



## CITY COMMISSION ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION

**TITLE:** Resolution 26-52 (Utilities)

**DESCRIPTION:** A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF COOPER CITY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING A REVISED SCHEDULE OF STORMWATER UTILITY RATES FOR ALL CUSTOMER CLASSIFICATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027, REFLECTING A SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT (75%) INCREASE; PROVIDING FOR ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT OF STORMWATER RATES; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**SUBMITTED  
BY:**

DocuSigned by:  
*Irwin Williams*  
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### CITY MANAGER RECOMMENDATION:

The City Manager Recommends adoption of Resolution 26-52, to adopt a revised Stormwater management utility system schedule of rates, as provided for in Article IV of Chapter 19 of the municipal code of ordinances, reflecting a 75% increase for all customer classifications in FY 27.

### BACKGROUND OF ITEM:

At the September 8, 2020, Commission meeting, the City Commission authorized a Stormwater Utility Rate Study to be performed by Raftelis, a Financial Rate Consultant. The Commission subsequently accepted the findings of the study. The City currently charges Stormwater Utility fees through monthly water and sewer utility bills, which fund the construction, operation, and maintenance of Stormwater management systems. The Stormwater utility fees were established by the City Commission in 2021 and were last adjusted for Fiscal Year 2025.

The Stormwater Fund is financed by a monthly rate per equivalent residential unit (ERU), defined as 1,750 square feet of impervious area. Most residential single-family properties in Cooper City are considered one ERU.

City staff engaged Hazen and Sawyer, P.C. (Hazen), to compare the City's Stormwater rate with similar utilities and recommend updates based on the latest cost of service data. Because inflation from May 2021 through February 2024 (15.28%, as measured by the U.S. Consumer Price Index), which increased the Stormwater rate from \$5.58 to \$6.43 per ERU.

At the current rates, revenues of the Stormwater Fund are insufficient to cover the cost of operations. The FY 26 Original Budget projected Stormwater Fund revenues of \$718,283 against

expenditures of \$939,682. The FY 27 Budget incorporates a 75% increase in Stormwater rates for all customer classifications, including both Direct Benefit and Indirect Benefit customers.

The increase is necessary to fund the Stormwater Master Plan, addressing critical infrastructure needs; and operational requirements such as street sweeping operations, that keep roads clean and reduce pollutants entering waterways; and regular drain cleaning to prevent flooding and ensure effective drainage.

Cooper City provides the full range of stormwater management services to its customers where City-owned roadways are dedicated, and these customers are referred to as “Direct Benefitting Customers.” The customers served by a private stormwater system, where roadways are not dedicated and are owned by a Homeowner’s Associations are receiving indirect benefits, where stormwater benefits are received only beyond the locally owned and managed streets.

The current and proposed rate schedule for all customer classifications is shown below and in Exhibit “A” of the attached Resolution. The proposed rates will be effective upon adoption of the Resolution.

| Customer Type                       | Direct Benefit Monthly Rate |                     | Indirect Benefit Monthly Rate |                     |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
|                                     | Current                     | Proposed FY 2026-27 | Current                       | Proposed FY 2026-27 |
| Single-Family Residential           | \$6.43                      | <b>\$11.25</b>      | \$1.18                        | <b>\$2.07</b>       |
| Duplex (per unit)                   | \$3.16                      | <b>\$5.53</b>       | \$0.60                        | <b>\$1.05</b>       |
| Condominium/multi-family (per unit) | \$1.60                      | <b>\$2.80</b>       | \$0.33                        | <b>\$0.58</b>       |
| Commercial (per 1,750 sq. ft.)      | \$6.43                      | <b>\$11.25</b>      | \$1.18                        | <b>\$2.07</b>       |
| Industrial (per 1,750 sq. ft.)      | \$6.43                      | <b>\$11.25</b>      | \$1.18                        | <b>\$2.07</b>       |
| Institutional (per 1,750 sq. ft.)   | \$6.43                      | <b>\$11.25</b>      | \$1.18                        | <b>\$2.07</b>       |

Commercial, industrial, and institutional properties are billed per ERU (1,750 square feet of impervious area), so each ERU receives the same increase.

#### **ANALYSIS:**

The proposed rate increase is necessary to maintain the City's Stormwater infrastructure and services. At current rates, the Stormwater Fund cannot cover its operating costs. The 75% increase closes that gap, balances the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Stormwater Fund budget, and funds the Stormwater Master Plan, street sweeping, and drain cleaning. Applying the same percentage increase to all customer classifications, and to both Direct Benefit and Indirect Benefit customers, maintains the existing relationship among the City’s Stormwater rates.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The proposed rates are projected to generate total Stormwater Fund revenue of \$1,185,700 for Fiscal Year 2026-27, an increase of \$467,417 over the Fiscal Year 2026 Original Budget revenue of \$718,283, which balances the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Stormwater Fund budget.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Resolution 26-52, including Exhibit "A" (Stormwater Management Utility Schedule of Rates)