



Public Services

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VERN M. REDIFER, P.E., Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 30, 2019
TO: Board of Yakima County Commissioners
FROM: David Haws, P.E., Environmental Services Director
SUBJECT: Annual Rate Adjustment – Utilities Division

Public Services has completed its annual rate analysis for each of the County's thirty-two (32) water and wastewater systems. Based on a comparison of each system's revenue against its operating expenses and required fund reserves, I am recommending increasing rates in eleven (11) systems in accordance with Sections 12.08.395 and 12.05.445 of the Yakima County Code. Systems include:

| <u>System</u> | <u>Existing Monthly Rate</u> | <u>Monthly Increase</u> |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Buena Wastewater | \$44.50 | \$1.60 |
| 2. Mt Shadows Wastewater | \$72.50 | \$2.61 |
| 3. Gala Water | \$55.57 | \$2.02 |
| 4. Fairway Estates Water | \$54.30 | \$1.95 |
| 5. Fairway Estates Wastewater | \$52.10 | \$1.88 |
| 6. Crewport Water | \$57.74 | \$2.09 |
| 7. Nagler Water | \$34.90 | \$1.26 |
| 8. Speyers Water | \$46.50 | \$1.67 |
| 9. Bittner Water | \$125.00 | \$4.50 |
| 10. Oliver Water | \$42.42 | \$1.51 |
| 11. Pleasant Hill Water | \$54.00 | \$1.94 |

The above increases are equivalent to 3.6% and are equal to the consumer price index for water and sewerage maintenance for the 2018 calendar year. Charges for all other systems would remain the same.

Proposed increases include water system ready to serve charges, consumption charges and fire protection service charges, and wastewater system service charges.

Yakima County ensures full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the provision of benefits and services resulting from its federally assisted programs and activities. For questions regarding Yakima County's Title VI Program, you may contact the Title VI Coordinator at 509-574-2300.

If this letter pertains to a meeting and you need special accommodations, please call us at 509-574-2300 by 10:00 a.m. three days prior to the meeting. For TDD users, please use the State's toll free relay service 1-800-833-6388 and ask the operator to dial 509-574-2300.

An additional rate adjustment is needed for the Buena Wastewater system due to increasing operational and maintenance costs beyond the shown CPI increase above. The annual CPI rate adjustment is not adequate to meet its needs and will require further discussion at a later time.

Monthly rates shown for Gala, Crewport and Oliver Water Systems are based on the volume of water used and are an average of all the customer for each system for 2018. Rates shown for the other systems are a flat monthly rate.

C: Lisa Freund, Director
Carmen Hayter, Accounting Senior Manager
Joe Stump, Utilities Senior Manager