Recommendation for Action

File #: 23-2439, Agenda Item #: 5.

Posting Language

Conduct a public hearing to receive public comment on the proposed rate and fee changes for Austin Water as part of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 proposed budget.

Lead Department

Austin Water.

Fiscal Note

This item has no fiscal impact.

Prior Council Action:

July 20, 2023 - Council set a public hearing for August 16, 2023 to receive public comment on the proposed rate and fee changes for Austin Water as part of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Proposed Budget.

For More Information:

Inquiries should be directed to Joseph Gonzales, Austin Water, at 512-972-0359, or Joseph.Gonzales@austintexas.gov.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

July 19, 2023 - Not reviewed by the Water and Wastewater Commission due to a lack of quorum.

Additional Backup Information:

This action requests City Council to conduct a public hearing to hear public comments on the water, wastewater, and reclaimed rate changed proposed in the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Operating Budget City Council is scheduled to adopt the budget on August 16, 17, and 18, 2023. The City Code in Section 2-5-45 specifically requires a public hearing prior to the City Council approving any changes in electric, water, wastewater, and garbage collection rates.

Austin Water's Proposed Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget includes the following changes to the current water and wastewater rates:

	Combined Water & Wastewater Rates	
	Average Bill Impact% ⁽¹⁾	Average Bill Impact \$ ⁽¹⁾
Retail Customers:		
Single Family (Non-CAP)	3.28% Increase ⁽³⁾	\$2.65 Increase ⁽³⁾
Single Family (CAP)	No Change	No Change
Multifamily	3.59% Increase	Varies (4)
Commercial	3.59%	Varies (4)
Large Volume ⁽²⁾	3.63% Increase	Varies(4)

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Wholesale Customers: ⁽²⁾ No Change No Change		
Water Wastewater		
SYSTEM-WIDE RATE INCREASE	2.56% Increase	4.31% Increase

(1) Water Rate percentage impacts shown for all customer classes include Revenue Stability Reserve Fund and Community Benefit Charge

(2) Large Volume and Wholesale customers each have individual rates

(3) Based on average residential water consumption of 5,800 and average residential wastewater flows of 4,000

(4) Multifamily, Commercial, and Large Volume average bill impacts by dollar amount will vary due to dissimilarities in average water consumption and average wastewater flows within each of these customer classes.

The attached schedules provide detailed current and proposed water, wastewater, and reclaimed rates for all retail and wholesale customer classes.