



November 13, 2024

City Council Memo: **2025 Sewer Rate Summary**

By: Jordan Skiff, Wastewater Superintendent

At the November 26<sup>th</sup> Public Works Committee and December 2<sup>nd</sup> Common Council meetings, I am requesting approval of 2025 service charges for wastewater treatment. Rates are reviewed each autumn, considering expenses from the past year, the volume and characteristics of wastewater we treated this year, and budget elements for the following year. Adopting the 2025 rates involves an ordinance amendment, necessitating Council approval.

The proposed 2025 rates reflect an **8% increase** in charges for an average residential customer.

The table below breaks down various categories of charges, and shows that volume rates for City ratepayers and those of our satellite communities, and surcharges for customers whose wastewater is higher than domestic waste levels (i.e. that found in a typical household) for biological oxygen demand (BOD), phosphorus, nitrogen, and suspended solids. Average annual increases range from 0% to 4.6%.

Category	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025 (Proposed)
Fixed Charge (per month)	\$16.33	\$15.33	\$16.67	\$17.33	\$19.00
City Volume (per 100 ft <sup>3</sup> )	\$ 1.95	\$ 2.16	\$ 2.16	\$ 2.16	\$ 2.27
Contrib. Volume (per 100 ft <sup>3</sup> )	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.54
BOD (per pound)	\$0.296	\$0.398	\$0.344	\$0.344	\$0.3614
Susp. Solids (per pound)	\$0.207	\$0.195	\$0.203	\$0.203	\$0.2130
Phosphorus (per pound)	\$5.399	\$5.024	\$4.847	\$5.148	\$5.3538

While the proposed increases are due to projects and other expenses at the Plant itself, a very significant project is coming to fruition near the South Pointe business park. A \$23 million interceptor sewer is planned to be constructed next year to serve TID 23 (the former Gartman farm). City staff continue to work with Ehlers to fund this and other projects under the most advantageous terms possible. The revenues this development will generate make the interceptor a smart long-term investment for the City.

We have provided an update on these proposed rates to the satellite communities we serve, including the Village of Kohler, the City of Sheboygan Falls, and the Towns of Wilson and Sheboygan.

Please contact me at 920-459-0220 or [jordan.skiff@sheboyganwi.gov](mailto:jordan.skiff@sheboyganwi.gov) with any questions.

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