



Proposed Stormwater Charge and Green Infrastructure strategy DISCUSSION ITEM



What is changing with this new Water/Wastewater rate study?

Increases to Water and Sewer Rates

3 Years of Increases
Bill impact depends on your use of the system
6-9% annually for most customers

Adjustment to the Sewer Rate Structure Split the Sewer Bill into Two Components

- Wastewater
- Stormwater



Water/Wastewater customer bill impacts

Average Single Family



Assumes 4.8 CCF of water use per month



San Francisco's collection system

- SFPUC customer bills include both drinking water and sewer service charges.
- Currently, the Sewer Service Charge is based on the volume of drinking water used, not the stormwater runoff from each property.





Stormwater chargewhat is it?

- ~20% of the current Sewer Service Charge goes to managing stormwater
- New structure will not change the amount of revenue collected by the SFPUC
- Bill based on the estimated volume of runoff
 - More runoff = higher stormwater charge
- Will be gradually phased in over seven years
- Credits, grants, and other programs available to reduce customer bills





Stormwater charge: policy goals

Fair allocation of stormwater costs to ratepayers

Incentivizes better stormwater management practices that will reduce flood risk and reduce burden on system

Alignment with SFPUC's Green Infrastructure Strategy and San Francisco's climate change resiliency goals

More effective & transparent communication with public and private partners

Industry best practice recommended by Commission, Local Organizations, Community Stakeholders, Rate Consultants



Stormwater Charge: Cost of Service Justification

Stormwater Produced



Sanitary Flow



The new Stormwater Charge will more accurately allocate the cost of treating stormwater runoff from properties.



History of Stormwater charge project and outreach

- SFPUC began preparing to implement the stormwater charge in 2014
- Phased rollout to address unique customers
 - Created unmetered property charge for vacant lots, parking lots (2018)
 - Launched Green Infrastructure Grant Program (2019)
- Initiated SFPUC stormwater charge working group to implement rollout of city-wide charge for all parcels (2018-2023)
- Prepared billing capability for introduction of new rate structure (2018-2023).
- Outreach to large parcel owners (Rec & Park, SFUSD)
 - Presentations on grants and credits to agency staff
 - Worked with agency staff to identify opportunities for green infrastructure and align resources and schedules





Impermeable and Permeable Surfaces

Impermeable = surfaces that allow little or no stormwater infiltration into the ground. *Examples: roadways, sidewalks, roofs*

Permeable = surfaces that allow some stormwater to infiltrate into the ground. *Examples: open space, gardens, lawns*

Both produce runoff!





Stormwater Runoff Examples





Green Infrastructure Benefits

Green infrastructure manages stormwater while delivering multiple benefits:

- Reduces burden on combined sewer system (pumping, treatment, chemical cost of managing stormwater)
- Increases capacity to accept more flows
- Increases flood resilience, heat resilience
- Greens neighborhoods & streets
- Contributes to slow streets design
- Restores ecosystem function (groundwater recharge, urban habitat)
- Generates jobs (green infrastructure planning, design, construction, inspection, maintenance)





Water Power Sewer Services of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Green Infrastructure long-term goal

Manage <u>1 Billion Gallons</u> of stormwater each year using green infrastructure by <u>2050</u>.





Lower Bills with Stormwater Credits

- Green Infrastructure collects stormwater runoff from an impervious surface, or Drainage Management Area
- Standard Credits will be based on the total area draining to the green infrastructure in relation to the total parcel area
- Projects eligible for credits include SMO projects, GI Grant projects, & joint GI capital projects
- Many City properties will be automatically enrolled in the Credit Program





Green Infrastructure Grant Program - how to apply

- SFPUC's 10-year CIP includes \$39M for GI grants, which can fund design and construction of green infrastructure
- Must manage half an acre or more of impervious surface and be connected to the combined sewer to apply



Example Stormwater Credit





SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION | Water Power Sewer



Joint Capital Projects



- Leland Rain Garden (complete)
- El Camino del Mar (complete)
- Yosemite Creek Daylighting (in design)
- Buchanan St Mall (in design)





Stormwater Credit – Buchanan Street Mall



Credit Assumptions: 152,500 sq ft DMA, 90% off Stormwater Charge, 100 units water use SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION | Water Power Sewer





Thank You!



Example Municipal Customer

Bessie Charmichael Middle School (No Credits)





Example Commercial customer

