

# Sewer-Only Leak Adjustments

Seattle City Council  
Civil Rights, Utilities, Economic Development  
and Arts Committee

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# Sewer-Only Leak Adjustments



- Wastewater charges billed to customers are calculated off their water consumption
- Sewer-only leak adjustments are applied to wastewater volume charges for water leaks that do not enter the wastewater system

# Current Policy

- Only hidden or underground water leaks are eligible for sewer-only leak adjustments
- Customers with other types of leaks that do not enter wastewater system are required to pay full wastewater charges



# Proposed Changes

- Remove qualification for a water leak to be hidden or underground so that residential customer can qualify for sewer-only leak adjustments
- Authorize SPU General Manager/CEO to adopt rules and eligibility requirements to implement adjustments to wastewater volume charges



# Impacts of Legislation Changes

- Changes directly support affordability agenda, customers are not billed for wastewater not entering the system
- Customer water consumption behavior is not expected to change, because leaks do not involve customer intent
- Fiscal impact is estimated to be around \$32,000 in annual revenue reduction

