
City Council Regular Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Finance

FROM: Kevin Hennessey, Director of Finance

MEETING: September 8, 2026

SUBJECT:

Consider and take possible action on an ordinance amending Chapter 82 “Utilities” to add division 2, “Municipal Drainage Utility Schedule of Drainage Charges” to designate a fee structure for the Municipal Drainage Utility System. *(First Reading) (Staff Contact: Kevin Hennessey, Director of Finance)*

STRATEGIC PRIORITY AND GOAL(S):

Strategic Priority	Strategic Goal
 High Performing City Organization Providing Exceptional, People Focused Services	1.2 Continue to improve the efficiency and productivity of operations 1.3 Deliver high-quality service and communications to external and internal customers
 Beautiful, Safe, & Vibrant Community	2.4 Implement the city's Capital Improvement Program 3.1 Encourage a clean and healthy community

SUMMARY:

The purpose of this action is to amend Chapter 82 of the code of ordinances to add division 2 – Municipal Drainage Utility Schedule of Drainage Charges.

The proposed fee schedule establishes an equitable method of funding the City's stormwater utility by assigning charges based on the amount of impervious area on a property. Impervious area is defined as any surface that prevents or significantly reduces the natural infiltration of rainfall into the ground, including rooftops, driveways, parking lots, sidewalks, patios, and other

paved or hard surfaces. These surfaces generate stormwater runoff that must be collected, conveyed, and managed by the City's drainage system.

The City's fee structure is based on an Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU), which is the standard unit of measurement used to determine a property's relative contribution of stormwater runoff. One ERU represents the average amount of impervious area found on a single-family residential property within the City of Burleson.

Under the proposed rate structure:

Property Type	Impervious Area (sq. ft.)	Monthly Drainage Utility System Fee
Single-Family Residential, Duplex, Triplex, and Quadplex		
Tier 1	<2,401	\$4.94 (0.62 ERU*)
Tier 2	Between 2,401-5,300	\$8.00 (1 ERU*)
Tier 3	>5,300	\$15.00 (1.88 ERU*)
All Other Non-Exempt Property		Varies, but no less than \$8.00 (1 ERU*)

*ERU (Equivalent Residential Unit) = 3,500 square feet impervious area

A minimum charge of one (1) ERU shall be applied to each non-exempt non-single family residential developed property, regardless of classification, in whole ERU increments.

Property owned by a religious organization that is exempt from taxation pursuant to Section 11.20 of the Texas Tax Code shall receive a partial exemption of seventy-five percent (75%) of the drainage utility system fee assessed.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approving the proposed ordinance.

PRIOR ACTION/INPUT (Council, Boards, Citizens):

1/6/2025: City Council awarded a professional services contract to Freese and Nichols for technical assistance in the development of a stormwater utility and fee. CSO#5715-01-2025; CSO#5716-01-2025

5/21/2025: Infrastructure & Development Committee received a report from staff and provided recommendations to City Council

5/27/2025: City Council received a report and provided direction to staff to proceed with development of a stormwater utility and fee

12/15/2025: City Council received a report and provided direction to staff to provide additional information

2/2/2026: City Council received a report and provided staff additional direction to modify the program and continue moving forward.

5/27/2026: Finance Committee received a report from staff regarding the timing and preparation of this item, as it relates to the annual budget process.

6/15/2026: City Council provided direction to move the fee forward, in sequence with the annual budget adoption.

REFERENCE:

N/A

FISCAL IMPACT:

Proposed Revenue: \$3,700,000

Account Number(s): Established if approved

Fund: Established if approved

Account Description: Stormwater Utility Fund

STAFF CONTACT:

Kevin Hennessey

Director of Finance

khennessey@burlesontx.com

817-426-9651