

Executive Summary

1.1 Community Background

The City of Hartford is located in Van Buren County, Michigan. It is 1.36 square miles and has a population of approximately 2,515. The wastewater treatment plant services the City of Hartford residents and residents of Hartford Township. After wastewater is treated at the plant, water is pumped into the Paw Paw River located just a couple miles outside of the City.

Source: City of Hartford

1.2 Objectives

To identify the revenue support and fund management needed to fulfill the City’s operations & maintenance, and capital improvements to the system while maintaining adequate cash reserves to be able to respond to unforeseen circumstances.

1.3 Potential Rates

Based on our analysis and direction from City officials, Baker Tilly is recommending a one-time increase of \$2.85 to the City’s Commodity Charge and an increase of \$3.14 to the Capital Reserve Fee. Then, we recommend an inflationary increase of \$0.25 to the City’s Service Ready Fee and a \$0.10 increase to the City’s Commodity charge thereafter.

TABLE 1-3: PROPOSED RATES SUMMARY

Category	Current Rates	Proposed Rates
	2021/22	2022/23
Commodity Charge (per 1,000 gallons)	\$4.65	\$7.50
Service Ready Fee	2.23	2.23
Capital Reserve Fee	6.86	10.00