



CITY COUNCIL MEMO

TOPIC: PUBLIC SAFETY FEE

DATE: 6/18/2025

BACKGROUND

In December 2021, the Council adopted Resolution No. 1944, adopting a community public safety fee to facilitate the funding of a public safety facility. Numerous public forums were held to hear public feedback.

The fee adopted in December 2021 was \$3.00 per EDU (residential unit).

In June 2023, as part of the FY2024 budget, the Council adopted Resolution No. 1982, increasing the community public safety fee to \$10 because the \$3.00 fee was insufficient to cover the debt payments.

The revenue from the public safety fee is used to pay the debt service on the bonds used to construct a new public safety facility.

DISCUSSION

Development and growth have declined, which have resulted in less revenue received from the public safety fee than was forecasted. For FY2025, the public safety fee revenue will be less than the debt service.

Providing that there is a conservative amount of growth and development that has been forecasted, an increase of \$0.30 will cover the debt service for FY2026.

This increase was included in the proposed budget that the budget committee approved on May 29, 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend adoption of the proposed increase of the public safety fee as outlined in the resolution:

"I move to adopt Resolution No. 2046 for an increase of the community public safety fee for FY2026 effective on July 15, 2025, billing."

City of St. Helens
RESOLUTION NO. 2046

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A COMMUNITY PUBLIC SAFETY FEE

WHEREAS, the City of St. Helens has created a public safety fund to help facilitate the funding of a public safety facility; and

WHEREAS, the City finds that it is in the public's interest to construct a new public safety facility to meet the needs of our growing community; and

WHEREAS, the City Budget Committee recommended an increase to cover debt service for the public safety facility; and

WHEREAS, the public has been given opportunity to comment, and

WHEREAS, funds raised from the fee will support public safety within our city; and

WHEREAS, the public safety fee increase will be effective July 15, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the public safety fee will end once the new public safety facility debt is satisfied, and

WHEREAS, Resolution No 1982 (June 7, 2023) is hereby rescinded

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF ST. HELENS RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Fees and charges.

| <u>FEE TYPE</u> | <u>AMOUNT</u> | <u>FEE BASE</u> |
|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Public Safety | \$10.30 per month | per EDU |

Approved and adopted by the City Council on June 18, 2025, by the following vote:

Ayes:

Nays:

Jennifer Massey, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathy Payne, City Recorder