

City of Fort Worth, Texas

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 08/26/25M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 25-0803

LOG NAME: 60WHOLESALE RATES 2026

SUBJECT

(ALL) Adopt Ordinance Revising Wholesale Water, Wastewater, and Raw Water Service Rates and Amend Chapter 35 - Water and Sewers, Article III - Charges, Division 1 – Generally, Sections 35-56(g) and (h) of the City Code with an Effective Date of Billing on or After November 1, 2025 for Usage and Flows from and After October 1, 2025 for Water and Wastewater Service

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached ordinance revising wholesale water, wastewater, and raw water service rates and amend Chapter 35 - Water and Sewers, Article III - Charges, Division 1 – Generally, Sections 35-56(g) and (h) of the City Code, with an effective date of billing on or after November 1, 2025, for usage and flows from and after October 1, 2025 for water and wastewater service.

DISCUSSION:

Each year, wholesale water and wastewater rate studies are prepared in accordance with the terms of the uniform wholesale customer contracts.

For Fiscal Year (FY) 2026, the wholesale water cost of service and rate study was performed by water utility staff, and the wholesale wastewater cost of service and rate study was performed by a consultant, per the uniform contract requirements. The results of these studies indicate the need for an increase of 6.37 percent in wholesale water revenue requirements and a decrease of 1.77 percent in wholesale wastewater revenue requirements. The rates as proposed in the tables below will recover the cost of providing wholesale water and wastewater service.

The rate setting methodology set forth in the uniform contract requires that the most recently completed fiscal year's data (the test year) serve as the basis for establishing costs and the volumes used in calculating the future rates. The test year for FY2026 is FY2024. Costs are adjusted to include known and measurable changes impacting the rate period. Unlike retail rates, which are based on projected volumes, wholesale rates are calculated using the test year's actual volumes. This can cause rates to go up in a year with low volumes or down when the test year has high volumes.

A joint meeting of the Wholesale Water Advisory Committee and the Wholesale Wastewater Advisory Committee was held on June 18, 2025, to present the studies and the rates.

WHOLESALE WATER RATES

	Current	Proposed
Volume (\$ per 1,000 gallons)	\$0.8350	\$0.9278
Maximum Day (\$ per Millions of Gallons per Day excess)	\$100,828.00	\$123,326.00
Maximum Hour (\$ per Millions of Gallons per Day excess)	\$27,923.00	\$21,546.00
Monthly Customer Charge per meter	\$25.00	\$25.00

The City also enters into wholesale water contracts with standby customers who do not use water on a regular basis. These customers are assessed a minimum charge equal to the three-year numerical average of the treatment, pumping and transmission charge per 1,000 gallons. The charge for FY2026 shall remain at \$0.8936 per 1,000 gallons per month.

RAW WATER RATES

The cost of untreated water supplied by the Tarrant Regional Water District is \$1.43092 per 1,000 gallons. Adjusted for street rental and system loss, the raw water charge to customers is \$1.55970 as a direct "pass through" cost to wholesale water customers.

WHOLESALE WASTEWATER RATES

	Current	Proposed
Volume (\$ per 1000 gallons)	\$1.8275	\$1.7770
BOD (per pound)	\$0.6136	\$0.5851
TSS (per pound)	\$0.3223	\$0.3440
Monthly Customer Charge	\$75.00	\$75.00

A Form 1295 is not required because: This M&C does not request approval of a contract with a business entity.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendation and adoption of the attached ordinance, funds will be deposited into the Water and Sewer Fund. The Water Department (and Financial Management Services) is responsible for the collection and deposit of funds due to the City.

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