$87.06	\$4.29	\$91.25	\$4.19
	Summer	13.4	\$113.33	\$119.70	\$6.38	\$125.80	\$6.09	\$131.72	\$5.92
	Average	11.0	\$90.03	\$95.08	\$5.05	\$99.97	\$4.89	\$104.74	\$4.77
Typical 3rd Tier User	Winter	6.7	\$60.34	\$63.71	\$3.36	\$67.07	\$3.36	\$70.39	\$3.33
	Summer	23.5	\$212.22	\$220.53	\$8.31	\$228.37	\$7.84	\$235.95	\$7.58
	Average	12.3	\$110.97	\$115.98	\$5.01	\$120.83	\$4.85	\$125.58	\$4.74

May not total due to rounding

Note: All bill impacts are for in-City customers and assume a ¾" meter.

5.2.1. Residential Rate Structure

Residential customers pay a fixed base service charge plus a commodity rate. The commodity rate is a single rate in the off-peak season (September 16 – May 15) and a three-tiered rate structure in the peak season (May 16 – September 15).

Base Service Charge

The base service charge is a fixed monthly fee which varies by water meter size. This charge is structured to reflect that some costs are not related to the volume of water used. The cost differential, or progression, between different meter sizes is based on 1) annualized costs, by meter size, for meter maintenance, testing, repair, replacement and service renewal; and 2) annual customer service costs. The progression used in this proposal is based on data from the 2009-2011 rate study.

Commodity Rate

Residential commodity rates are seasonal, with tiered peak (May 16 – September 15) rates and uniform off-peak (September 16 – May 15) rates. Peak season rates are higher than off-peak rates and tiered for residential customers to provide a disincentive for wasteful summer water usage.

Peak residential commodity rates consist of three tiers associated with differing usage volumes: 1) the lowest rate is charged on consumption up to five ccf/month; 2) the next 13 ccf/month (six to 18 ccf) is charged a higher rate; and 3) the highest rate is charged on consumption above 18 ccf/month. Historically, one out of 15 residential customers has had some consumption at the third-tier level each year. In the past, the City implemented a third tier on a temporary basis to discourage water use under drought conditions. This tier

became a permanent feature of the water rate structure in 2002 in response to the legal requirement of initiative I-63⁵. This rate study holds constant third-tier rates through 2029.

5.2.2. Residential Increase

This study includes increases in residential commodity rates and meter base service charges. The residential rate schedule for inside city customers is presented in **Table 5-3**.

Table 5-3
Proposed Residential Rates

	2026	2027	2028	2029
	Rates	Rates	Rates	Rates
<u>Commodity</u>				
Off-Peak (\$/ccf)	\$5.82	\$6.15	\$6.45	\$6.73
Peak (\$/ccf)				
Up to 5 ccf/mo	\$5.98	\$6.32	\$6.63	\$6.92
Next 13 ccf/mo	\$7.39	\$7.81	\$8.19	\$8.55
Above 18 ccf/mo	\$11.80	\$11.80	\$11.80	\$11.80
<u>Base Service Charge</u>				
3/4 inch	\$21.35	\$22.50	\$23.85	\$25.30
1 inch	\$22.00	\$23.20	\$24.60	\$26.10
1 1/2 inch	\$33.95	\$35.75	\$37.90	\$40.20
2 inch	\$37.60	\$39.60	\$42.00	\$44.55
3 inch	\$139.20	\$146.70	\$155.50	\$164.95
4 inch	\$199.00	\$210.00	\$223.00	\$236.00

Note: All rates above are in-City.

Base residential meter charges are proposed to increase 5.4 percent in 2027, 6.0 percent in 2028, and 6.1 percent in 2029.

Commodity rates are increasing at a slower pace than meter rates. Off-peak consumption rates are proposed to increase 5.7 percent, 4.9 percent, and 4.3 percent in 2027, 2028, and 2029, respectively. Peak rates are increasing by similar percentages each year, with the exception that the third tier is not increasing in any year.

5.2.3. Residential Sub-Classes

The majority of Seattle Public Utilities' residential customers live within City limits (about 159,500 accounts). However, SPU also directly provides water service to about 10,800 residential customers in the City of Shoreline and City of Lake Forest Park, 1,500 residential customers in the City of Burien, and 3,300 residential

⁵ In October 2001, the Mayor and City Council adopted City of Seattle Ordinance No. 120532, otherwise known as I-63 Settlement Ordinance (I-63 SO). This ordinance established various measures designed to promote water conservation, including the creation of the "Everyone Can Conserve" program to fund water conservation in low-income housing. This ordinance also established the requirement for a residential summer peak use third block to be charged on residents and businesses that use extraordinary amounts of water.

customers residing in Unincorporated King County. Each of these residential customer groups, or sub-classes, pays a different rate due to differences in cost of service and/or historic agreements governing these relationships. In addition, master metered residential developments (MMRD) comprise another residential sub-class with its own distinct rates.

Outside City Residential Rates (except Shoreline, Lake Forest Park, and Burien)

SPU sets the base meter and commodity rates for SPU customers residing outside of Seattle City Limits at 14 percent greater than in-city rates. Certain characteristics of these areas increase the cost of service, including lower-density development and topography which limits the use of gravity fed systems. Both factors cause higher capital and operating costs (longer water mains, more pumping) per unit of water delivered. In addition, field crews, meter readers, inspectors, and other employees, along with vehicles and equipment, must travel farther to work on parts of the system that serve outside city customers.

Outside-City residential rates are found in **Appendix C**.

City of Shoreline/City of Lake Forest Park Residential Rates

SPU sets the base meter and commodity rates for SPU customers residing in Shoreline and Lake Forest Park approximately 21 percent⁶ higher than in-city rates. This rate surcharge is based on the 14 percent out-of-city surcharge (discussed above) plus an additional six percent to cover City of Shoreline and City of Lake Forest Park franchise fees.

The Cities of Shoreline and Lake Forest Park charge SPU franchise fees on the water service SPU provides within their boundaries. Each city's franchise fee is set at six percent of revenue. All the revenues from this franchise fee are paid to the City of Shoreline and City of Lake Forest Park, and neither Seattle nor any water customer outside Shoreline and Lake Forest Park receives a benefit from the associated revenues.

The Shoreline franchise fee was enacted in 1999. The Lake Forest Park franchise agreement has been in effect since November 2009.

Shoreline and Lake Forest Park residential rates are found in **Appendix C**.

City of Burien Residential Rates

In January 2021, the City of Burien began collecting an eight percent utility tax on all SPU revenue in Burien. As a result, SPU will set base meter and commodity rates for customers residing in Burien approximately 24 percent higher than in-city rates beginning in 2022. This rate surcharge is based on the 14 percent out-of-city surcharge (discussed above) plus an additional eight percent to cover City of Burien Utility Tax costs.

All revenues from this utility tax are paid to the City of Burien, and neither Seattle nor any water customer outside Burien receives a benefit from the associated revenue.

Burien residential rates are found in **Appendix C**.

⁶ Franchise fees and revenue taxes are compounding by their nature. Because they are based on SPU revenue, SPU must increase charges more than the statutory rate to ensure after-tax/franchise fee charges are consistent. Ex: SPU charges \$10 for a service. A 10% revenue tax rate is applied. If SPU simply added 10% to the charge, the new price would be \$11. In that case revenue would be \$11, and the 10% revenue tax would be \$1.10. SPU would receive \$9.90 after payment of the tax. This is less than before the tax is applied. To account for this compounding effect, charges are increased slightly more than the statutory rate to equalize pre-tax and post-tax SPU receipts. In this example, the after-tax charge would be \$11.11. The 10% revenue tax would generate \$1.11, and SPU would receive \$10.00 after tax.

Master-Metered Residential Development Rates

Master-Metered Residential Development (MMRD) rates apply to residential developments with master meters of one and a half inch or larger which operate and maintain their own distribution systems on private property. The water service to these developments primarily serves single-family detached residences on at least two separate legal parcels.

A separate rate structure was established for MMRD customers in 1995, with residential rates applied. The use of the residential rate structure recognizes the fact that MMRDs, although considered general service habitations, experience peak irrigation demands similar to those of residential customers. At present, all MMRD customers reside in Shoreline and pay Shoreline residential rates.

Certain Master-Metered Residential Developments are eligible to classify as water systems by the State of Washington. Those that have achieved that designation and pay State Public Utility Tax on their revenue are eligible for a lower rate from SPU. SPU does not pay State Public Utility Tax on revenues from those customers.

MMRD rates are found in **Appendix C**.

5.2.4. Utility Discount Program

The City assists qualified low-income customers with their water bills by providing a 50 percent credit on their utility bills, one of the most generous assistance policies in the nation. Income guidelines vary based on the number of people in the household, monthly income, and annual income. Income limits are updated every April and are based on 60 percent of the area median income, an increase from previous rate studies where the threshold was 70 percent of the state median income. To ensure utilization by eligible residents, Seattle Housing Authority auto-enrolls its eligible customers in SPU's discount program.

Currently, about 30,000 water customers receive a utility discount. About one-third of these low-income assistance customers receive their credit on their SPU combined utility bill while the other two-thirds receive a credit through their Seattle City Light bill. Enrollment in the program is expected to increase to approximately 40,000 with expanded eligibility. For customers billed by SPU, the discount cuts their water bill in half. The City Light bill is used as the credit mechanism for customers who do not directly receive an SPU bill, such as customers living in apartment complexes, who typically receive a City Light bill but have utility costs for water, sewer and solid waste included in their rent. These customers receive a fixed dollar credit via their Seattle City Light bill, which approximates the 50 percent discount.

Table 5-4 presents the discounts for 2026, 2027, 2028, and 2029.

Table 5-4 Rate Assistance Discounts				
Customer-type	Adopted 2026	Proposed 2027	Proposed 2028	Proposed 2029
SPU-billed customers	50% Discount	50% Discount	50% Discount	50% Discount
Non-SPU-billed customers				
Single-family (Residential)	\$25.36/month	\$26.76/month	\$28.20/month	\$29.63/month
Multi-family (Gen. Serv.)	\$14.19/month	\$14.54/month	\$15.01/month	\$15.59/month

5.3. General Service Rate Design

General service accounts represent about 11 percent of total SPU retail water accounts. General Service customers are also broken into five subclasses: in-City customers, Shoreline/Lake Forest Park customers, Burien customers, Mercer Island customers, and other outside-City customers. This section provides additional detail on the components of the general service rate design, the general service rate increase and general service rate subclasses.

The proposed rates will affect general service customer bills to varying degrees depending on the volume of water used. **Table 5-5** presents projected bill impacts for a sampling of general service customer types.

Table 5-5
Monthly General Service Bills at Proposed Rates

Customer Type	Monthly Consumption		2026 Adopted	2027 Proposed	Change from 2026	2028 Proposed	Change from 2027	2029 Proposed	Change from 2028
Convenience Store (1" meter)	Winter	15.0	\$116.90	\$119.70	\$2.80	\$124.10	\$4.40	\$129.30	\$5.20
	Summer	15.0	\$141.50	\$144.90	\$3.40	\$150.05	\$5.15	\$156.30	\$6.25
	Average	15.0	\$125.10	\$128.10	\$3.00	\$132.75	\$4.65	\$138.30	\$5.55
Small Office Building (2" meter)	Winter	49.9	\$347	\$355	\$8	\$367	\$12	\$382	\$15
	Summer	56.8	\$482	\$494	\$12	\$510	\$16	\$530	\$20
	Average	52.2	\$392	\$401	\$10	\$415	\$14	\$432	\$17
Apartment Bldg (90 units) (3" meter)	Winter	168	\$1,184	\$1,213	\$29	\$1,255	\$42	\$1,305	\$50
	Summer	247	\$2,068	\$2,119	\$51	\$2,188	\$69	\$2,275	\$87
	Average	195	\$1,478	\$1,515	\$36	\$1,566	\$51	\$1,628	\$62
Medium Hotel (6" meter)	Winter	1,180	\$7,443	\$7,626	\$183	\$7,867	\$241	\$8,169	\$301
	Summer	1,559	\$12,293	\$12,596	\$302	\$12,987	\$391	\$13,488	\$501
	Average	1,307	\$9,060	\$9,283	\$223	\$9,574	\$291	\$9,942	\$368
Large Industrial (8" meter)	Winter	3,785	\$23,278	\$23,853	\$575	\$24,593	\$740	\$25,521	\$928
	Summer	2,410	\$18,898	\$19,363	\$465	\$19,962	\$599	\$20,729	\$767
	Average	3,327	\$21,818	\$22,356	\$538	\$23,049	\$693	\$23,924	\$875

Note: All bill impacts are for in-City customers.

5.3.1. General Service Rate Structure

The general service rate structure is nearly identical to that for residential customers with a base service charge that varies by meter size and peak and off-peak commodity rates. In general, the discussion in Section 5.2.1 on these two rate components is applicable to general service rates.

The primary difference between the two rate structures is that general service customers do not have tiered peak rates⁷; all peak consumption is charged at a single rate. In addition, the general service base service charge progression includes several larger meter rates which are not applicable to residential customers.

⁷ The residential first tier peak rate is intended as a "lifeline" rate and as such does not apply to general service. The third-tier peak rate is intended to capture "excessive" or "wasteful" water consumption. Because each general service

5.3.2. General Service Increase

This rate study proposes increases in general service commodity and base service charges. Inside-City general service rates are shown in **Table 5-6**:

Table 5-6
Proposed General Service Rates

	2026	2027	2028	2029
	Rates	Rates	Rates	Rates
<u>Commodity</u>				
Off-Peak (\$/ccf)	\$6.06	\$6.21	\$6.40	\$6.64
Peak (\$/ccf)	\$7.70	\$7.89	\$8.13	\$8.44
<u>Base Service Charge</u>				
3/4 inch	\$25.20	\$25.75	\$27.25	\$28.80
1 inch	\$26.00	\$26.55	\$28.10	\$29.70
1 1/2 inch	\$40.05	\$40.95	\$43.30	\$45.80
2 inch	\$44.35	\$45.35	\$48.00	\$50.70
3 inch	\$164.00	\$168.00	\$178.00	\$188.00
4 inch	\$235.00	\$241.00	\$255.00	\$269.00
6 inch	\$290.00	\$296.00	\$313.00	\$331.00
8 inch	\$341.00	\$348.00	\$369.00	\$389.00
10 inch	\$417.00	\$426.00	\$451.00	\$476.00
12 inch	\$562.00	\$575.00	\$608.00	\$643.00
16 inch	\$631.00	\$645.00	\$683.00	\$722.00
20 inch	\$721.00	\$737.00	\$780.00	\$824.00
24 inch	\$819.00	\$837.00	\$885.00	\$936.00

Note: All rates above are in-City.

5.3.3. General Service Sub-Classes

As with residential accounts, most Seattle Public Utilities general service customers are located within City limits (about 21,500 accounts). In addition, SPU directly provides water service to 600 general service customers in the City of Shoreline and City of Lake Forest Park, 35 general service customers in Burien, one general service customer in Mercer Island, and 370 other general service customers outside of City boundaries. Similar to residential accounts, Shoreline and Lake Forest Park general service customers pay a 21 percent surcharge over the in-city general service meter and commodity rates, Burien customers pay a 24 percent surcharge, and other outside-City customers pay a 14 percent surcharge. For further details, see Section 5.2.3.

City of Mercer Island Rates

customer has a different level of consumption, SPU would not be able to set a threshold amount above which consumption is considered excessive.

SPU sets the base service and commodity rates for one Mercer Island general service customer approximately 20 percent higher than in-City rates. This rate surcharge is based on the 14 percent out-of-city surcharge (discussed in Section 5.2.3) plus an additional 5.3 percent to cover City of Mercer Island utility taxes.

All revenues from this utility tax are paid to the City of Mercer Island, and neither Seattle nor any water customer outside of Mercer Island receives a benefit from the associated revenue.

5.4. Private Fire Rate Design

Private fire rates are charged for water service to fire sprinkler systems located on a customer's property. Private fire service customers pay a **flat monthly meter base charge** which varies with meter size. This base fee includes an allowance for water consumption for testing and pump cooling. The monthly allowance is five ccf for meters up to six inches and 10 ccf for meters eight inches and larger. A **penalty charge** (\$20.00/ccf) is assessed on non-fire related consumption in excess of the allowed amounts.

Fire service rates are not proposed to change in this study as current revenue is enough to meet the revenue requirement for the class. Fire service rates for inside city customers are presented in **Table 5-7** below.

Table 5-7
Proposed Private Fire Rates

	2026	2027	2028	2029
	Rates	Rates	Rates	Rates
<u>Commodity</u>				
Penalty Charge				
(\$/ccf)	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00
<u>Base Service Charge</u>				
2 inch and smaller	\$17.75	\$17.75	\$17.75	\$17.75
3 inch	\$17.75	\$17.75	\$17.75	\$17.75
4 inch	\$17.75	\$17.75	\$17.75	\$17.75
6 inch	\$17.75	\$17.75	\$17.75	\$17.75
8 inch	\$23.00	\$23.00	\$23.00	\$23.00
10 inch	\$43.00	\$43.00	\$43.00	\$43.00
12 inch	\$73.00	\$73.00	\$73.00	\$73.00

Note: All rates above are in-city.

Private fire service rate schedules by subclass are found in **Appendix C** of this study.

Like other retail customers, Shoreline and Lake Forest Park private fire customers pay a 21 percent differential over the in-city private fire rates, Burien customers pay a 24 percent surcharge, and other outside-city customers pay a 14 percent differential. For further details, see Section 5.2.3.

5.5. Public Fire Rate Design (Hydrants)

Fire hydrants provide water used by public fire departments to fight fires. Most fire hydrants owned by SPU are located within the City of Seattle. The majority of other hydrants are in retail service areas just north or south of the city limits. In order to more closely associate the cost of providing water for firefighting with the customers that use this water, SPU directly charges local governments an annual fee for public fire service. Charging local governments for the public fire service within their jurisdiction ensures that this portion of revenue requirement is not borne by Seattle's retail customers.

5.5.1. Rate Structure

Public fire customers are charged **a flat annual fee** which varies based on the size of main attached to the hydrant and jurisdiction where located. SPU has established two different flat rates for fire service to reflect both service level and cost differences between four-inch and larger mains⁸. Four-inch mains provide substantially lower fire flows than larger mains. In addition, four-inch mains, while sufficient for domestic service, generally do not meet current state installation standards for mains supporting hydrants. Consequently, all of the cost of over-sizing water mains to provide fire flow, about half of total hydrant service cost, is assigned to larger mains. The remaining costs are shared between two rates based on the number of units, or hydrants. Hydrants connected to larger mains currently account for about 99 percent of all units within the SPU service area. Hydrants in Burien are charged a higher fee to recover the cost of utility taxes in the city.

5.5.2. Public Fire Rate Increase

This study proposes increases in each year of the rate study. The rate increase for large-main hydrants is greater than the increase for the 4-inch main rate in 2027. The rates increase evenly in 2028 and 2029. **Table 5-8** presents the calculation for proposed 2027, 2028, and 2029 public fire rates.

All public fire hydrants within the SPU retail service area are used to calculate and set hydrant rates. However, due to indemnification language in their franchise agreements, SPU does not charge King County, Shoreline, and Lake Forest Park for hydrant service. Per *Lane v Seattle*, the costs of providing, maintaining, and operating these hydrants are considered a "cost of doing business" in these areas.

⁸ State requirements for hydrant service have become progressively more stringent over the last century. Four-inch mains were considered sufficient to provide fire flows when originally installed. Now, a minimum of six inches is required. Most areas with both domestic and fire flow demands require a minimum of eight-inch mains.

Table 5-8
Calculation of Proposed Public Fire Rates

	2026*		2027		2028		2029	
	4-Inch	Larger Mains	4-Inch	Larger Mains	4-Inch	Larger Mains	4-Inch	Larger Mains
Revenue Requirement	\$116,346	\$13,790,852	\$123,470	\$17,792,326	\$128,870	\$18,570,466	\$134,542	\$19,387,835
Meter Count	209	18,609	209	18,710	209	18,710	209	18,710
Meter Rate	\$556.68	\$741.09	\$590.76	\$950.95	\$616.60	\$992.54	\$643.74	\$1,036.23

* 2026 assumptions used in the 2024-2026 rate study

Note: All rates above are in-City.

Table 5-9 presents projected annual bills for public fire customers at proposed rates.

Table 5-9
Annual Public Fire Bills at Proposed Rates

	Hydrant Count			2026	2027	2028	2029
	4-Inch Mains	Larger Mains	Total	Bill	Bill	Bill	Bill
Seattle	116	7,251	17,251	\$12,849,118	\$16,473,414	\$17,193,872	\$17,950,651
Burien	42	121	163	\$122,883	\$152,041	\$158,690	\$165,675

APPENDIX A: COST ALLOCATION DETAILS

Chapter 4 contained an overview of how the 2027-2029 water revenue requirements were allocated to each cost category. This Appendix provides the detail behind those allocations.

SPU uses embedded, or historical cost of service from a test year (2023 for this rate study), to determine the percentage of revenue to be assigned to each customer class in the rate-setting period. The costs from the test year are broken into service-based allocation categories that are then allocated to cost categories based on defined customer characteristics. The resulting percentages from the test year are then applied to the 2027-2029 revenue requirements.

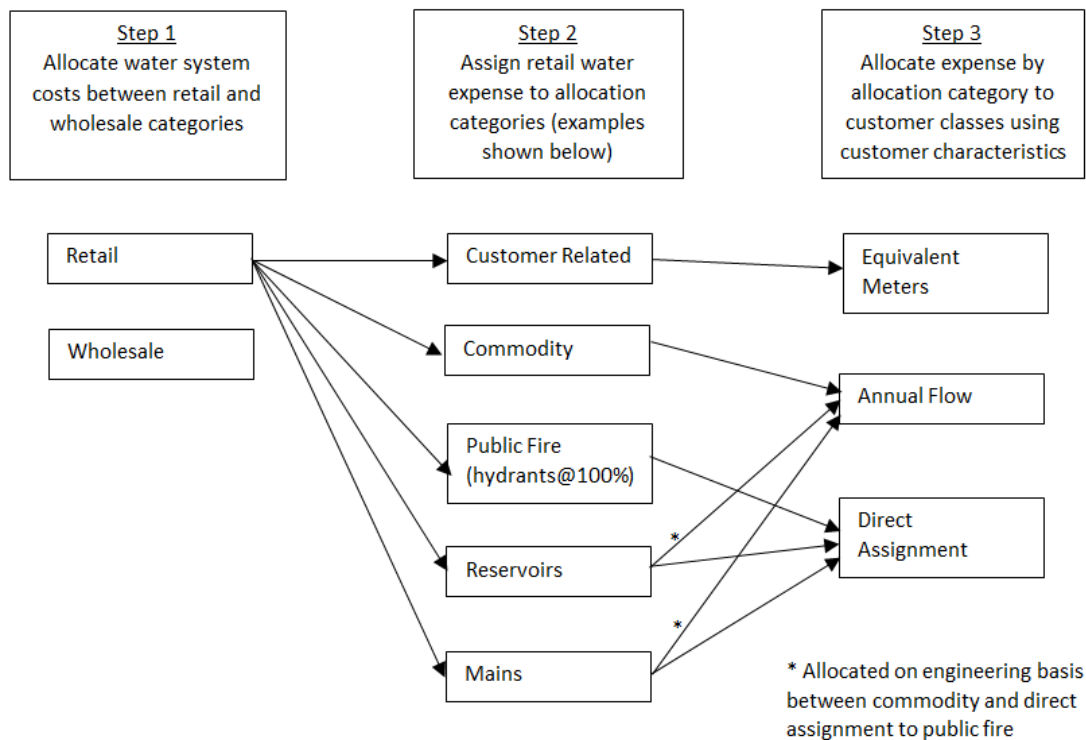
Figure A1-1 describes the three steps required to determine the revenue split between test year cost component categories:

Step 1. Allocation of water system expense into retail and wholesale categories.

Step 2. Assignment of retail water expense to allocation categories. Examples include customer-related, commodity, public fire (hydrants at 100%), reservoirs, and mains.

Step 3. Allocate expense by allocation category to customer classes using customer categories. In this step, customer-related is allocated to equivalent meters, commodity, and a portion of reservoirs and mains are allocated to annual flow. Public fire and the remainder of reservoirs and mains are allocated to direct assignment by engineering basis.

Figure A1-1
Assignment of Water System Expense to Cost Component Categories
Allocation Steps



Prior to launching into the details of the separate steps, however, it is important to provide some context.

A1.1. Cost Allocation Context

The test year cost of service is calculated using a utility-based cost method whereby test year revenue (or total cost) is the sum of three components: O&M expense, depreciation expense, and a return on plant in service. The cost allocation steps described in Sections A1.2 through A1.4 are applied separately to each of the three cost components. Below is a description of each of these components within the context of the current rate study.

O&M. Total O&M spending is equal to O&M presented in the test year (2023) Water Fund audited financial statements, excluding debt service, depreciation, and certain accrued expenses.

Depreciation (use of capital assets). Total depreciation is equal to the amount presented in the 2023 Water Fund audited financial statements, excluding depreciation on contributed assets (those assets, such as water meters, whose installation was paid for directly by individual customers).

Return on Assets. This is the result of applying an “interest rate” (rate-of-return or ROR) to the net book value of plant in service. Plant in service is equal to the amount presented in the 2019 audited financial statements, excluding contributed assets. Two rates of return are used in this cost allocation. “Regional” assets (assets that are shared with the wholesale customers and whose costs are allocated to wholesale – primarily watersheds and transmission assets) use the rate-of-return as defined in the wholesale contracts (5.9 percent in 2023). The rate-of-return on retail assets (i.e., everything that is not regional) is adjusted so

that the total rate-of-return is equal to the difference between the adjusted retail service revenue⁹ and the sum of O&M and depreciation in the test year. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{(Retail portion of Regional Assets*Regional ROR)} \\
 & + \text{(Retail assets*Retail ROR)} \\
 & + \text{Retail portion of Depreciation} \\
 & + \text{Retail portion of O\&M} \\
 & = \text{Adjusted Retail Revenue}
 \end{aligned}$$

where all values are for the 2023 test year.

The rate-of-return on only retail assets for 2023 is 4.1 percent.

A1.2. Step One: Water System Expense Allocation

The first step is to allocate test year expenses between wholesale and retail. This is similar to the split that is done to determine the wholesale revenue requirement for each year of the rate study.

Both wholesale customers (suburban municipalities and water districts) and Seattle’s direct service retail customers share the cost of the “regional” portion of Seattle’s water system, including facilities such as the watersheds and transmission pipelines. In addition, the system includes certain “subregional” assets, such as the West Seattle and Des Moines pipelines, which serve both Seattle retail customers and wholesale customers in the applicable subregions.

This step begins by assigning O&M and asset costs (depreciation and return on plant) to regional, subregional, and retail buckets. The regional O&M costs are then “grossed up” using various multipliers specified in the contracts to reimburse the Water Fund for additional general and administrative overhead costs not directly included in the regional bucket. The mechanics of this are similar to the G&A allocation used for CIP, including the need to create a corresponding regional credit to avoid counting expenses twice.

The resulting regional costs, subregional costs, and regional credit are then split by annual flows (as per contracts) between wholesale and retail customers. For 2023, 51 percent of regional costs went to wholesale and 49 percent to retail. The 2023 split of all subregional costs was 22 percent to wholesale and 78 percent to retail. The portion of the regional credit that retail receives is the amount it would pay under the contracts as a wholesale customer, so it is 49 percent.

Table **A1-1** presents Seattle’s share of combined O&M, depreciation, and return on asset expense in the 2019 test year.

Table A1-1
Seattle’s Share of Water System Utility-based Expense (2023)

	System Expense	Retail Share	
Regional Expense	86,025,703	49.3%	42,406,789
Regional Credit	-23,879,411	49.3%	-11,771,472
Sub-regional Expense	3,431,117	77.8%	2,669,212

⁹ Industry standards allow for adjustments to test periods for known and quantifiable changes. Revenue in 2019, the test year, was significantly above the level necessary to meet all financial policies. The adjustment to 2019 revenue, \$22.5 million, reduced revenue to the level that just met all financial policy targets.

Retail Expense	164,270,817	100.0%	164,270,817
Total	229,848,226		197,575,346

A1.3. Step Two: Allocation of Retail Expense to Allocation Categories

In Step Two, the retail share of each O&M activity and water asset (for depreciation and return on plant allocation) during the test year is assigned to one of seven allocation categories. This is an intermediate step which groups assets and services to then be allocated using customer characteristics (described in section A1.4). **Table A1-2** presents the distribution of actual 2023 retail expense between the various allocation categories.

Table A1-2
2023 Retail Water Expense by Allocation Category

Allocation Categories	O&M	Depreciation	Return on Plant	Total Retail Expense
Commodity	41,595,493	12,705,797	17,171,887	71,473,177
Accounts	12,567,512	11,082,286	10,467,150	34,116,949
Public Fire	1,877,716	218,823	390,300	2,486,839
Reservoirs	1,655,900	2,392,887	3,334,651	7,383,438
Mains	6,723,532	4,093,788	7,313,381	18,130,701
Asset Composite	18,539,777	0	0	18,539,777
Overall Composite	32,336,130	6,163,015	6,945,321	45,444,466
Total	115,296,061	36,656,596	45,622,689	197,575,346

A1.4. Step Three: Allocation of Expense by Allocation Category to Cost Component Categories

In Step Three, each allocation category from Step Two is distributed between the cost component categories. Some of these are fairly straightforward (e.g., commodity is allocated by annual flow) and some are a little more complicated. The details of each assignment follow in **Table A1-3**.

Table A1-3
**Allocation Factors for Assignment of Retail Expense
To Cost Component Categories**

Allocation Categories	Annual Flow	Equivalent Meters	Direct/ Engineering Basis
Commodity	100.0%		
Accounts		100.0%	
Public Fire			100.0%
Reservoirs	99.7%		0.3%
Mains	82.7%		17.3%
Asset Composite	61.6%	30.4%	8.1%
Overall Composite	67.1%	26.1%	6.8%

Commodity. This category is primarily made up of the regional and subregional costs identified in Step One. These costs are assigned to the commodity category because annual flow is what determines the split of costs between wholesale and retail customers.

Accounts. This category contains costs such as service replacements and meter testing and repair, which vary by meter size. It also includes customer related expenses which do not vary significantly with water usage or meter size, such as the Water Fund's share of the CCB billing system, communication equipment (Interactive Voice Response) and other IT investments. Costs are allocated using a factor called "equivalent meters" that assigns a higher weight to larger meters. Additional details on equivalent meters are in Section A1.5.

Public Fire. These categories include expenses which are directly attributable to public fire service, such as hydrant repair and flow testing.

Reservoirs. Reservoirs provide a source of water during fires as well as water for domestic purposes.

Their cost is allocated to these uses based on an engineering analysis of the proportion of capacity devoted to each use. Further information on this allocator is in Section A1.6.

Mains. Watermains are sized to meet fire flow requirements and domestic demands for water. The cost for this allocation category is split between public fire and annual flow categories based on the proportional share of total installed main cost attributed to fire uses and to domestic uses. Section A1.7 contains a detailed description of this calculation.

Asset Composite. This category includes items that support the Water Fund's asset base, such as Maximo and the stage gate process. The allocation among customer characteristics is the average allocation of all previously assigned asset costs.

Overall Composite. This category includes costs that support the overall Water Fund, such as Finance and the General Manager/CEO's Office. The allocation among customer characteristics is the average allocation of all costs.

The application of the allocation factors identified in Table A1-2 to the test year (2023) expense by allocation category in Table A1-3 gives us the distribution of actual test year costs between cost component categories, as presented in **Table A1-4** below.

Table A1-4
23 Cost of Service (O&M + Depreciation + Rate-of-Return)

Allocation Categories	Total Retail Expense	Annual Flow	Equivalent Meters	Direct/ Engineering Basis
Commodity	71,473,177	71,473,177		
Accounts	34,116,949		34,116,949	
Public Fire	2,486,839			2,486,839
Reservoirs	7,383,438	7,361,287		22,150
Mains	18,130,701	14,994,089		3,136,611
Asset Composite	18,539,777	11,414,632	5,627,326	1,497,820
Overall Composite	45,444,466	30,494,306	11,872,391	3,077,769
Total	197,575,346	135,737,491	51,616,665	10,221,189

These costs are then divided among customer classes based on the characteristics of each customer class. This step is discussed in detail in Sections 4.1 and 4.2.

A1.5. Calculation of Equivalent Meters Allocator

Section 4.3 in Chapter 4 discusses the use of the equivalent meters allocator to assign certain customer-service related expenses between customer classes.

For customer related expenses, a hybrid allocator was used to reflect that some costs vary with meter size (e.g., meter repair), and some do not (e.g., customer billing). The first step was to calculate the percentage of meters by customer class, with private fire discounted 50% to reflect that these meters are typically secondary meters on a domestic account.

Table A1-5

Step 1 of Equivalent Meters Calculation - Meters by Customer Class

	0.75	1	1.5	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	16	20	24	Total	Percentage
Residential	152,179	18,187	1,469	551	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	172,391	87%
General Service	6,587	5,043	3,783	5,022	473	1,165	421	136	33	10	0	2	0	22,676	11%
Private Fire @50%	580	2	4	292	12	730	595	316	12	3	0	0	0	2,543	1%
Total	159,346	23,232	5,256	5,865	486	1,896	1,017	453	45	13	0	2	0	197,608	100%

Step two is to calculate the percentage of meters per customer class after weighting the meter counts using standard American Water Works Association (AWWA) meter progression ratios by meter size. Similar to step one, the private fire ratios were discounted 75% to reflect that these meters are typically secondary meters on a domestic account and typically use very little water.

Table A1-6

Step 2 of Equivalent Meters Calculation – Weighted Meter Counts by Customer Class

	0.75	1	1.5	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	16	20	24	Total
Residential Count	152,179	18,187	1,469	551	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Weighting Factor	1	2	3	5	10	17	33	53	77	143	250	325	420	
Residential Weighted Count	152,179	30,918	4,848	2,920	10	17	33	53	0	0	0	0	0	190,978

	0.75	1	1.5	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	16	20	24	Total
General Service Count	6,587	5,043	3,783	5,022	473	1,165	421	136	33	10	0	2	0	
Weighting Factor	1	2	3	5	10	17	33	53	77	143	250	325	420	
Gen Svc Weighted Count	6,587	8,573	12,484	26,617	4,730	19,456	14,019	7,249	2,531	1,433	0	650	0	104,328

	0.75	1	1.5	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	16	20	24	Total
Private Fire Count	1,159	4	8	583	23	1,460	1,189	631	23	5	0	0	0	
Weighting Factor @25%	0	0	1	1	3	4	8	13	19	36	63	81	105	
Private Fire Weighted Count	290	2	7	772	58	6,096	9,898	8,408	441	179	0	0	0	26,150

Table A1-7
Step 2 of Equivalent Meters Calculation – Weighted Meter Percentages

	Total	Percentage
Residential Weighted Count	190,978	59.4%
Gen Svc Weighted Count	104,328	32.5%
Private Fire Weighted Count	26,150	8.1%
Total	321,457	100%

The last step is to average the results of step one and step two. The hybrid allocator produced is used to allocate customer related expenses between customer classes.

Table A1-8
Equivalent Meters Allocation Percentage Basis

	Allocation on Meter Count Basis	Allocation on Weighted Basis	Hybrid Allocation
Residential	87.2%	59.4%	73.3%
General Service	11.5%	32.5%	22.0%
Private Fire	1.3%	8.1%	4.7%

A1.6. Allocation of Reservoirs to Public Fire

The allocation of reservoirs to public fire was updated in a previous rate study since the reservoir covering projects are nearly complete. (Note that for the rate study, “reservoirs” includes reservoirs, tanks, and standpipes.) From an allocation perspective, there are two types of reservoirs: regional/subregional reservoirs whose costs are shared with wholesale customers and those that are retail only. As discussed in Section 4, the retail portions of regional and subregional assets are considered commodity assets since the wholesale/retail split is determined by consumption. In other words, if a particular retail customer class uses more water, they will cause a higher portion of costs to be allocated to retail customers. Therefore, costs are caused by commodity regardless of the nature of the underlying asset.

For retail only reservoirs, detailed reservoir sizing is used to develop an overall allocation between public fire and commodity. For most reservoirs there is no dedicated fire storage, since water is available to the reservoir under gravity flow. It is only reservoirs that rely on pumped water for refill that have a dedicated amount of storage for public fire. That amount of dedicated storage is determined as 8,000 gpm for 15 minutes (equal to 0.12 MG), which is the response time needed to restore water flow to each of the non-gravity supplied reservoirs by remote start of a diesel pump or by activating a turbine driven pump. **Table A1-9** is based on reservoir data from SPU’s 2013 Water System Plan.

Table A1-9
Reservoir Capacities

Millions of Gallons (MG)	Capacity	Storage Required
Retail Reservoirs		
Bitter Lake	21.3	N/A
Beacon	50	N/A
Lincoln	12.7	N/A
Magnolia	5.5	0.12

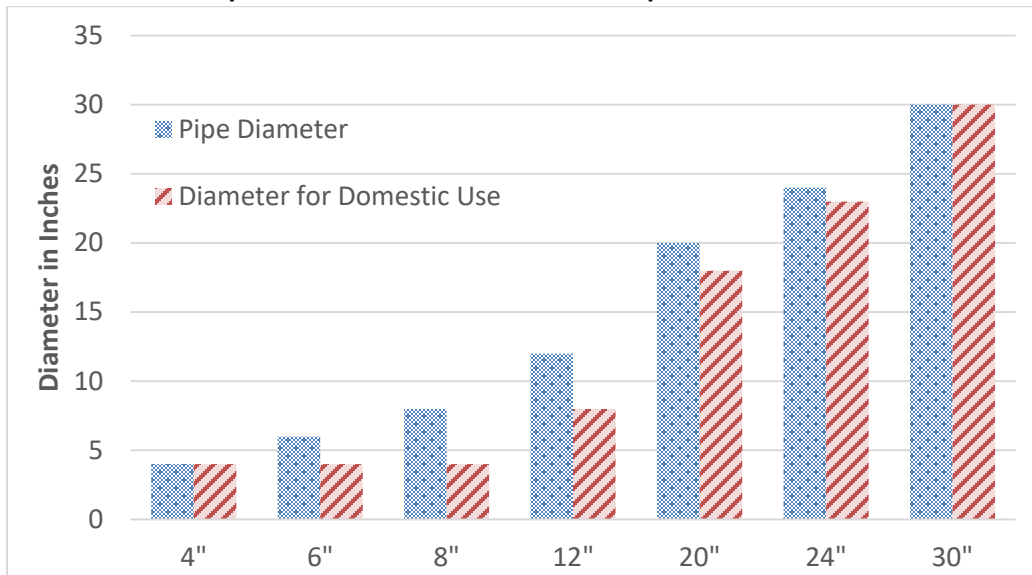
Myrtle	5	0.12
View Ridge	2.5	N/A
Roosevelt	50.3	N/A
Volunteer	20.5	N/A
Retail Tanks		
Charlestown	1.3	0.12
Queen Anne	1.9	0.12
North Trenton	1.2	N/A
South Trenton	1.2	N/A
Volunteer Park	0.9	0.12
Magnolia Bluff	1	N/A
Total	175.3	0.6
Percentage Allocated to Public Fire		0.3%

A1.7. Calculation of Watermains Allocator

Watermains are sized to meet fire flow requirements and domestic demands for water. In sizing the watermain, the pipe must have sufficient capacity to meet two separate criteria: (i) peak hour domestic demand and (ii) peak day domestic demand + fire flow requirements. For medium and small-size pipes (8 inch diameter or less) the second criterion will be the binding constraint. For larger size pipes (i.e., pipes that are serving very large areas or areas with very dense developments), the first criteria (peak hour demand) will be the binding constraint.

The most common size pipe in Seattle's system is, by far, an 8 inch diameter pipe. In areas served by 8 inch mains, domestic peak hour flows, i.e., the first criteria, can typically be met with 4 inch mains. The oversizing from 4 inch to 8 inch is needed to meet the second criterion. Taking into account that hydraulic capacity grows exponentially with the diameter of the pipe, this means about 25 percent of the 8 inch pipe is serving domestic flows and 75 percent is providing fire protection. Pipes smaller than 8 inch were installed on the system when the fire flow requirements were lower than they are today. For this allocation exercise, the cost of 4 inch mains were assigned to domestic service and the increased size of 6 inch mains were assigned to public fire protection. For pipes larger than 8 inch, the share of capacity needed for fire flows shrinks until we reach pipes with diameters of 30 inches or more. The graph below shows the relationship between pipe size and fire flow requirements expressed in diameters.

Figure A1-2
Actual Pipe Diameters Versus Diameter Required for Domestic Use



Pipe Diameter (inches)	4	6	8	12	20	24	30
Diameter for Domestic Use	4	4	4	8	18	23	30
Capacity for Domestic Use	100%	44%	25%	44%	81%	92%	100%

The cost of watermain is split between fire protection and domestic uses based on each group's proportionate share of total watermain asset value. The calculation of this asset value takes into account the shares of hydraulic capacity discussed above. The steps to determining the appropriate allocation for watermain assets are as follows:

1. Estimate net book value by pipe size for all the mains in the system. SPU financial systems track net book value for total water mains, but not by pipe size. For the purposes of this allocation, net book value by pipe size is estimated by applying estimated accumulated depreciation to estimated replacement cost by pipe size. An adjustment factor is then applied in order to adjust each pipe size so that the total estimated net book value equals actual total watermain net book value as of 12/31/19. Estimated replacement cost by pipe size is determined as follows:

$$\text{Estimated Replacement Cost} = (\$ \text{Cost} / \text{LF}_d) \times (\text{LF}_d)$$

Where $\$ \text{Cost} / \text{LF}_d$ = the replacement cost per lineal feet of a pipe of diameter 'd,' and

LF_d = the number of lineal feet in the system of pipe of diameter 'd' as of 2019.

Using cost indices by year installed, the replacement cost net book value is converted to an estimated original net book value by year installed.

2. Determine cost associated with fire protection service.

Fire Protection Net Book Value =

$$\sum (\text{Hydraulic Capacity for Fire}_d) \div (\text{Hydraulic Capacity of Pipe}_d) \times (\text{Net Book Value by Pipe Length})$$

3. Determine the proportion of the watermain net book value devoted to fire protection.

Proportion of costs for fire protection =

$$(\text{Fire Protection Net Book Value}) \div (\text{Total Net Book Value})$$

The percentage share determined in Step Three is then used to assign watermain costs to fire protection.

Using the above methodology, the cost share assigned to fire protection for this rate period is 42 percent.

APPENDIX B: INFORMATIONAL TABLES

B1.1. Residential Rate History

Effective Date:	1/1/17	1/1/18	1/1/19	1/1/20	1/1/22	1/1/23	1/1/24	1/1/25	1/1/26
Residential - Inside Seattle									
<u>Commodity Rate (per ccf)</u>									
Off-Peak	\$5.15	\$5.20	\$5.27	\$5.40	\$5.56	\$5.76	\$5.76	\$5.79	\$5.82
Peak 1st Block	\$5.29	\$5.33	\$5.41	\$5.55	\$5.71	\$5.92	\$5.92	\$5.95	\$5.98
Peak 2nd Block	\$6.54	\$6.59	\$6.69	\$6.86	\$7.06	\$7.32	\$7.32	\$7.36	\$7.39
Peak 3rd Block	\$11.80	\$11.80	\$11.80	\$11.80	\$11.80	\$11.80	\$11.80	\$11.80	\$11.80
<u>Meter Charge (\$s/mtr/mo)</u>									
3/4 inch	\$15.15	\$16.10	\$17.15	\$18.45	\$19.00	\$19.60	\$19.60	\$20.45	\$21.35
1 inch	\$15.60	\$16.60	\$17.70	\$19.00	\$19.60	\$20.20	\$20.20	\$21.10	\$22.00
1 1/2 inch	\$24.10	\$25.60	\$27.25	\$29.35	\$30.20	\$31.15	\$31.15	\$32.50	\$33.95
2 inch	\$26.65	\$28.35	\$30.20	\$32.50	\$33.45	\$34.50	\$34.50	\$36.00	\$37.60
3 inch	\$98.80	\$104.95	\$111.80	\$120.30	\$123.90	\$127.80	\$127.80	\$133.35	\$139.20
4 inch	\$141.50	\$150.40	\$160.20	\$172.35	\$177.45	\$183.05	\$183.05	\$191.00	\$199.00
<u>Utility Credit</u>									
Fixed Credit (per month)	\$20.56	\$21.15	\$12.86	\$22.85	\$23.52	\$24.33	\$24.33	\$24.83	\$25.36
<u>Commodity Rate (per ccf)</u>									
Off-Peak	\$2.58	\$2.60	\$2.64	\$2.70	\$2.78	\$2.88	\$2.88	\$2.90	\$2.91
Peak 1st Block	\$2.65	\$2.67	\$2.71	\$2.78	\$2.86	\$2.96	\$2.96	\$2.98	\$2.99
Peak 2nd Block	\$3.27	\$3.30	\$3.35	\$3.43	\$3.53	\$3.66	\$3.66	\$3.68	\$3.70
Peak 3rd Block	\$5.90	\$5.90	\$5.90	\$5.90	\$5.90	\$5.90	\$5.90	\$5.90	\$5.90
Meter Charges (Discount)	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%

Effective Date:	1/1/17	1/1/18	1/1/19	1/1/20	1/1/22	1/1/23	1/1/24	1/1/25	1/1/26
Residential - Outside Seattle									
<u>Commodity Rate (per ccf)</u>									
Off-Peak	\$5.87	\$5.93	\$6.01	\$6.16	\$6.34	\$6.57	\$6.57	\$6.60	\$6.63
Peak 1st Block	\$6.03	\$6.08	\$6.17	\$6.33	\$6.51	\$6.75	\$6.75	\$6.78	\$6.82
Peak 2nd Block	\$7.46	\$7.51	\$7.63	\$7.82	\$8.05	\$8.34	\$8.34	\$8.39	\$8.42
Peak 3rd Block	\$13.45	\$13.45	\$13.45	\$13.45	\$13.45	\$13.45	\$13.45	\$13.45	\$13.45
<u>Meter Charge (\$s/mtr/mo)</u>									
3/4 inch	\$17.25	\$18.35	\$19.55	\$21.05	\$21.65	\$22.35	\$22.35	\$23.30	\$24.35
1 inch	\$17.80	\$18.90	\$20.20	\$21.65	\$22.35	\$23.05	\$23.05	\$24.05	\$25.10
1 1/2 inch	\$27.45	\$29.20	\$31.05	\$33.45	\$34.45	\$35.50	\$35.50	\$37.05	\$38.70
2 inch	\$30.40	\$32.30	\$34.45	\$37.05	\$38.15	\$39.35	\$39.35	\$41.05	\$42.85
3 inch	\$112.65	\$119.65	\$127.45	\$137.15	\$141.25	\$145.70	\$145.70	\$152.00	\$158.70
4 inch	\$161.30	\$171.45	\$182.65	\$196.50	\$202.30	\$208.70	\$208.70	\$217.75	\$227.00
<u>Utility Credit</u>									
Fixed Credit (per month)	\$20.56	\$21.15	\$12.86	\$22.85	\$23.52	\$24.33	\$24.33	\$24.83	\$25.36
<u>Commodity Rate (per ccf)</u>									
Off-Peak	\$2.94	\$2.97	\$3.01	\$3.08	\$3.17	\$3.29	\$3.29	\$3.30	\$3.32
Peak 1st Block	\$3.02	\$3.04	\$3.09	\$3.17	\$3.26	\$3.38	\$3.38	\$3.39	\$3.41
Peak 2nd Block	\$3.73	\$3.76	\$3.82	\$3.91	\$4.03	\$4.17	\$4.17	\$4.20	\$4.21
Peak 3rd Block	\$6.73	\$6.73	\$6.73	\$6.73	\$6.73	\$6.73	\$6.73	\$6.73	\$6.73
Meter Charges (Discount)	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%

Effective Date:	1/1/17	1/1/18	1/1/19	1/1/20	1/1/22	1/1/23	1/1/24	1/1/25	1/1/26
Residential - Shoreline, Lake Forest Park									
<u>Commodity Rate (per ccf)</u>									
Off-Peak	\$6.25	\$6.31	\$6.39	\$6.55	\$6.74	\$6.99	\$6.99	\$7.02	\$7.06
Peak 1st Block	\$6.42	\$6.46	\$6.56	\$6.73	\$6.92	\$7.18	\$7.18	\$7.22	\$7.25
Peak 2nd Block	\$7.93	\$7.99	\$8.11	\$8.32	\$8.56	\$8.88	\$8.88	\$8.93	\$8.96
Peak 3rd Block	\$14.31	\$14.31	\$14.31	\$14.31	\$14.31	\$14.31	\$14.31	\$14.31	\$14.31
<u>Meter Charge (\$s/mtr/mo)</u>									
3/4 inch	\$18.35	\$19.55	\$20.80	\$22.40	\$23.05	\$23.75	\$23.75	\$24.80	\$25.90
1 inch	\$18.90	\$20.15	\$21.45	\$23.05	\$23.75	\$24.50	\$24.50	\$25.60	\$26.70
1 1/2 inch	\$29.25	\$31.05	\$33.05	\$35.60	\$36.65	\$37.80	\$37.80	\$39.40	\$41.15
2 inch	\$32.30	\$34.40	\$36.65	\$39.40	\$40.55	\$41.85	\$41.85	\$43.65	\$45.60
3 inch	\$119.80	\$127.30	\$135.60	\$145.90	\$150.25	\$155.00	\$155.00	\$161.70	\$168.80
4 inch	\$171.60	\$182.40	\$194.30	\$209.00	\$215.20	\$222.00	\$222.00	\$231.65	\$241.00
<u>Utility Credit</u>									
Fixed Credit (per month)	\$20.56	\$21.15	\$21.86	\$22.85	\$23.52	\$24.33	\$24.33	\$24.83	\$25.36
<u>Commodity Rate (per ccf)</u>									
Off-Peak	\$3.13	\$3.16	\$3.20	\$3.28	\$3.37	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$3.51	\$3.53
Peak 1st Block	\$3.21	\$3.23	\$3.28	\$3.37	\$3.46	\$3.59	\$3.59	\$3.61	\$3.63
Peak 2nd Block	\$3.97	\$4.00	\$4.06	\$4.16	\$4.28	\$4.44	\$4.44	\$4.47	\$4.48
Peak 3rd Block	\$7.16	\$7.16	\$7.16	\$7.16	\$7.16	\$7.16	\$7.16	\$7.16	\$7.16
Meter Charges (Discount)	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%
<u>Master Metered Residential Development</u>									
<u>Commodity Rate (per ccf)</u>									
Off-Peak	\$6.25	\$6.31	\$6.39	\$6.55	\$6.74	\$6.99	\$6.99	\$7.02	\$7.06
Peak 1st Block	\$6.42	\$6.46	\$6.56	\$6.73	\$6.92	\$7.18	\$7.18	\$7.22	\$7.25
Peak 2nd Block	\$7.93	\$7.99	\$8.11	\$8.32	\$8.56	\$8.88	\$8.88	\$8.93	\$8.96
Peak 3rd Block	\$14.31	\$14.31	\$14.31	\$14.31	\$14.31	\$14.31	\$14.31	\$14.31	\$14.31
Meter Charges (See above)									

Effective Date:	1/1/17	1/1/18	1/1/19	1/1/20	1/1/22	1/1/23	1/1/24	1/1/25	1/1/26
Residential - Burien									
<u>Commodity Rate (per ccf)</u>									
Off-Peak	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$6.89	\$7.33	\$7.14	\$7.17	\$7.21
Peak 1st Block	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$7.08	\$7.53	\$7.34	\$7.37	\$7.41
Peak 2nd Block	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$8.75	\$9.26	\$9.07	\$9.12	\$9.16
Peak 3rd Block	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$14.62	\$14.31	\$14.62	\$14.62	\$14.62
<u>Meter Charge (\$s/mtr/mo)</u>									
3/4 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$23.55	\$24.85	\$24.30	\$25.35	\$26.45
1 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$24.30	\$25.60	\$25.05	\$26.15	\$27.25
1 1/2 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$37.40	\$39.15	\$38.60	\$40.25	\$42.05
2 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$41.45	\$43.30	\$42.75	\$44.60	\$46.60
3 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$153.55	\$159.35	\$158.35	\$165.25	\$172.50
4 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$219.90	\$227.80	\$226.80	\$236.65	\$247.00
<u>Utility Credit</u>									
Fixed Credit (per month)	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$23.52	\$22.85	\$24.33	\$24.83	\$25.36
<u>Commodity Rate (per ccf)</u>									
Off-Peak	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$3.45	\$3.67	\$3.57	\$3.59	\$3.61
Peak 1st Block	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$3.54	\$3.77	\$3.67	\$3.69	\$3.71
Peak 2nd Block	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$4.38	\$4.63	\$4.54	\$4.56	\$4.58
Peak 3rd Block	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$7.31	\$7.16	\$7.31	\$7.31	\$7.31
Meter Charges (See above)	NA	NA	NA	NA	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%

* Burien rates began on 1/1/22

B1.2. General Service Rate History

Effective Date:	1/1/17	1/1/18	1/1/19	1/1/20	1/1/22	1/1/23	1/1/24	1/1/25	1/1/26
General Service - Inside Seattle									
<u>Commodity Rate (per ccf)</u>									
Off-Peak	\$5.15	\$5.20	\$5.27	\$5.40	\$5.52	\$5.72	\$5.90	\$5.98	\$6.06
Peak	\$6.54	\$6.59	\$6.69	\$6.86	\$7.01	\$7.27	\$7.50	\$7.60	\$7.70
<u>Meter Charge (\$s/mtr/mo)</u>									
3/4 inch	\$15.15	\$16.10	\$17.15	\$18.45	\$18.85	\$19.55	\$21.90	\$23.50	\$25.20
1 inch	\$15.60	\$16.60	\$17.70	\$19.00	\$19.45	\$20.15	\$22.60	\$24.25	\$26.00
1 1/2 inch	\$24.10	\$25.60	\$27.25	\$29.35	\$29.95	\$31.10	\$34.80	\$37.35	\$40.05
2 inch	\$26.65	\$28.35	\$30.20	\$32.50	\$33.20	\$34.40	\$38.55	\$41.40	\$44.35
3 inch	\$98.80	\$104.95	\$111.80	\$120.30	\$122.90	\$127.45	\$143.00	\$153.00	\$164.00
4 inch	\$141.50	\$150.40	\$160.20	\$172.35	\$176.05	\$182.60	\$205.00	\$219.00	\$235.00
6 inch	\$174.10	\$185.05	\$197.10	\$212.00	\$217.00	\$225.00	\$252.00	\$270.00	\$290.00
8 inch	\$205.00	\$218.00	\$232.00	\$250.00	\$255.00	\$264.00	\$296.00	\$318.00	\$341.00
10 inch	\$297.00	\$297.00	\$297.00	\$305.00	\$312.00	\$323.00	\$362.00	\$389.00	\$417.00
12 inch	\$402.00	\$402.00	\$402.00	\$412.00	\$421.00	\$436.00	\$489.00	\$525.00	\$562.00
16 inch	\$477.00	\$477.00	\$477.00	\$477.00	\$477.00	\$490.00	\$549.00	\$589.00	\$631.00
20 inch	\$614.00	\$614.00	\$614.00	\$614.00	\$614.00	\$614.00	\$627.00	\$672.00	\$721.00
24 inch	\$771.00	\$771.00	\$771.00	\$771.00	\$771.00	\$771.00	\$771.00	\$771.00	\$819.00
Utility Credit - Inside & Outside (Fixed Credit per month)									
Commercial (Multifamily)	\$12.38	\$12.38	\$12.38	\$12.50	\$12.78	\$13.25	\$13.73	\$13.96	\$14.19

Effective Date:	1/1/17	1/1/18	1/1/19	1/1/20	1/1/22	1/1/23	1/1/24	1/1/25	1/1/26
General Service - Outside Seattle									
<u>Commodity Rate (per ccf)</u>									
Off-Peak	\$5.87	\$5.93	\$6.01	\$6.16	\$6.29	\$6.52	\$6.73	\$6.82	\$6.91
Peak	\$7.46	\$7.51	\$7.63	\$7.82	\$7.99	\$8.29	\$8.55	\$8.66	\$8.78
<u>Meter Charge (\$s/mtr/mo)</u>									
3/4 inch	\$17.25	\$18.35	\$19.55	\$21.05	\$21.50	\$22.30	\$24.95	\$26.80	\$28.75
1 inch	\$17.80	\$18.90	\$20.20	\$21.65	\$22.15	\$22.95	\$25.75	\$27.65	\$29.65
1 1/2 inch	\$27.45	\$29.20	\$31.05	\$33.45	\$34.15	\$35.45	\$39.65	\$42.60	\$45.65
2 inch	\$30.40	\$32.30	\$34.45	\$37.05	\$37.85	\$39.20	\$43.95	\$47.20	\$50.55
3 inch	\$112.65	\$119.65	\$127.45	\$137.15	\$140.10	\$145.30	\$163.00	\$174.40	\$186.95
4 inch	\$161.30	\$171.45	\$182.65	\$196.50	\$200.70	\$208.15	\$233.70	\$249.65	\$267.90
6 inch	\$198.45	\$210.95	\$224.70	\$242.00	\$247.00	\$257.00	\$287.00	\$308.00	\$331.00
8 inch	\$234.00	\$249.00	\$264.00	\$285.00	\$291.00	\$301.00	\$337.00	\$363.00	\$389.00
10 inch	\$339.00	\$339.00	\$339.00	\$348.00	\$356.00	\$368.00	\$413.00	\$443.00	\$475.00
12 inch	\$458.00	\$458.00	\$458.00	\$470.00	\$480.00	\$497.00	\$557.00	\$599.00	\$641.00
16 inch	\$544.00	\$544.00	\$544.00	\$544.00	\$544.00	\$559.00	\$626.00	\$671.00	\$719.00
20 inch	\$700.00	\$700.00	\$700.00	\$700.00	\$700.00	\$700.00	\$715.00	\$766.00	\$822.00
24 inch	\$879.00	\$879.00	\$879.00	\$879.00	\$879.00	\$879.00	\$879.00	\$879.00	\$934.00
Utility Credit - Inside & Outside (Fixed Credit per month)									
Commercial (Multifamily)	\$12.38	\$12.38	\$12.38	\$12.50	\$12.78	\$13.25	\$13.73	\$13.96	\$14.19

Effective Date:	1/1/17	1/1/18	1/1/19	1/1/20	1/1/22	1/1/23	1/1/24	1/1/25	1/1/26
General Service - Shoreline, City of Lake Forest Park									
<u>Commodity Rate (per ccf)</u>									
Off-Peak	\$6.25	\$6.31	\$6.39	\$6.55	\$6.69	\$6.94	\$7.16	\$7.25	\$7.35
Peak	\$7.93	\$7.99	\$8.11	\$8.32	\$8.50	\$8.82	\$9.10	\$9.22	\$9.34
<u>Meter Charge (\$s/mtr/mo)</u>									
3/4 inch	\$18.35	\$19.55	\$20.80	\$22.40	\$22.85	\$23.70	\$26.55	\$28.50	\$30.55
1 inch	\$18.90	\$20.15	\$21.45	\$23.05	\$23.60	\$24.45	\$27.40	\$29.40	\$31.55
1 1/2 inch	\$29.25	\$31.05	\$33.05	\$35.60	\$36.30	\$37.70	\$42.20	\$45.30	\$48.55
2 inch	\$32.30	\$34.40	\$36.65	\$39.40	\$40.25	\$41.70	\$46.75	\$50.20	\$53.80
3 inch	\$119.80	\$127.30	\$135.60	\$145.90	\$149.05	\$154.55	\$173.45	\$185.55	\$198.90
4 inch	\$171.60	\$182.40	\$194.30	\$209.00	\$213.50	\$221.45	\$248.60	\$265.60	\$285.00
6 inch	\$211.15	\$224.40	\$239.05	\$257.00	\$263.00	\$273.00	\$306.00	\$327.00	\$352.00
8 inch	\$249.00	\$264.00	\$281.00	\$303.00	\$309.00	\$320.00	\$359.00	\$386.00	\$414.00
10 inch	\$360.00	\$360.00	\$360.00	\$370.00	\$378.00	\$392.00	\$439.00	\$472.00	\$506.00
12 inch	\$488.00	\$488.00	\$488.00	\$500.00	\$511.00	\$529.00	\$593.00	\$637.00	\$682.00
16 inch	\$579.00	\$579.00	\$579.00	\$579.00	\$578.00	\$594.00	\$666.00	\$714.00	\$765.00
20 inch	\$745.00	\$745.00	\$745.00	\$745.00	\$745.00	\$745.00	\$760.00	\$815.00	\$874.00
24 inch	\$935.00	\$935.00	\$935.00	\$935.00	\$935.00	\$935.00	\$935.00	\$935.00	\$993.00
Utility Credit - Inside & Outside (Fixed Credit per month)									
Commercial (Multifamily)	\$12.38	\$12.38	\$12.38	\$12.50	\$12.78	\$13.25	\$13.73	\$13.96	\$14.19

Effective Date:	1/1/17	1/1/18	1/1/19	1/1/20	1/1/22	1/1/23	1/1/24	1/1/25	1/1/26
General Service - Burien									
<u>Commodity Rate (per ccf)</u>									
Off-Peak	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$6.84	\$7.29	\$7.31	\$7.41	\$7.51
Peak	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$8.69	\$9.21	\$9.29	\$9.42	\$9.54
<u>Meter Charge (\$s/mtr/mo)</u>									
3/4 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$23.35	\$24.85	\$27.15	\$29.10	\$31.25
1 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$24.10	\$25.55	\$28.00	\$30.05	\$32.20
1 1/2 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$37.10	\$39.15	\$43.10	\$46.30	\$49.65
2 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$41.15	\$43.25	\$47.75	\$51.30	\$54.95
3 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$152.30	\$162.95	\$177.20	\$189.60	\$203.20
4 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$218.15	\$231.25	\$254.00	\$271.35	\$291.20
6 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$269.00	\$284.00	\$312.00	\$335.00	\$359.00
8 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$316.00	\$332.00	\$367.00	\$394.00	\$423.00
10 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$387.00	\$405.00	\$449.00	\$482.00	\$517.00
12 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$522.00	\$545.00	\$606.00	\$651.00	\$696.00
16 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$591.00	\$612.00	\$680.00	\$730.00	\$782.00
20 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$761.00	\$766.00	\$777.00	\$833.00	\$893.00
24 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$955.00	\$960.00	\$955.00	\$955.00	\$1,015.00
Utility Credit - Inside & Outside (Fixed Credit per month)									
Commercial (Multifamily)	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$12.78	\$13.25	\$13.73	\$13.96	\$14.19

Effective Date:	1/1/17	1/1/18	1/1/19	1/1/20	1/1/22	1/1/23	1/1/24	1/1/25	1/1/26
General Service - Mercer Island									
<u>Commodity Rate (per ccf)</u>									
Off-Peak	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$6.64	\$6.89	\$7.10	\$7.20	\$7.30
Peak	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$8.44	\$8.75	\$9.03	\$9.15	\$9.27
<u>Meter Charge (\$s/mtr/mo)</u>									
8 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$307.00	\$318.00	\$356.00	\$383.00	\$410.00
10 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$376.00	\$389.00	\$436.00	\$468.00	\$502.00
Utility Credit - Inside & Outside (Fixed Credit per month)									
Commercial (Multifamily)	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$12.78	\$13.25	\$13.73	\$13.96	\$14.19

B1.3. Wholesale Rate History

Effective Date:	1/1/11	1/1/12	1/1/13	1/1/14	1/1/15	1/1/16	1/1/17	1/1/18	1/1/19	1/1/20
Full and Partial Contracts										
Commodity Rate (per ccf)										
Off-Peak	\$1.16	\$1.52	\$1.53	\$1.53	\$1.42	\$1.42	\$1.42	\$1.50	\$1.58	\$1.67
Peak	\$1.79	\$2.26	\$2.26	\$2.27	\$2.10	\$2.10	\$2.10	\$2.22	\$2.36	\$2.50
Growth Charge	\$0.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Demand Charge (\$/1000 gals of deficient storage)	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$22.00
One Time New Service Fee (\$s/mtr)										
3/4 inch	\$783	\$783								
1 inch	\$1,566	\$1,566								
1 inch and smaller			\$877	\$936	\$936	\$936	\$936	\$936	\$1,081	\$1,081
1 1/2 inch	\$3,915	\$3,915	\$3,915	\$4,180	\$4,180	\$4,180	\$4,180	\$4,180	\$4,825	\$4,825
2 inch	\$6,264	\$6,264	\$6,264	\$6,688	\$6,688	\$6,688	\$6,688	\$6,688	\$7,720	\$7,720
3 inch	\$17,226	\$17,226	\$17,226	\$18,392	\$18,392	\$18,392	\$18,392	\$18,392	\$21,230	\$21,230
4 inch	\$24,273	\$24,273	\$24,273	\$25,916	\$25,916	\$25,916	\$25,916	\$25,916	\$29,915	\$29,915
6 inch	\$51,678	\$51,678	\$51,678	\$55,176	\$55,176	\$55,176	\$55,176	\$55,176	\$63,690	\$63,690
8 inch	\$87,696	\$87,696	\$87,696	\$93,632	\$93,632	\$93,632	\$93,632	\$93,632	\$108,080	\$108,080
10 inch	\$132,327	\$132,327	\$132,327	\$141,284	\$141,284	\$141,284	\$141,284	\$141,284	\$163,085	\$163,085
12 inch	\$186,354	\$186,354	\$186,354	\$198,968	\$198,968	\$198,968	\$198,968	\$198,968	\$229,670	\$229,670
16 inch	\$186,354	\$186,354	\$186,354	\$198,968	\$198,968	\$198,968	\$198,968	\$198,968	\$229,670	\$229,670
20 inch	\$186,354	\$186,354	\$186,354	\$198,968	\$198,968	\$198,968	\$198,968	\$198,968	\$229,670	\$229,670
24 inch	\$186,354	\$186,354	\$186,354	\$198,968	\$198,968	\$198,968	\$198,968	\$198,968	\$229,670	\$229,670

Note: Rates enacted in 2020 are still in effect through 2026.

B1.4. Private Fire Rate History

Effective Date:	1/1/17	1/1/18	1/1/19	1/1/20	1/1/22	1/1/23	1/1/24	1/1/25	1/1/26
Volume (Penalty) Rate per ccf									
Inside	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00
Outside	\$22.80	\$22.80	\$22.80	\$22.80	\$22.80	\$22.80	\$22.80	\$22.80	\$22.80
Meter Charge (\$s/mtr/mo)									
Inside Seattle									
2 inch	\$16.25	\$16.25	\$17.25	\$17.75	\$17.75	\$17.75	\$17.75	\$17.75	\$17.75
3 inch	\$21.00	\$21.00	\$22.00	\$23.00	\$23.00	\$23.00	\$23.00	\$23.00	\$23.00
4 inch	\$39.00	\$39.00	\$41.00	\$43.00	\$43.00	\$43.00	\$43.00	\$43.00	\$43.00
6 inch	\$66.00	\$66.00	\$71.00	\$73.00	\$73.00	\$73.00	\$73.00	\$73.00	\$73.00
8 inch	\$105.00	\$105.00	\$112.00	\$115.00	\$115.00	\$115.00	\$115.00	\$115.00	\$115.00
10 inch	\$152.00	\$152.00	\$161.00	\$166.00	\$166.00	\$166.00	\$166.00	\$166.00	\$166.00
12 inch	\$222.00	\$222.00	\$235.00	\$242.00	\$242.00	\$242.00	\$242.00	\$242.00	\$242.00
Outside Seattle									
2 inch	\$19.00	\$19.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00
3 inch	\$24.00	\$24.00	\$25.00	\$26.00	\$26.00	\$26.00	\$26.00	\$26.00	\$26.00
4 inch	\$44.00	\$44.00	\$47.00	\$49.00	\$49.00	\$49.00	\$49.00	\$49.00	\$49.00
6 inch	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$81.00	\$83.00	\$83.00	\$83.00	\$83.00	\$83.00	\$83.00
8 inch	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$128.00	\$131.00	\$131.00	\$131.00	\$131.00	\$131.00	\$131.00
10 inch	\$173.00	\$173.00	\$184.00	\$189.00	\$189.00	\$189.00	\$189.00	\$189.00	\$189.00
12 inch	\$253.00	\$253.00	\$268.00	\$276.00	\$276.00	\$276.00	\$276.00	\$276.00	\$276.00

Effective Date:	1/1/17	1/1/18	1/1/19	1/1/20	1/1/22	1/1/23	1/1/24	1/1/25	1/1/26
Volume (Penalty) Rate per ccf									
Shoreline, Lake Forest Park	\$24.30	\$24.30	\$24.30	\$24.30	\$24.30	\$24.30	\$24.30	\$24.30	\$24.30
Burien	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$24.80	\$24.80	\$24.80	\$24.80	\$24.80
Meter Charge (\$s/mtr/mo)									
Shoreline, Lake Forest Park									
2 inch	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$21.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$22.00
3 inch	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$27.00	\$28.00	\$28.00	\$28.00	\$28.00	\$28.00	\$28.00
4 inch	\$47.00	\$47.00	\$50.00	\$52.00	\$52.00	\$52.00	\$52.00	\$52.00	\$52.00
6 inch	\$80.00	\$80.00	\$86.00	\$89.00	\$89.00	\$89.00	\$89.00	\$89.00	\$89.00
8 inch	\$127.00	\$127.00	\$136.00	\$139.00	\$139.00	\$139.00	\$139.00	\$139.00	\$139.00
10 inch	\$184.00	\$184.00	\$195.00	\$201.00	\$201.00	\$201.00	\$201.00	\$201.00	\$201.00
12 inch	\$269.00	\$269.00	\$285.00	\$293.00	\$293.00	\$293.00	\$293.00	\$293.00	\$293.00
Burien									
2 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$22.00
3 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$29.00	\$28.00	\$28.00	\$28.00	\$28.00
4 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$53.00	\$52.00	\$52.00	\$52.00	\$52.00
6 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$90.00	\$89.00	\$89.00	\$89.00	\$89.00
8 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$143.00	\$139.00	\$139.00	\$139.00	\$139.00
10 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$206.00	\$201.00	\$201.00	\$201.00	\$201.00
12 inch	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$300.00	\$293.00	\$293.00	\$293.00	\$293.00

B1.5. Public Fire Rate History

Effective Date:	1/1/17	1/1/18	1/1/19	1/1/20	1/1/22	1/1/23	1/1/24	1/1/25	1/1/26
Inside Seattle									
Hydrants on 4 inch Mains	\$202.43	\$304.52	\$310.68	\$321.20	\$503.95	\$521.70	\$528.17	\$545.26	\$556.68
Hydrants on 6 inch and larger mains	\$491.53	\$548.49	\$559.59	\$578.53	\$669.04	\$692.60	\$703.13	\$725.88	\$741.09
Burien									
Hydrants on 4 inch Mains	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$547.78	\$567.06	\$574.09	\$592.68	\$605.09
Hydrants on 6 inch and larger mains	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$729.22	\$754.90	\$764.27	\$789.01	\$805.53

B1.6. Average Effective System Rate Increase History

Effective Date	Rate Increase
May 16, 2001	5.9%
July 16, 2001	3rd Tier Adopted
January 1, 2002	5.6%
September 16, 2002	14.5%
January 1, 2004	10.6%
January 1, 2005	0.2%
June 1, 2006	0.8%
January 1, 2007	4.6%
January 1, 2008	5.9%
January 1, 2009	11.7%
March 31, 2009*	6.9%
January 1, 2010	9.3%
January 1, 2011**	0.6%
January 1, 2012	9.9%
January 1, 2013	9.7%
January 1, 2014	3.4%
January 1, 2015	-1.9%
January 1, 2016	2.5%
January 1, 2017	2.4%
January 1, 2018	0.7%
January 1, 2019	5.1%
January 1, 2020	2.3%
January 1, 2021	-2.8%
January 1, 2022	3.3%
January 1, 2023	6.5%
January 1, 2024	3.5%
January 1, 2025	0.6%

* Temporary surcharge to cover costs related
to *Lane v. City of Seattle, 2008*

** Expiration of surcharge

Note: Average system rate increases presented includes both retail and wholesale rate changes.

B1.7. Historical Financial Performance

	Target	Actual 2017	Actual 2018	Actual 2019	Actual 2020	Actual 2021	Actual 2022	Actual 2023	Actual 2024	Actual 2025
Net Income (\$1,000's)	positive	51,195	82,036	49,482	55,913	72,239	57,297	49,511	47,684	37,244
Debt Service Coverage	1.7x	1.94	2.27	2.07	2.03	2.28	2.18	1.88	2.25	2.13
Cash Financing of the Capital Program	20%*	55.9%	50.9%	47.2%	53.0%	52.0%	41.9%	40.5%	42.3%	35.1%
from Rate Revenues		37.1%	35.5%	35.4%	45.2%	42.4%	31.3%	31.3%	31.6%	28.1%
from Contributions in Aid of Construction		18.8%	15.4%	11.8%	7.8%	9.6%	10.6%	9.2%	10.7%	7.0%
from Bonneville Power Administration Account		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Year-End Operating Cash (\$1,000's)	varies* *	54,637	93,941	130,036	140,762	103,020	88,984	106,297	109,255	130,569
Revenue Stabilization Fund Deposit (Withdrawal) (\$1,000)		5,200	7,650	2,518	0	(19,000)	0	3,700	3,200	(17,795)

* Current revenues should be used to finance no less than 15% of the CIP in any one year, and not less than 20% in each rate proposal

** Year-End Operating Cash Target is 1/12th of the current year's operating expenses

B1.8. Actual Operations Expenditures

	Actual 2017	Actual 2018	Actual 2019	Actual 2020	Actual 2021	Actual 2022	Actual 2023	Actual 2024	Actual 2025
Branch O&M *	117,562,578	112,343,955	113,409,070	112,728,101	119,210,888	121,372,844	149,234,590	151,190,126	183,308,215
Taxes	41,676,404	46,354,856	46,330,520	45,676,064	47,190,837	47,964,841	50,210,041	51,714,418	53,846,544
Debt Service									
Interest	42,781,460	41,047,099	38,667,809	36,478,735	34,124,124	31,378,137	30,821,592	29,324,213	29,665,500
Principal	41,206,473	43,069,929	45,129,935	47,674,935	44,824,935	50,294,935	50,760,000	44,025,000	47,205,000

* Includes contracts associated with treatment plants

APPENDIX C: PROPOSED RATES

Effective January 1, 2027									
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	
RATE SCHEDULES	Inside City				Outside City				
	Residential	MMRD*	Gen Svc	Fire Service	Residential	MMRD*	Gen Svc	Fire Service	
1	Commodity Charge (\$/100 Cubic Feet)								
2									
3	Offpeak Usage (Sept 16-May 15)	\$6.15	\$6.15	\$6.21	\$7.01	\$7.01	\$7.08		
4	Peak Usage (May 16-Sept 15)								
5	Up to 5 ccf**	\$6.32	\$6.32	\$7.89	\$7.20	\$7.20	\$8.99		
6	Next 13 ccf**	\$7.81	\$7.81	\$7.89	\$8.90	\$8.90	\$8.99		
7	Over 18 ccf**	\$11.80	\$11.80	\$7.89	\$13.45	\$13.45	\$8.99		
8									
9	Usage over base allowance	\$20.00			\$22.80				
10									
11	Utility Credit (\$/month)	\$26.76	\$14.54		\$26.76	\$14.54			
12									
13	Base Service Charge (\$/month/meter)								
14									
15	3/4 inch and less	\$22.50	\$25.75		\$25.65	\$29.35			
16	1 inch	\$23.20	\$26.55		\$26.45	\$30.25			
17	1-1/2 inch	\$35.75	\$35.75	\$40.95	\$40.75	\$40.75	\$46.70		
18	2 inch	\$39.60	\$39.60	\$45.35	\$17.75	\$45.15	\$45.15	\$51.70	\$20.00
19	3 inch	\$146.70	\$146.70	\$168.00	\$23.00	\$167.25	\$167.25	\$191.50	\$26.00
20	4 inch	\$210.00	\$210.00	\$241.00	\$43.00	\$239.00	\$239.00	\$274.75	\$49.00
21	6 inch		\$259.00	\$296.00	\$73.00		\$295.00	\$337.00	\$83.00
22	8 inch		\$304.00	\$348.00	\$115.00		\$347.00	\$397.00	\$131.00
23	10 inch		\$372.00	\$426.00	\$166.00		\$424.00	\$486.00	\$189.00
24	12 inch		\$502.00	\$575.00	\$242.00		\$572.00	\$656.00	\$276.00
25	16 inch		\$564.00	\$645.00			\$643.00	\$735.00	
26	20 inch		\$644.00	\$737.00			\$734.00	\$840.00	
27	24 inch		\$771.00	\$837.00			\$879.00	\$954.00	

* Master Metered Residential Development

** per residence

Effective January 1, 2027

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	(a)	(j)	(k)	(l)	(m)	(n)	(o)	(p)	(q)	(r)	(s)
	RATE SCHEDULES	City of Shoreline / City of Lake Forest Park					Burien				Mercer Island
		Residential	MMRD*	Gen Svc	Fire Service	MMRD* w/PUT	Residential	MMRD*	Gen Svc	Fire Service	Gen Svc
1	Commodity Charge (\$/100 Cubic Feet)										
2											
3	Offpeak Usage (Sept 16-May 15)	\$7.46	\$7.46	\$7.53		\$6.98	\$7.62	\$7.62	\$7.70		\$7.48
4	Peak Usage (May 16-Sept 15)										
5	Up to 5 ccf**	\$7.66	\$7.66	\$9.57		\$7.17	\$7.83	\$7.83	\$9.78		\$9.50
6	Next 13 ccf**	\$9.47	\$9.47	\$9.57		\$8.86	\$9.68	\$9.68	\$9.78		\$9.50
7	Over 18 ccf**	\$14.31	\$14.31	\$9.57		\$13.39	\$14.62	\$14.62	\$9.78		\$9.50
8											
9	Usage over base allowance	\$24.30					\$24.80				
10											
11	Utility Credit (\$/month)	\$26.76		\$14.54			\$26.76		\$14.54		\$14.19
12											
13	Base Service Charge (\$/month/meter)										
14											
15	3/4 inch and less	\$27.30		\$31.25			\$27.90		\$31.90		
16	1 inch	\$28.15		\$32.20			\$28.75		\$32.90		
17	1-1/2 inch	\$43.35	\$43.35	\$49.65		\$40.65	\$44.30	\$44.30	\$50.75		
18	2 inch	\$48.05	\$48.05	\$55.00	\$22.00	\$44.95	\$49.05	\$49.05	\$56.20	\$22.00	
19	3 inch	\$177.90	\$177.90	\$203.75	\$28.00	\$166.50	\$181.80	\$181.80	\$208.15	\$29.00	
20	4 inch	\$255.00	\$255.00	\$292.30	\$52.00	\$238.35	\$260.00	\$260.00	\$298.65	\$53.00	
21	6 inch		\$314.00	\$359.00	\$89.00	\$278.00		\$321.00	\$367.00	\$90.00	
22	8 inch		\$369.00	\$422.00	\$139.00	\$328.00		\$377.00	\$431.00	\$143.00	\$419.00
23	10 inch		\$451.00	\$517.00	\$201.00	\$422.00		\$461.00	\$528.00	\$206.00	\$513.00
24	12 inch		\$609.00	\$697.00	\$293.00	\$570.00		\$622.00	\$713.00	\$300.00	
25	16 inch		\$684.00	\$782.00		\$640.00		\$699.00	\$799.00		
26	20 inch		\$781.00	\$894.00		\$731.00		\$798.00	\$913.00		
27	24 inch		\$935.00	\$1,015.00		\$875.00		\$955.00	\$1,037.00		

* Master Metered Residential Development

** per residence

Effective January 1, 2028

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)
	RATE SCHEDULES	Inside City				Outside City			
		Residential	MMRD*	Gen Svc	Fire Service	Residential	MMRD*	Gen Svc	Fire Service
1	Commodity Charge (\$/100 Cubic Feet)								
2									
3	Offpeak Usage (Sept 16-May 15)	\$6.45	\$6.45	\$6.40		\$7.35	\$7.35	\$7.30	
4	Peak Usage (May 16-Sept 15)								
5	Up to 5 ccf**	\$6.63	\$6.63	\$8.13		\$7.56	\$7.56	\$9.27	
6	Next 13 ccf**	\$8.19	\$8.19	\$8.13		\$9.34	\$9.34	\$9.27	
7	Over 18 ccf**	\$11.80	\$11.80	\$8.13		\$13.45	\$13.45	\$9.27	
8									
9	Usage over base allowance				\$20.00				\$22.80
10									
11	Utility Credit (\$/month)	\$28.20		\$15.01		\$28.20		\$15.01	
12									
13	Base Service Charge (\$/month/meter)								
14									
15	3/4 inch and less	\$23.85		\$27.25		\$27.20		\$31.05	
16	1 inch	\$24.60		\$28.10		\$28.05		\$32.05	
17	1-1/2 inch	\$37.90	\$37.90	\$43.30		\$43.20	\$43.20	\$49.35	
18	2 inch	\$42.00	\$42.00	\$48.00	\$17.75	\$47.90	\$47.90	\$54.70	\$20.00
19	3 inch	\$155.50	\$155.50	\$178.00	\$23.00	\$177.25	\$177.25	\$202.90	\$26.00
20	4 inch	\$223.00	\$223.00	\$255.00	\$43.00	\$254.00	\$254.00	\$290.70	\$49.00
21	6 inch		\$274.00	\$313.00	\$73.00		\$312.00	\$357.00	\$83.00
22	8 inch		\$323.00	\$369.00	\$115.00		\$368.00	\$421.00	\$131.00
23	10 inch		\$394.00	\$451.00	\$166.00		\$449.00	\$514.00	\$189.00
24	12 inch		\$532.00	\$608.00	\$242.00		\$606.00	\$693.00	\$276.00
25	16 inch		\$598.00	\$683.00			\$682.00	\$779.00	
26	20 inch		\$682.00	\$780.00			\$777.00	\$889.00	
27	24 inch		\$775.00	\$885.00			\$884.00	\$1,009.00	

* Master Metered Residential Development

** per residence

Effective January 1, 2028

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	(a)	(j)	(k)	(l)	(m)	(n)	(o)	(p)	(q)	(r)	(s)
	RATE SCHEDULES	City of Shoreline / City of Lake Forest Park					Burien				Mercer Island
		Residential	MMRD*	Gen Svc	Fire Service	MMRD* w/PUT	Residential	MMRD*	Gen Svc	Fire Service	Gen Svc
1	Commodity Charge (\$/100 Cubic Feet)										
2											
3	Offpeak Usage (Sept 16-May 15)	\$7.82	\$7.82	\$7.76		\$7.32	\$7.99	\$7.99	\$7.93		\$7.70
4	Peak Usage (May 16-Sept 15)										
5	Up to 5 ccf**	\$8.04	\$8.04	\$9.86		\$7.53	\$8.22	\$8.22	\$10.07		\$9.79
6	Next 13 ccf**	\$9.93	\$9.93	\$9.86		\$9.30	\$10.15	\$10.15	\$10.07		\$9.79
7	Over 18 ccf**	\$14.31	\$14.31	\$9.86		\$13.39	\$14.62	\$14.62	\$10.07		\$9.79
8											
9	Usage over base allowance				\$24.30					\$24.80	
10											
11	Utility Credit (\$/month)	\$28.20		\$15.01			\$28.20		\$15.01		\$14.19
12											
13	Base Service Charge (\$/month/meter)										
14											
15	3/4 inch and less	\$28.90		\$33.05			\$29.55		\$33.75		
16	1 inch	\$29.85		\$34.10			\$30.50		\$34.80		
17	1-1/2 inch	\$45.95	\$45.95	\$52.50		\$43.00	\$46.95	\$46.95	\$53.65		
18	2 inch	\$50.95	\$50.95	\$58.20	\$22.00	\$47.65	\$52.05	\$52.05	\$59.50	\$22.00	
19	3 inch	\$188.60	\$188.60	\$215.85	\$28.00	\$176.50	\$192.70	\$192.70	\$220.55	\$29.00	
20	4 inch	\$270.00	\$270.00	\$309.25	\$52.00	\$253.10	\$276.00	\$276.00	\$316.00	\$53.00	
21	6 inch		\$332.00	\$380.00	\$89.00	\$311.00		\$340.00	\$388.00	\$90.00	
22	8 inch		\$392.00	\$448.00	\$139.00	\$367.00		\$400.00	\$457.00	\$143.00	\$444.00
23	10 inch		\$478.00	\$547.00	\$201.00	\$447.00		\$488.00	\$559.00	\$206.00	\$543.00
24	12 inch		\$645.00	\$737.00	\$293.00	\$604.00		\$659.00	\$753.00	\$300.00	
25	16 inch		\$725.00	\$828.00		\$679.00		\$741.00	\$846.00		
26	20 inch		\$827.00	\$946.00		\$774.00		\$845.00	\$967.00		
27	24 inch		\$940.00	\$1,073.00		\$880.00		\$960.00	\$1,097.00		

* Master Metered Residential Development

** per residence

Effective January 1, 2029

(a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f) (g) (h) (i)

RATE SCHEDULES	Inside City				Outside City			
	Residential	MMRD*	Gen Svc	Fire Service	Residential	MMRD*	Gen Svc	Fire Service
Commodity Charge (\$/100 Cubic Feet)								
Offpeak Usage (Sept 16-May 15)	\$6.73	\$6.73	\$6.64		\$7.67	\$7.67	\$7.57	
Peak Usage (May 16-Sept 15)								
Up to 5 ccf**	\$6.92	\$6.92	\$8.84		\$7.89	\$7.89	\$9.62	
Next 13 ccf**	\$8.55	\$8.55	\$8.84		\$9.75	\$9.75	\$9.62	
Over 18 ccf**	\$11.80	\$11.80	\$8.84		\$13.45	\$13.45	\$9.62	
Usage over base allowance				\$20.00				\$22.80
Utility Credit (\$/month)	\$29.63		\$15.59		\$29.63		\$15.59	
Base Service Charge (\$/month/meter)								
3/4 inch and less	\$25.30		\$28.80		\$28.85		\$32.85	
1 inch	\$26.10		\$29.70		\$29.75		\$33.85	
1-1/2 inch	\$40.20	\$40.20	\$45.80		\$45.85	\$45.85	\$52.20	
2 inch	\$44.55	\$44.55	\$50.70	\$17.75	\$50.80	\$50.80	\$57.80	\$20.00
3 inch	\$164.95	\$164.95	\$188.00	\$23.00	\$188.05	\$188.05	\$214.30	\$26.00
4 inch	\$236.00	\$236.00	\$269.00	\$43.00	\$269.00	\$269.00	\$306.65	\$49.00
6 inch		\$291.00	\$331.00	\$73.00		\$332.00	\$377.00	\$83.00
8 inch		\$342.00	\$389.00	\$115.00		\$390.00	\$443.00	\$131.00
10 inch		\$418.00	\$476.00	\$166.00		\$477.00	\$543.00	\$189.00
12 inch		\$565.00	\$643.00	\$242.00		\$644.00	\$733.00	\$276.00
16 inch		\$634.00	\$722.00			\$723.00	\$823.00	
20 inch		\$724.00	\$824.00			\$825.00	\$939.00	
24 inch		\$822.00	\$936.00			\$937.00	\$1,067.00	

* Master Metered Residential Development

** per residence

Effective January 1, 2029

(a)	(j)	(k)	(l)	(m)	(n)	(o)	(p)	(q)	(r)	(s)
RATE SCHEDULES	City of Shoreline / City of Lake Forest Park					Burien				Mercer Island

		Residential	MMRD*	Gen Svc	Fire Service	MMRD* w/PUT	Residential	MMRD*	Gen Svc	Fire Service	Gen Svc
1	Commodity Charge (\$/100 Cubic Feet)										
2											
3	Offpeak Usage (Sept 16-May 15)	\$8.16	\$8.16	\$8.05		\$7.64	\$8.34	\$8.34	\$8.23		\$7.99
4	Peak Usage (May 16-Sept 15)										
5	Up to 5 ccf**	\$8.39	\$8.39	\$10.24		\$7.85	\$8.57	\$8.57	\$10.46		\$10.16
6	Next 13 ccf**	\$10.37	\$10.37	\$10.24		\$9.70	\$10.59	\$10.59	\$10.46		\$10.16
7	Over 18 ccf**	\$14.31	\$14.31	\$10.24		\$13.39	\$14.62	\$14.62	\$10.46		\$10.16
8											
9	Usage over base allowance				\$24.30					\$24.80	
10											
11	Utility Credit (\$/month)	\$29.63		\$15.59			\$29.63		\$15.59		\$14.19
12											
13	Base Service Charge (\$/month/meter)										
14											
15	3/4 inch and less	\$30.70		\$34.95			\$31.35		\$35.70		
16	1 inch	\$31.65		\$36.00			\$32.35		\$36.80		
17	1-1/2 inch	\$48.75	\$48.75	\$55.55		\$45.65	\$49.80	\$49.80	\$56.75		
18	2 inch	\$54.05	\$54.05	\$61.50	\$22.00	\$50.55	\$55.20	\$55.20	\$62.80	\$22.00	
19	3 inch	\$200.05	\$200.05	\$228.00	\$28.00	\$187.20	\$204.40	\$204.40	\$232.95	\$29.00	
20	4 inch	\$286.00	\$286.00	\$326.25	\$52.00	\$267.85	\$292.00	\$292.00	\$333.35	\$53.00	
21	6 inch		\$353.00	\$401.00	\$89.00	\$330.00		\$361.00	\$410.00	\$90.00	
22	8 inch		\$415.00	\$472.00	\$139.00	\$388.00		\$424.00	\$482.00	\$143.00	\$468.00
23	10 inch		\$507.00	\$577.00	\$201.00	\$474.00		\$518.00	\$590.00	\$206.00	\$573.00
24	12 inch		\$685.00	\$780.00	\$293.00	\$641.00		\$700.00	\$797.00	\$300.00	
25	16 inch		\$769.00	\$876.00		\$720.00		\$786.00	\$895.00		
26	20 inch		\$878.00	\$999.00		\$822.00		\$897.00	\$1,021.00		
27	24 inch		\$997.00	\$1,135.00		\$933.00		\$1,019.00	\$1,160.00		

* Master Metered Residential Development

** per residence

SPU Water Rates 2027-2029

Seattle City Council

Governance & Utilities Committee

July 9, 2026

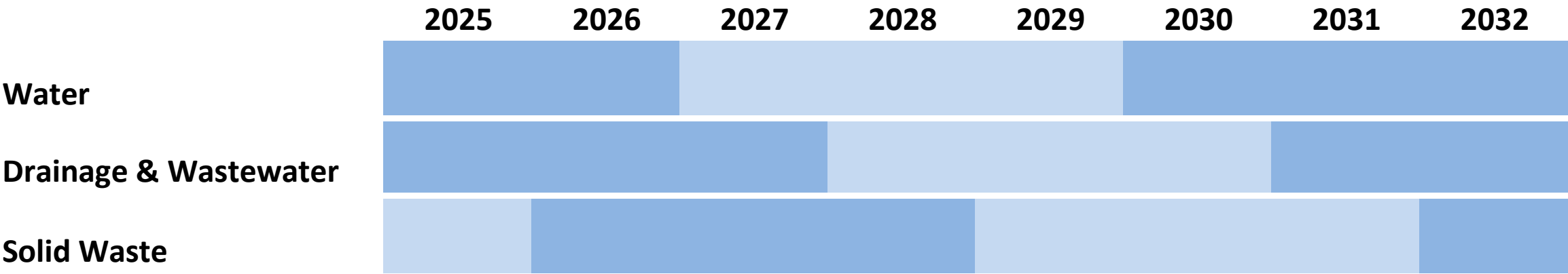
2027-2029 Water Rate Proposal

Agenda

- Background / Water System
- Rate Setting Process: Goals & New Investments
- Proposed Rate Path Assumptions
- SPU Recommendation
- Customer Bills
- Utility Discount Program

Background: SPU Rates Schedule

Rates are typically set for a three-year period:



Water System Overview

Approx. 1,800 miles of pipeline
SPU water reaches 1.6M people

2 Watershed sources of supply:
South Fork Tolt River and
Cedar River Watershed

- 25 miles east of Seattle
- 100,000 total acres owned by Seattle
- Can provide combined 300 MGD
- 2 additional well fields can provide additional 8 MGD

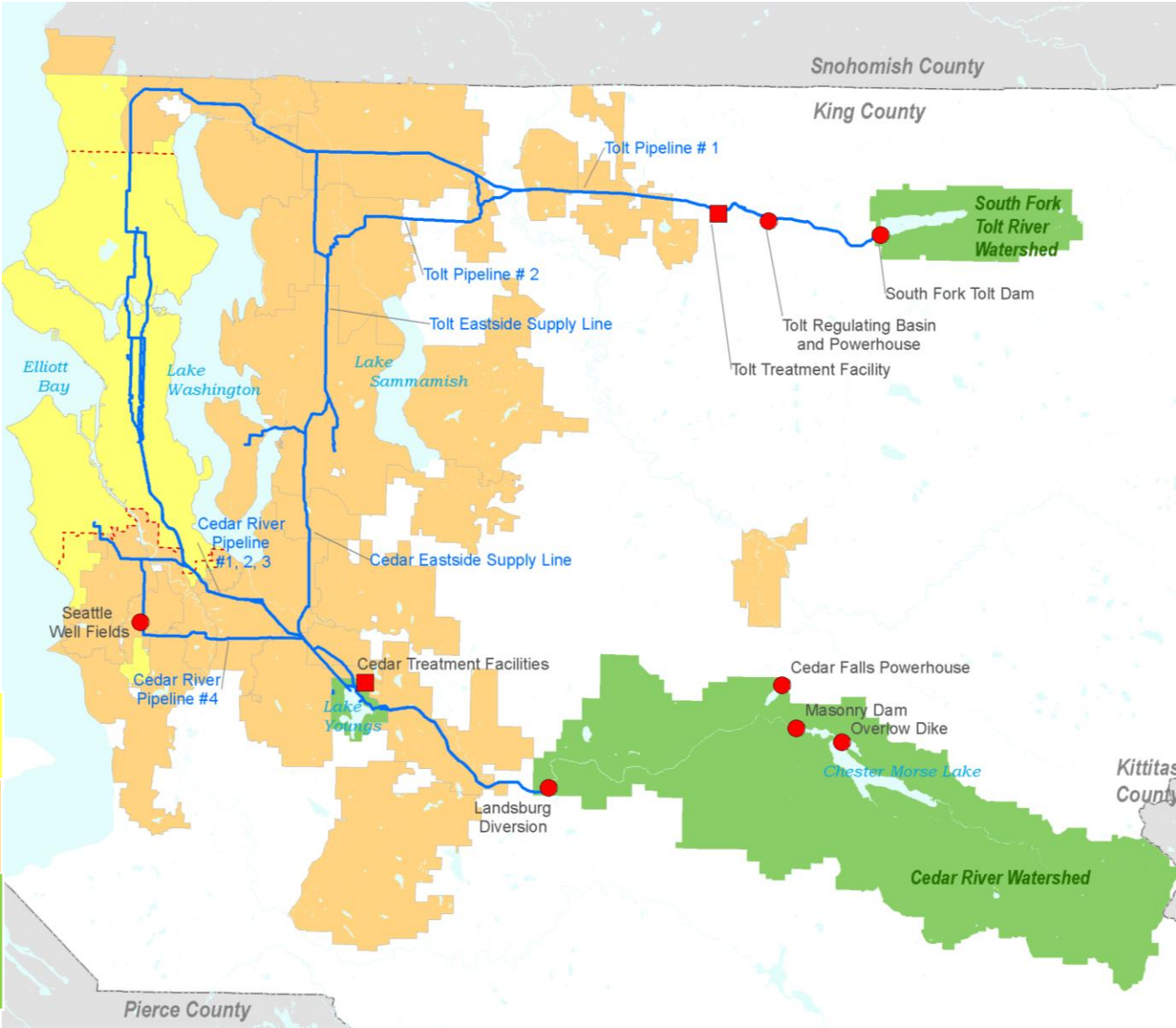
327 MG of treated storage, including:

- 222 MG transmission system storage
- 105 MG distribution system storage

2025 Customers Served

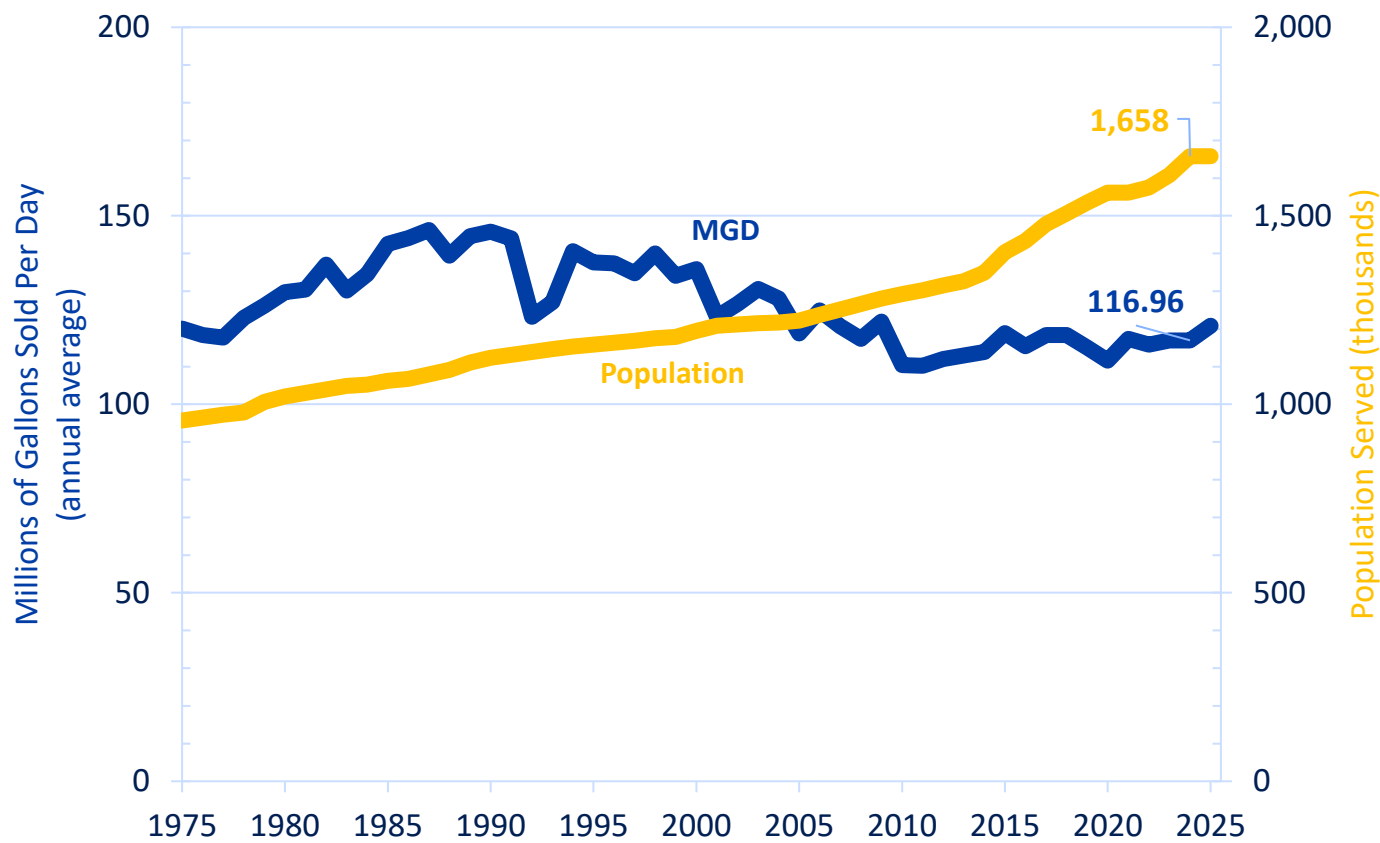
Residential	181,026
Commercial / Multi-Family	27,202
Wholesale	18

- Treatment Plant
- Major Facility

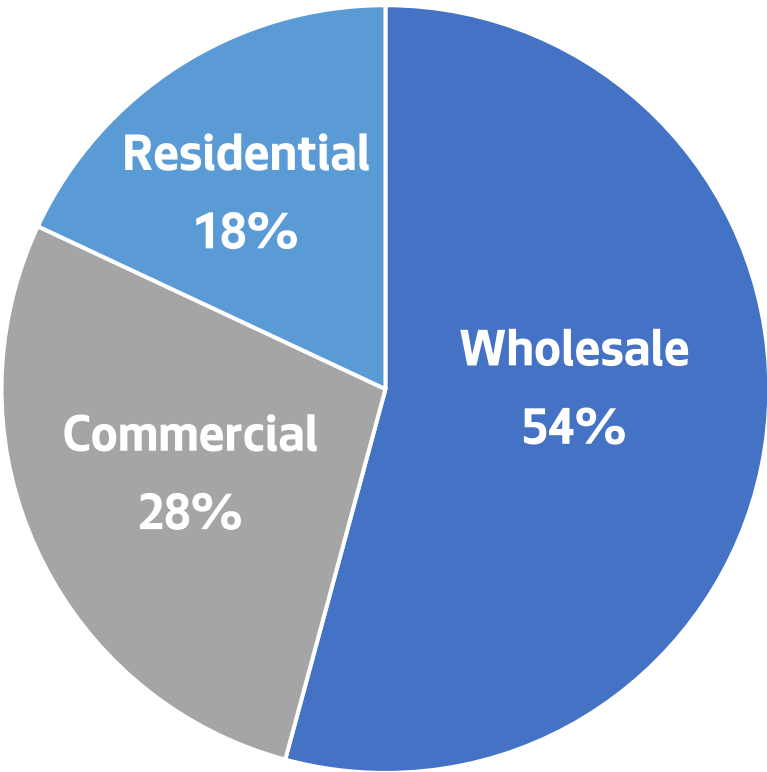


SPU Historic Water Consumption Trend

Total System Consumption and
Population Since 1975



2025 Consumption by Customer Class



Rate Setting—Our Goals and Principles

- Keep rates low to make SPU's water and waste services as **affordable & accessible** as possible
- **Collect sufficient revenue to maintain and strengthen the community's investments** in our infrastructure, our systems, and our people
- Keep rates as **smooth and predictable** as possible and avoid rate spikes
- Support and expand our **Utility Assistance Programs**
- Invest in the projects and programs that prioritize **asset preservation and modernization** and increase the utility's **resiliency and efficiency** into the future

New Investments Since Approved SBP (2024)

Investments

- Operations & Maintenance (O&M) program
 - Tolt Water Treatment Costs
 - Annual Hydrant Inspections, transferring work from SFD
- Capital (CIP) program
 - Tolt Land Purchase
 - Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) costs included, starting in 2028
 - Bitter Lake Reservoir Improvements
 - Watermain Rehabilitation
- Increased eligibility in Utility Discount Program
 - Expands eligible population by almost 1/3
 - Adds 1.0% to 2027 rate increase, approx. \$0.50 per month for residential customers



Proposed Rate Path

SBP	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Average
Water	2.0%	2.0%	6.3%	3.3%	6.5%	3.8%	4.0%

Proposal	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Average
Water	2.0%	2.0%	4.3%	4.3%	4.3%	3.7%	3.4%
Wastewater	5.0%	6.1%	7.9%	8.1%	8.7%	9.0%	7.5%
Drainage	4.4%	5.1%	4.9%	3.5%	3.2%	2.2%	3.9%
Solid Waste	2.4%	3.1%	3.1%	3.1%	3.0%	2.4%	2.9%
Combined	3.6%	4.3%	5.4%	5.2%	5.3%	5.0%	4.8%

SPU Rates Recommendation

The 2027-2029 Water Rate Proposal includes:

- 6-year Average Water Rate: **3.4%** (*down from 4.0%*)
- Water Rates (3-yr rate period): 4.3% (2027), 4.3% (2028), 4.3% (2029)
- Combined SPU 6-Year Average Rate: 4.8% (*no change*)

2027 – 2029 Customer Bill Examples of Proposed Water Rates

	2026	2027	Increase	2028	Increase	2029	Increase
Single Family	\$50.71	\$53.53	\$2.82	\$56.39	\$2.86	\$59.26	\$2.87
UDP Single Family	\$25.36	\$26.77	\$1.41	\$28.20	\$1.43	\$29.63	\$1.44
Convenience Store	\$125.10	\$128.10	\$3.00	\$132.75	\$4.65	\$138.30	\$5.55
Apartment Bldg (90 unit)	\$1,478	\$1,515	\$37	\$1,566	\$51	\$1,628	\$62

Questions/Comments?



Legislation Text

File #: CB 121246, **Version:** 1

Screen Reader Users: Make sure settings include reading strikethrough and underline font attributes.

The City of Seattle

Ordinance

Council Bill

An ordinance relating to emergency assistance for Seattle Public Utilities customers; amending

Section 21.76.065 of the Seattle Municipal Code to adjust program terms and conditions and expand eligibility guidelines for emergency bill assistance.

Recitals:

Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) Section 21.76.065 establishes the Emergency Assistance Program (EAP) for low-income customers of Seattle Public Utilities (SPU).

SMC Section 21.76.065 determines an SPU customer is eligible for EAP if the total household income of all household members does not exceed 80 percent of the Washington State median income for the number of individuals living in the household.

SMC Section 21.76.065 provides twice as much emergency bill payment assistance to SPU customers who have minor children in the household than to customers without minors in the household.

SPU charges are more closely related to the number of people in a household than to the minor-status of those in the household.

Seattle is experiencing a severe and accelerating affordability crisis driven by skyrocketing housing, childcare, healthcare, and basic living costs.

The May 2026 response to Statement of Legislative Intent SPU-12S-A from SPU, Seattle City Light (SCL), and Seattle Department of Human Services (HSD) contains recommendations to expand access to emergency assistance by increasing income eligibility to 80 percent of area median income and to allow eligible households access to the maximum amount of credit regardless of household composition.

There is a need to establish consistent eligibility and assistance guidelines across the various City utility assistance programs.

The Mayor and City Council wish to expand access to emergency assistance to more customers who may be struggling to pay their utility bills and align the SCL and SPU programs. Therefore,

Be it ordained by The City of Seattle as follows:

Section 1. Section 21.76.065 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance 126585, is amended as follows:

21.76.065 Low income emergency assistance program

A. Qualification. Upon satisfactory proof, emergency assistance shall be issued to each household for which a member of the household is billed, by Seattle Public Utilities (SPU), for water, wastewater, or solid waste services and has annual income that, when combined with the annual income of all household members, does not exceed 80 percent of the ~~((Washington State))~~ area median income for the number of individuals in the household as computed annually by the ~~((state or the City))~~ United States Department of Housing and Urban Development in the Multifamily Tax Subsidy Projects Income Limits for the Seattle-Bellevue, WA Metro Fair Market Rent Area. SPU may, at its discretion, require a payment plan for the unpaid balance as a condition of receiving emergency assistance under this program.

B. Application. Applicants shall provide the information required by the Human Services Department or SPU, on forms and in the manner determined by the Human Services Department or SPU.

C. Emergency credit. Customers with individually metered SPU residential accounts ~~((, metered for a single-family residence,))~~ and determined by the Human Services Department or SPU to be eligible under subsection 21.76.065.A, shall receive an emergency credit ~~((of 100 percent of the customer's delinquent bills))~~ up to a maximum credit defined in subsection 21.76.065.D ~~((, but may only receive such credit once each calendar year unless a minor child lives with the customer. When a minor child lives in the household, the customer may receive an emergency credit twice each calendar~~

year)) .

D. Maximum credit defined. ~~((In 2022 and subsequent years, the maximum amount of \$477))~~ SPU is authorized to establish rules pursuant to Chapter 3.02 establishing the maximum annual credit. The maximum credit amount shall be based on average SPU charges for four months of service and shall be adjusted annually by SPU to reflect the average growth in combined water, sewer, and solid waste bills for residential customers.

E. SPU is authorized and directed to administer the program, including establishing rules pursuant to Chapter 3.02, and entering into cooperative agreements with the Human Services Department, to carry out the program's intent and purpose. ~~((SPU may, at its discretion, require a payment plan for the unpaid balance as a condition of receiving emergency assistance under this program.~~

F. ~~Temporary COVID-19 assistance. Until December 31, 2023, households qualifying under subsection 21.76.065.A who do not have minor children in the household may receive a second emergency assistance credit within the same calendar year, notwithstanding anything in subsection 21.76.065.C.~~

G. ~~For customers eligible to receive two credits in one calendar year, the Department, at its discretion, may grant one credit exceeding the maximum single credit amount under subsection 21.76.065.D so long as the total amount credited to a customer during a calendar year does not exceed two times the single maximum credit.))~~

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect on April 10, 2027.

Passed by the City Council and signed in open session in authentication of its passage on .

President of the City Council
on .

Katie B. Wilson, Mayor

Attested on .

Scheereen Dedman, City Clerk

Seal

Summary and Fiscal Note

1. Legislation Summary

Department: Seattle Public Utilities

Title: An ordinance relating to emergency assistance for Seattle Public Utilities customers; amending Section 21.76.065 of the Seattle Municipal Code to adjust program terms and conditions and expand eligibility guidelines for emergency bill assistance.

Background: The ordinance would amend aspects of the Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) Emergency Assistance Program (EAP).

Currently, the EAP provides emergency bill assistance to households with income at or below 80% of the State Median Income (SMI). It provides a credit toward the eligible customer's current outstanding balance, up to a maximum dollar limit set in SMC and revised annually to reflect the growth in SPU's combined bills. For 2026, the maximum single credit amount is \$537. Households without minors can get one credit per year, and households with minors can get two credits per year. The credits cannot exceed the customer's outstanding balance.

This ordinance would achieve the following:

1. Expand assistance by increasing the income threshold from 80% SMI to 80% of Area Median Income as computed annually by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development in the Multifamily Tax

Subsidy Projects Income Limits for the Seattle-Bellevue, WA Metro Fair
Market Rent Area.

2. Expand assistance by allowing all households, regardless of the presence of minors, to access the maximum amount of credit, to be defined in Director's Rules and based on the average of 4 months of SPU charges.
3. Authorize and direct SPU to establish rules pursuant to Chapter 3.02 so that program administrative details can be moved out of the SMC and into SPU Director's Rules to allow the program to adapt more quickly to evolving customer needs.

These proposed changes are designed to expand access to EAP from 26,000 SPU customers to 36,000 and allow any eligible customer to the full assistance amount regardless of the age of household members. This change would provide assistance to more SPU customers who may be experiencing financial hardships and need assistance to prevent water shut-offs.

It is estimated that this program expansion could result in approximately \$1M more in emergency assistance each year for SPU customers. With the change going into effect in April 2027, the estimated impact for 2027 is \$700,000.

2. Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project?

☐ Yes

☒ No

3. Summary of Financial Implications

Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City?

☒ Yes

☐ No

a. Revenue Change to Other Funds

2026	2027 est.	2028 est.	2029 est.	2030 est.
	(700,000)	(1,000,000)	(1,050,000)	(1,100,000)

3b. Revenues/Reimbursements

This legislation adds, changes, or deletes revenues or reimbursements.

Anticipated Revenue/Reimbursement Resulting from This Legislation:

Fund Name and Number	Dept.	Revenue Source	2026 Revenue	2027 Estimated Revenue
43000 – Water Fund	SPU	Water Service		\$(180,000)
44010 – Drainage and Wastewater Fund	SPU	Sewage Service		\$(308,000)
Solid Waste Fund	SPU	Solid Waste Services		\$(212,000)
TOTAL	SPU			\$(700,000)

3d. Other Financial Impacts

a. Does this legislation create any other financial impacts for The City of Seattle, such as direct or indirect costs, one-time or ongoing, that aren't mentioned above? If yes, please explain these impacts.

No.

b. If the legislation has costs that can be covered within the current budget, explain how. Does the department have extra resources in its budget to handle

these costs? Or does the department need to shift resources away from other work to handle these costs?

This legislation does not have budgetary spending impacts. The impact to SPU will be reduced revenue through expansion of the emergency assistance program.

c. What financial costs or other impacts might happen if this legislation is not implemented?

This legislation provides relief to SPU customers that are unable to pay their utility bill. If this legislation is not adopted, the status quo will remain, and the expanded pool of eligible customers would not have access to this assistance program.

d. How might this legislation affect other City departments besides the one that proposed it?

No.

4. Other Impacts

a. Does this legislation require a public hearing?

☐ Yes

☒ No

b. Does this legislation require a notice to be published in The Daily Journal of Commerce and/or The Seattle Times?

☐ Yes

☒ No

c. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?

No.

d. Race and Social Justice Initiative impacts:

1. How does this legislation affect vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you come to this conclusion? Please consider both impacts within City government (like employees and internal programs) and in the broader community.

This legislation expands access to SPU's Emergency Assistance to approximately 13,000 additional low-income customers by increasing the income limit to 80% of Area Median Income.

Further, this legislation expands the amount of assistance available to households without minors, to better support vulnerable senior households, at the recommendation of SPU's frontline staff.

2. Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses used to develop or assess this legislation.

Based on the median household income by race and by age, utility cost burden disproportionately impacts people of color and people aged 65 and older. This legislation increases access and expands assistance to SPU customers with incomes up to 80% AMI to help prevent past due bills and water shutoffs.

3. What is the Language Access Plan for communicating with the public about this legislation?

The Utility Assistance Interdepartmental Team (IDT) is coordinating with the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs (OIRA) and the Department of Neighborhoods' Community Liaisons to develop and implement a comprehensive language access plan that will support public communications for this legislation and the broader expansion of Utility Assistance programs.

Our language access strategy includes:

- Distributing targeted press releases to ethnic media partners to share the information through their established community channels.
- Collaborating with community-based organizations that serve non-English-speaking communities to share translated information and culturally relevant messaging.
- Offering interviews and proactive outreach to in-language media outlets to support a smooth and accessible rollout.
- Updating program webpages, currently available in more than 15 languages, to reflect the changes introduced by the legislation and ensure that multilingual information is accessible and easy to navigate.

This work is integrated into the broader communications plan for the expansion of the Utility Discount Program and Seattle City Light's Emergency Bill Assistance program.

e. Climate change impacts:

1. Emissions: Will this legislation significantly increase or decrease carbon emissions? Attach any studies or materials that inform your answer.

No.

2. Resiliency: Will this legislation make Seattle more or less able to adapt to climate change? If it reduces resiliency, explain what can be done to lessen the impact.

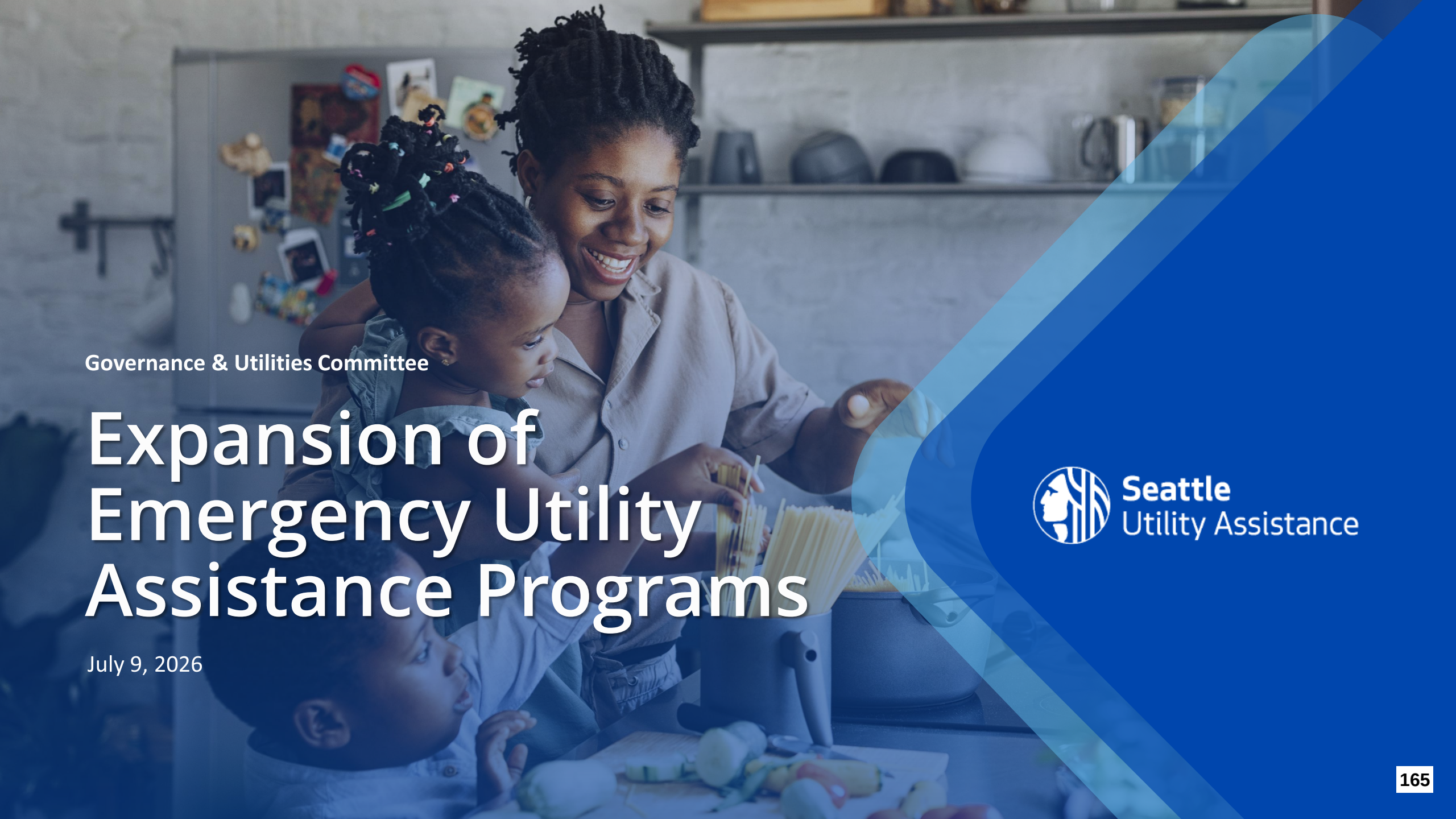
No impact.

f. If this legislation creates a new program or expands an existing one, what are the long-term, measurable goals? How will this legislation help achieve those goals? What methods will be used to track progress?

The goal of the SPU Emergency Assistance program is to prevent water shutoffs by assisting residential customers who experience episodic financial hardships in paying their bills. This is tracked by assessing residential customer delinquency rates, especially of those enrolled in the Utility Discount Program.

g. Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP that involves shared funding with a non-City partner or organization?

No.



Governance & Utilities Committee

Expansion of Emergency Utility Assistance Programs

July 9, 2026



Seattle
Utility Assistance

Path to Today

➤ **2026 Statement of Legislative Intent SPU-12S-A-2**

- Evaluation of expanding the eligibility for the utility assistance to people making 70% or 80% AMI at a lower discount
- Report emailed to Councilmembers on May 20, 2026
- June 11, 2026 presentation to Governance & Utilities Committee

Utility Discount Program (UDP)

SCL and SPU offer generous monthly discounts compared to peer utilities nationwide.



60% OFF



50% OFF

or an equivalent credit on the SCL bill if they live in multifamily housing.



**Expanding to 60% Area Median Income
in April 2027**



Emergency Bill Assistance Today

SCL's Emergency Bill Assistance (EBA)

Up to \$1420 in assistance per year for households with children

\$710 for households without children



SPU's Emergency Assistance Program (EAP)

Up to \$1074 in assistance per year for households with children

\$537 for households without children



Available to households with **incomes up to 80% SMI**
(\$76,548 for a 2-person household in 2026)

Available to households with **incomes up to 80% AMI**
(\$105,408 for 2-person household in 2026)

SCL's Project Share

Funded by customer donations

Provides a **\$250 bill credit**, once per calendar year



 Electricity bill  Public Utilities bill

Utility Assistance Expansion

Why Expand Emergency Assistance Programs?

Expands SCL and SPU's safety net to prevent electricity and water shutoffs

Supports a wider spectrum of utility assistance for households with incomes up to 80% AMI

Complies with Washington State Clean Energy Transformation Act's (CETA) requirement that electric utilities provide bill assistance to households up to 80% AMI

Will help inform future offerings for customers with incomes between 60% and 80% AMI

SPU Emergency Assistance Program Expansion

April 2027: Expand Emergency Assistance up to 80% AMI

- 80% AMI increases access to ~13,000 more SPU direct billed customers
- Customers receive assistance for 4 months of bills – essentially a 30% annual discount
- Doubles the amount of assistance available to the 80% of direct SPU Customers who don't have children in the home
- Aligns SPU and SCL program policies to reduce customer confusion and streamline administration



For customers below 60% AMI –

When SPU Emergency Assistance is combined with UDP, customers pay *only 33%* of annual water/sewer/garbage bills

Summary of SPU EAP Changes:

	Current Ordinance:	Proposed Legislation:	Impact:
1	Eligibility is $\leq$ 80% STATE median income	Eligibility is $\leq$ 80% of AREA median income	- Expands access to another 13,000 individually metered SPU customers - Total eligible SPU customers = ~39,000
2	Metered for a single-family residence	Individually metered residence	Modernizes SMCs to allow individually metered townhomes and condominiums
3	Maximum assistance amount doubled for households with minors	All households have access to the maximum - a fixed amount based ~4 months charges	- Responds to customer and frontline staff feedback after testing this approach during COVID - Doubles assistance available for 80% of eligible customers
4	Maximum annual assistance apportioned out over up to 4 times per year	Maximum annual assistance fully applied when application is approved	Lowers administrative burden by giving customer assistance up front instead of applying many times each year.
5	Administrative details are in SMCs and not evergreen	Moves program policies to Director's Rules	Allows program changes to adapt more quickly as customer needs evolve.

SCL Emergency Bill Assistance Program Expansion

April 2027: Expand Emergency Assistance up to 80% AMI

- 80% AMI increases access for ~50,000 more City Light customers in Seattle and surrounding franchise cities
- Customers receive assistance for 4 months of bills – essentially a 33% annual discount
- Helps our most energy burdened customers based on usage
- Complies with the Washington State Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA)
- Aligns SPU and SCL program policies to reduce customer confusion and streamline administration



For customers below 60% AMI –

When SCL Emergency Assistance is combined with UDP, customers pay *only* 25% of annual electricity bills

Summary of SCL EBA Changes:

	Current Ordinance:	Proposed Legislation:	Impact:
1	Eligibility is $\leq$ 80% STATE median income	Eligibility is $\leq$ 80% of AREA median income	- Expands access to another 50,000 SCL customer (households) - Total eligible SCL customers = ~188,000 (households)
2	Annual fixed benefit amount of \$710 per household or \$1420 per household with children	All households receive benefit equal to last two bi-monthly bills up to \$1420 annually	Adapts for energy burden out of customer control (ex. Renter in older building with electric heat, senior in larger single-family home).
3	Maximum annual assistance apportioned out over up to 4 times per year	Maximum annual assistance fully applied when application is approved	Lowers administrative burden by giving customer assistance up front instead of applying many times each year.
4	\$250 past due balance required for application approval	No past due balance required	- Lowers administrative burden and reduces customer effort with reapplying after denial - Aligns with current SPU emergency assistance program
5	Administrative details codified in SMCs and not evergreen	Moves program policies to Department Policies and Procedures (DPP)	Allows program changes to adapt more quickly as customer needs evolve.

Summary of Expanded Utility Assistance

Utility Discount Program



Expand eligibility from 70% SMI to 60% AMI

- Continues SCL 60% and SPU 50% bill discounts
- Increases eligible population **by 28%**
- Provides an **additional ~\$19M** in annual bill discounts

SCL Emergency Assistance



Expand eligibility from 80% SMI to 80% AMI

- Increases eligible population **by 37%**
- Provides an **additional ~\$1.5M** in assistance annually

SPU Emergency Assistance



Expand eligibility from 80% SMI to 80% AMI

- Increases eligible population **by 50%**
- Provides an **additional ~\$1M** in assistance annually

Questions?





Legislation Text

File #: CB 121247, **Version:** 1

Screen Reader Instruction Placeholder

The City of Seattle

Ordinance

Council Bill

An ordinance relating to the City Light Department's emergency bill assistance program; amending Section 21.49.042 of the Seattle Municipal Code to adjust program terms and conditions and expand eligibility guidelines for emergency bill assistance.

Recitals:

Rising energy costs in Seattle and in Seattle City Light's franchise cities place a disproportionate strain on households with limited incomes.

Reducing energy burden for income constrained households is essential to fulfilling Seattle City Light's responsibility to maintain affordability, fairness, and equitable treatment for all customers.

The Washington State Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA), codified in chapter 19.405 RCW, directs electric utilities to identify and reduce the energy burden on income constrained households and to demonstrate measurable progress toward meeting the energy assistance needs of customers earning up to 80 percent of area median income.

Seattle Municipal Code Section 21.49.042 authorizes an emergency low income bill assistance program through which eligible City Light residential customers may receive a credit toward their electric bill.

In 2025 the Emergency Bill Assistance Program supported nearly 6,000 City Light customers by providing approximately \$4.2 million in emergency bill assistance, and tailoring emergency bill assistance to a household's billed amount ensures support that reflects actual energy burden and accommodates annual rate changes.

The May 2026 response to Statement of Legislative Intent SPU-12S-A from Seattle Public Utilities, Seattle City Light, and the Seattle Human Services Department recommended expanding access to emergency assistance by increasing income eligibility to 80 percent of area median income and allowing eligible households to receive the maximum credit regardless of household composition.

Aligning eligibility criteria across City utility assistance programs will improve clarity, equity, and ease of access for customers.

The Mayor and City Council seek to expand access to emergency utility assistance for customers struggling to pay their electric bills. Therefore,

Be it ordained by The City of Seattle as follows:

Section 1. Section 21.49.042 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance 126584, is amended as follows:

21.49.042 - Emergency Bill Assistance Program

A. An emergency credit (~~(of up to 100 percent of a customer's delinquent bills not to exceed a maximum credit as provided in subsection 21.49.042.C))~~) may be granted by the Department to income-eligible residential electric consumption accounts, metered for a single household that qualify under the following criteria:

1. Total household income does not exceed 80 percent of the (~~(Washington State))~~ area median income for the number of individuals in the household as computed annually by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Multifamily Tax Subsidy Projects (MTSP) Income Limits for the Seattle-Bellevue, WA Metro Fair Market Rent Area; and

2. A customer has (~~(Have))~~) completed any Department program application where income eligibility is verified; and

3. A customer has ((Have received a ten-day notice)) a consumption account balance the customer is unable to pay or has received an Urgent Notice of Final Shut Off Notice from the Department notifying them that payment or a payment plan ((payment arrangements)) must be made to prevent disconnection ((or have a past due balance greater than \$250 on an active service agreement)) .

B. Eligible customers may receive an emergency credit amount not to exceed the greater of the total of the customer's two bi-monthly bill amounts (billed every other month) or last four monthly amounts (billed monthly) or the maximum annual benefit established in Department rules pursuant to Chapter 3.02. This credit can only be applied to offset current or future consumption bills. The Department is authorized to establish rules pursuant to Chapter 3.02 establishing the maximum annual benefit and procedures for allocating.

~~((B. A customer is eligible for the emergency credit once each calendar year, or twice each calendar year if the household includes at least one minor child.))~~

~~((C. In 2022 and subsequent years, the maximum credit of \$500 shall be adjusted annually by the Department to reflect the average change in electric bills for residential customers.))~~

C. ~~((D.))~~ The Department may, at its discretion, require a payment plan for the unpaid balance as a condition of receiving emergency assistance under the program.

~~((E. Until December 31, 2023, households qualifying under subsection 21.49.042.A who do not have minor children in the household may receive a second emergency assistance credit within the same calendar year, notwithstanding anything in subsection 21.49.042.B.~~

F. ~~For customers eligible to receive two credits in one calendar year, the Department, at its discretion, may grant one credit exceeding the maximum single credit amount under subsection 21.49.042.C so long as the total amount credited to a customer during a calendar year does not exceed two times the single maximum credit.))~~

Section 2. Section 1 of this ordinance shall take effect on April 10, 2027.

This ordinance shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Sections 1.04.020 and 1.04.070.

Passed by the City Council and signed in open session in authentication of its passage on .

President of the City Council

on .

Katie B. Wilson, Mayor

Attested on .

Scheereen Dedman, City Clerk

Seal

Summary and Fiscal Note

1. Legislation Summary

Department: Seattle City Light

Title: An ordinance relating to the City Light Department's emergency bill assistance program; amending Section 21.49.042 of the Seattle Municipal Code to adjust program terms and conditions and expand eligibility guidelines for emergency bill assistance.

Background: This legislation amends the terms of the Emergency Bill

Assistance (EBA) Program, which is operated by Seattle City Light (SCL). The bill is effective April 10, 2027.

City Light provides financial assistance to income-eligible residential customers through three different programs: an ongoing bill discount through the Utility Discount Program and annual emergency financial assistance through the EBA Program and through the community-funded Project Share program. In 2025, the EBA Program provided \$4.2M in financial assistance to nearly 6,000 City Light customers. In order to better serve income-eligible residential customers' needs and to be responsive to the Clean Energy Transformation Act, City Light proposes legislative changes to expand income-eligibility criteria, tailor the emergency assistance benefit, and reduce barriers to qualify. This legislation changes the criteria as follows:

- **Expand Income Eligibility:** Currently, applicants' income must not exceed 80 percent of the Washington State median income. This legislation changes the income threshold to 80 percent of area median income. This income eligibility

expansion increases the estimated number of eligible households from 137,000 to approximately 200,000.

- **Tailor Benefit Amount:** Currently, income-eligible households without children may receive up to \$710 per year in emergency financial assistance and households with children may receive up to \$1,420 per year. This legislation tailors the annual maximum benefit for all households to not exceed the greater of the total of the customer's past two bi-monthly bill amounts (every other month) or last four monthly amounts (if billed monthly) or the maximum annual benefit established in Department rules pursuant to Chapter 3.02 (\$1,420 per year in 2027).
- **Reduce Barriers to Qualify:** Currently, applicants must have a past-due balance of \$250 or have received an urgent or final shutoff notice to qualify for emergency assistance. This legislation reduces barriers to qualify by eliminating the \$250 past due balance requirement. Customers may request emergency assistance if they are unable to pay their current or past due residential consumption electric bill (including if they have received an urgent or final shutoff notice).

In 2025, the EBA Program provided \$4.2M in financial assistance to nearly 6,000 City Light customers. This legislation may add up to an additional 12,000 customers and provide an estimated \$3M in additional benefits (expressed in the budget as reduced revenues). This cost is estimated using an EBA program participation rate assumption of 9%, which is a higher estimate than EBA's historical enrollment average of around 4%.

SPU has a similar program for emergency assistance to serve income eligible customers. This SCL legislation aligns with SPU's legislation to expand income eligibility to 80% AML.

Summary Attachments:

N/A

2. Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project?

☐ Yes

☒ No

3. Summary of Financial Implications

Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City?

☒ Yes

☐ No

a. Expenditure Change to Other Funds

2026	2027 est.	2028 est.	2029 est.	2030 est.
\$0	\$750,000	\$905,000	\$905,000	\$905,000

b. Revenue Change to Other Funds

2026	2027 est.	2028 est.	2029 est.	2030 est.
\$0	(\$3,000,000)	(\$3,000,000)	(\$3,000,000)	(\$3,000,000)

c. Number of Positions

2026	2027 est.	2028 est.	2029 est.	2030 est.
0	2	1	0	0

d. Total Full-Time Employee (FTE) Change

2026	2027 est.	2028 est.	2029 est.	2030 est.
0	2	1	0	0

3b. Revenues/Reimbursements

This legislation adds, changes, or deletes revenues or reimbursements.

Anticipated Revenue/Reimbursement Resulting from This Legislation:

Fund Name and Number	Dept.	Revenue Source	2026 Revenue	2027 Estimated Revenue
41000 Light Fund	SCL	Electric Service	\$0	\$(3,000,000)

Total 2026 Revenue	Total 2027 Estimated Revenue
\$0	\$(3,000,000)

Revenue/Reimbursement Notes:

3c. Positions

This legislation does not add, change, or delete positions. However, because this legislation expands an existing program, positions are anticipated to be added in the future budget actions as follows:

2027: 2 FTEs Program Intake Representative

2028: 1 FTE Program Intake Representative

3d. Other Financial Impacts

a. Does this legislation create any other financial impacts for The City of Seattle, such as direct or indirect costs, one-time or ongoing, that aren't mentioned above? If yes, please explain these impacts.

No.

b. If the legislation has costs that can be covered within the current budget, explain how. Does the department have extra resources in its budget to handle these costs? Or does the department need to shift resources away from other work to handle these costs?

City Light's proposed strategic plan and rate path have incorporated the changes that will be made by this legislation. Any needed adjustments to appropriations, revenues, and positions will be included in future budget actions.

c. What financial costs or other impacts might happen if this legislation is not implemented?

This legislation provides relief to SCL customers that are unable to pay their utility bill. If this legislation is not adopted, the status quo will remain, and the expanded pool of eligible customers would not have access to this assistance program. In addition, SCL would not be compliant with Washington State law related to serving low-income customers as defined by the Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) as customer with annual household incomes up to 80% Area Median Income (AMI).

d. How might this legislation affect other City departments besides the one that proposed it?

No.

4. Other Impacts

a. Does this legislation require a public hearing?

☐ Yes

☒ No

b. Does this legislation require a notice to be published in The Daily Journal of Commerce and/or The Seattle Times?

☐ Yes

☒ No

c. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?

No.

d. Race and Social Justice Initiative impacts:

1. How does this legislation affect vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you come to this conclusion? Please consider both impacts within City government (like employees and internal programs) and in the broader community.

Seattle City Light's Emergency Bill Assistance Program provides support to lower-income households by providing financial assistance to help income-eligible customers who are unable to pay their current or past due electricity bill and are at risk of service disconnection for non-payment. This program serves communities historically furthest from economic justice and aligns with serving highly impacted communities and vulnerable populations as identified as part of Washington State's Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA).

2. Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses used to develop or assess this legislation.

Seattle City Light is evaluating its overdue receivables in an intentional way, comparing delinquencies at the census tract level with American Community Survey/Census income and language data.

3. What is the Language Access Plan for communicating with the public about this legislation?

Utility assistance program income eligibility expansion includes a comprehensive communications plan for serving multilingual customers.

e. Climate change impacts:

1. Emissions: Will this legislation significantly increase or decrease carbon emissions? Attach any studies or materials that inform your answer.

No.

2. Resiliency: Will this legislation make Seattle more or less able to adapt to climate change? If it reduces resiliency, explain what can be done to lessen the impact.

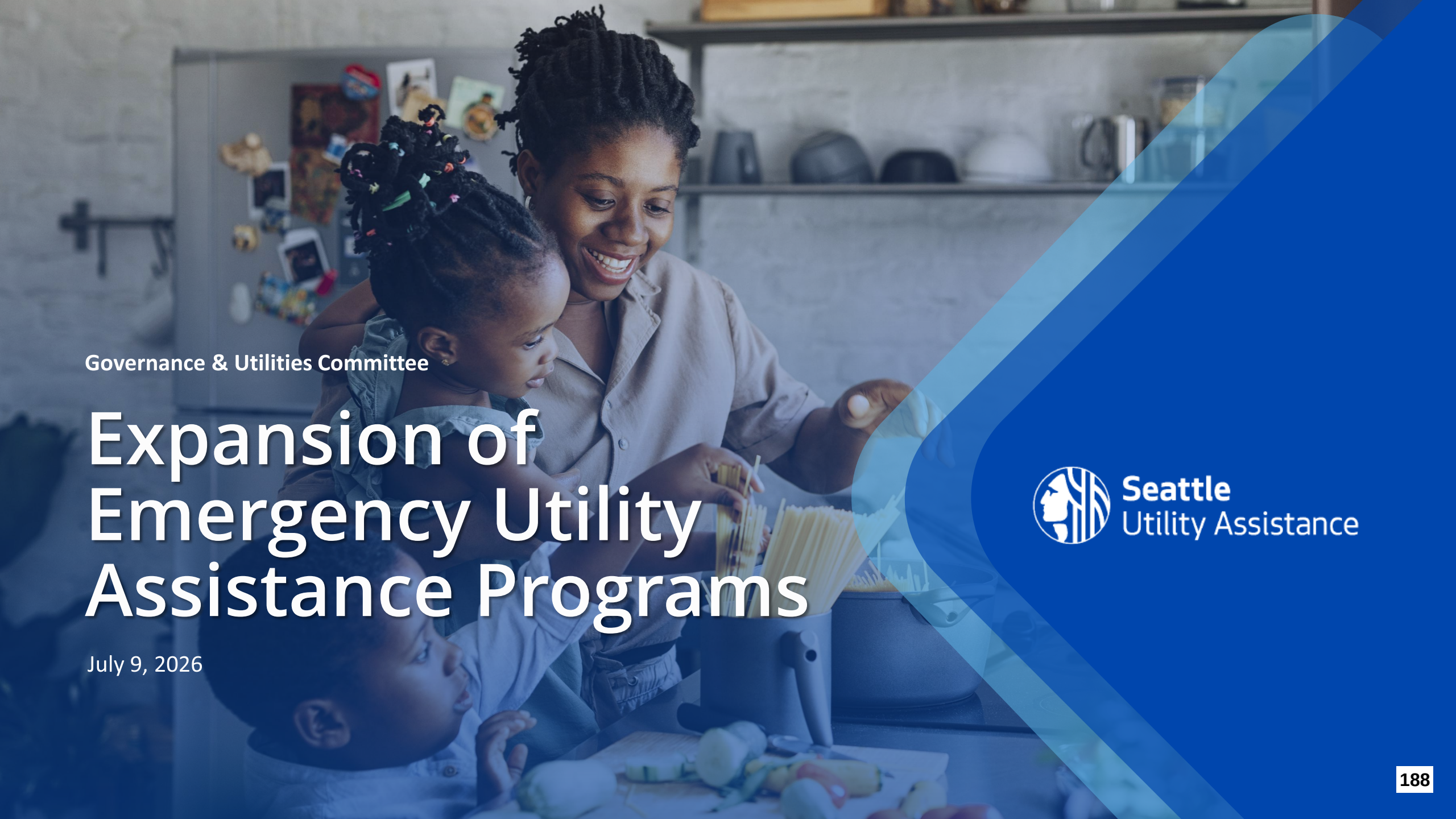
This legislation will increase City Light customer's resiliency as part of the Washington State Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) law to mitigate energy burden related to the transition to clean energy by offering utility assistance for income eligible customers defined as low income up to 80% Area Median Income (AMI).

f. If this legislation creates a new program or expands an existing one, what are the long-term, measurable goals? How will this legislation help achieve those goals? What methods will be used to track progress?

The goal is to assist income-eligible households who struggle to pay their electric bills and reduce the number of income eligible households who impacted by service disconnection for delinquent debt. This progress is tracked using tableau reporting showing increase in program participation across City Light's service area.

g. Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP that involves shared funding with a non-City partner or organization?

No.



Governance & Utilities Committee

Expansion of Emergency Utility Assistance Programs

July 9, 2026



Seattle
Utility Assistance

Path to Today

➤ **2026 Statement of Legislative Intent SPU-12S-A-2**

- Evaluation of expanding the eligibility for the utility assistance to people making 70% or 80% AMI at a lower discount
- Report emailed to Councilmembers on May 20, 2026
- June 11, 2026 presentation to Governance & Utilities Committee

Utility Discount Program (UDP)

SCL and SPU offer generous monthly discounts compared to peer utilities nationwide.



60% OFF



50% OFF

or an equivalent credit on the SCL bill if they live in multifamily housing.



**Expanding to 60% Area Median Income
in April 2027**



Emergency Bill Assistance Today

SCL's Emergency Bill Assistance (EBA)

Up to \$1420 in assistance per year for households with children

\$710 for households without children



SPU's Emergency Assistance Program (EAP)

Up to \$1074 in assistance per year for households with children

\$537 for households without children



Available to households with **incomes up to 80% SMI**
(\$76,548 for a 2-person household in 2026)

Available to households with **incomes up to 80% AMI**
(\$105,408 for 2-person household in 2026)

SCL's Project Share

Funded by customer donations

Provides a **\$250 bill credit**, once per calendar year



 Electricity bill  Public Utilities bill

Utility Assistance Expansion

Why Expand Emergency Assistance Programs?

Expands SCL and SPU's safety net to prevent electricity and water shutoffs

Supports a wider spectrum of utility assistance for households with incomes up to 80% AMI

Complies with Washington State Clean Energy Transformation Act's (CETA) requirement that electric utilities provide bill assistance to households up to 80% AMI

Will help inform future offerings for customers with incomes between 60% and 80% AMI

SPU Emergency Assistance Program Expansion

April 2027: Expand Emergency Assistance up to 80% AMI

- 80% AMI increases access to ~13,000 more SPU direct billed customers
- Customers receive assistance for 4 months of bills – essentially a 30% annual discount
- Doubles the amount of assistance available to the 80% of direct SPU Customers who don't have children in the home
- Aligns SPU and SCL program policies to reduce customer confusion and streamline administration



For customers below 60% AMI –

When SPU Emergency Assistance is combined with UDP, customers pay *only 33%* of annual water/sewer/garbage bills

Summary of SPU EAP Changes:

	Current Ordinance:	Proposed Legislation:	Impact:
1	Eligibility is $\leq$ 80% STATE median income	Eligibility is $\leq$ 80% of AREA median income	- Expands access to another 13,000 individually metered SPU customers - Total eligible SPU customers = ~39,000
2	Metered for a single-family residence	Individually metered residence	Modernizes SMCs to allow individually metered townhomes and condominiums
3	Maximum assistance amount doubled for households with minors	All households have access to the maximum - a fixed amount based ~4 months charges	- Responds to customer and frontline staff feedback after testing this approach during COVID - Doubles assistance available for 80% of eligible customers
4	Maximum annual assistance apportioned out over up to 4 times per year	Maximum annual assistance fully applied when application is approved	Lowers administrative burden by giving customer assistance up front instead of applying many times each year.
5	Administrative details are in SMCs and not evergreen	Moves program policies to Director's Rules	Allows program changes to adapt more quickly as customer needs evolve.

SCL Emergency Bill Assistance Program Expansion

April 2027: Expand Emergency Assistance up to 80% AMI

- 80% AMI increases access for ~50,000 more City Light customers in Seattle and surrounding franchise cities
- Customers receive assistance for 4 months of bills – essentially a 33% annual discount
- Helps our most energy burdened customers based on usage
- Complies with the Washington State Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA)
- Aligns SPU and SCL program policies to reduce customer confusion and streamline administration



For customers below 60% AMI –

When SCL Emergency Assistance is combined with UDP, customers pay *only* 25% of annual electricity bills

Summary of SCL EBA Changes:

	Current Ordinance:	Proposed Legislation:	Impact:
1	Eligibility is $\leq$ 80% STATE median income	Eligibility is $\leq$ 80% of AREA median income	- Expands access to another 50,000 SCL customer (households) - Total eligible SCL customers = ~188,000 (households)
2	Annual fixed benefit amount of \$710 per household or \$1420 per household with children	All households receive benefit equal to last two bi-monthly bills up to \$1420 annually	Adapts for energy burden out of customer control (ex. Renter in older building with electric heat, senior in larger single-family home).
3	Maximum annual assistance apportioned out over up to 4 times per year	Maximum annual assistance fully applied when application is approved	Lowers administrative burden by giving customer assistance up front instead of applying many times each year.
4	\$250 past due balance required for application approval	No past due balance required	- Lowers administrative burden and reduces customer effort with reapplying after denial - Aligns with current SPU emergency assistance program
5	Administrative details codified in SMCs and not evergreen	Moves program policies to Department Policies and Procedures (DPP)	Allows program changes to adapt more quickly as customer needs evolve.

Summary of Expanded Utility Assistance

Utility Discount Program



Expand eligibility from 70% SMI to 60% AMI

- Continues SCL 60% and SPU 50% bill discounts
- Increases eligible population **by 28%**
- Provides an **additional ~\$19M** in annual bill discounts

SCL Emergency Assistance



Expand eligibility from 80% SMI to 80% AMI

- Increases eligible population **by 37%**
- Provides an **additional ~\$1.5M** in assistance annually

SPU Emergency Assistance



Expand eligibility from 80% SMI to 80% AMI

- Increases eligible population **by 50%**
- Provides an **additional ~\$1M** in assistance annually

Questions?

