

11/18/2024
12/2/2024

ORDINANCE NO. M- 4484

AN ORDINANCE related to the water, sewer and surface water utility user rates, amending Vancouver Municipal Code sections 14.04.210, 14.04.230, and 14.09.060; and providing for savings, severability, and an effective date.

WHEREAS, utility revenue must be established at a level sufficient to properly maintain infrastructure, maintain customer service levels, and provide for necessary capital improvements; and

WHEREAS, utility rates must be established at a level sufficient to cover the costs of all operations, including maintenance, depreciation, capital, and debt service requirements, reserves, and any other necessary costs; and

WHEREAS, upon recommendation from City Utilities staff, the City Council has determined it is necessary to amend the user charge schedules for such systems to cover such costs; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined it is in the best interest of the City and the water and sewer utility rate payers to incrementally reduce the outside City multiplier from 1.5 to 1.25 over a 15 year period.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF VANCOUVER:

SECTION 1. Vancouver Municipal Code Section 14.04.210 is hereby amended to read as follows:

14.04.210 Water service – User charges.

A. Base Charge, All Customer Classes.

1. For all water customers, each customer shall pay a monthly base charge as follows:

~~Effective January 1, 2022~~

<u>Meter Size</u>		<u>Base Charge</u>	<u>Base Charge</u>
		<u>Inside-City</u>	<u>Outside-City</u>
		<u>Limits</u>	<u>Limits</u>
a. 5/8 x 3/4 inch and under	per month	10.09	15.14
b. 3/4 inch	per month	13.39	20.09
e. 1 inch	per month	20.45	30.68
d. 1 1/2 inch	per month	38.02	57.02
e. 2 inch	per month	58.92	88.38
f. 3 inch	per month	108.01	162.02
g. 4 inch	per month	177.96	266.94
h. 6 inch	per month	353.14	529.70
i. 8 inch	per month	563.28	844.93
j. 10 inch	per month	843.30	1,264.95
k. 12 inch	per month	1,638.61	2,457.92

~~Effective January 1, 2023~~

<u>Meter Size</u>		<u>Base Charge</u>	<u>Base Charge</u>
		<u>Inside City Limits</u>	<u>Outside City Limits</u>
			(1.483 x Inside)
a. 5/8 x 3/4 inch and under	per month	10.54	15.63
b. 3/4 inch	per month	13.99	20.75
e. 1 inch	per month	21.37	31.69
d. 1 1/2 inch	per month	39.73	58.92
e. 2 inch	per month	61.57	91.31
f. 3 inch	per month	112.87	167.39
g. 4 inch	per month	185.97	275.79
h. 6 inch	per month	369.03	547.27
i. 8 inch	per month	588.63	872.94
j. 10 inch	per month	881.25	1,306.89
k. 12 inch	per month	1,712.35	2,539.42

Effective January 1, 2024

<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Base Charge</u>	<u>Base Charge</u>
	<u>Inside City</u>	<u>Outside City</u>

		Limits	Limits (1.466 x Inside)
a. 5/8 x 3/4 inch and under	per month	11.01	16.14
b. 3/4 inch	per month	14.62	21.43
c. 1 inch	per month	22.33	32.74
d. 1-1/2 inch	per month	41.52	60.87
e. 2 inch	per month	64.34	94.32
f. 3 inch	per month	117.95	172.93
g. 4 inch	per month	194.34	284.90
h. 6 inch	per month	385.64	565.35
i. 8 inch	per month	615.12	901.77
j. 10 inch	per month	920.91	1,350.05
k. 12 inch	per month	1,789.41	2,623.28

Effective January 1, 2025

Meter Size

Base Charge

Base Charge

Inside City
Limits

Outside City
Limits

(1.45 x Inside)

<u>a. 5/8 x 3/4 inch and under</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>11.51</u>	<u>16.69</u>
<u>b. 3/4 inch</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>15.28</u>	<u>22.16</u>
<u>c. 1 inch</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>23.33</u>	<u>33.83</u>
<u>d. 1-1/2 inch</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>43.39</u>	<u>62.92</u>
<u>e. 2 inch</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>67.24</u>	<u>97.50</u>
<u>f. 3 inch</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>123.26</u>	<u>178.73</u>
<u>g. 4 inch</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>203.09</u>	<u>294.48</u>
<u>h. 6 inch</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>402.99</u>	<u>584.34</u>
<u>i. 8 inch</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>642.80</u>	<u>932.06</u>
<u>j. 10 inch</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>962.35</u>	<u>1,395.41</u>
<u>k. 12 inch</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>1,869.93</u>	<u>2,711.40</u>

Effective January 1, 2026

Meter Size

Base Charge

Base Charge

**Inside City
Limits**

**Outside City
Limits**

(1.433 x Inside)

a. <u>5/8 x 3/4 inch and under</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>12.03</u>	<u>17.24</u>
b. <u>3/4 inch</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>15.97</u>	<u>22.89</u>
c. <u>1 inch</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>24.38</u>	<u>34.94</u>
d. <u>1-1/2 inch</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>45.34</u>	<u>64.97</u>
e. <u>2 inch</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>70.27</u>	<u>100.70</u>
f. <u>3 inch</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>128.81</u>	<u>184.58</u>
g. <u>4 inch</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>212.23</u>	<u>304.13</u>
h. <u>6 inch</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>421.12</u>	<u>603.46</u>
i. <u>8 inch</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>671.73</u>	<u>962.59</u>
j. <u>10 inch</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>1,005.66</u>	<u>1,441.11</u>
k. <u>12 inch</u>	<u>per month</u>	<u>1,954.08</u>	<u>2,800.20</u>

2. The monthly base charge set in subsection [\(A\)\(1\)](#) of this section does not include any charge for consumption of water.

3. The monthly base charge for any single-family residential customer shall not exceed the charge set in (b) above.

B. *Volume Charge (Uniform Volume).*

1. In addition to the monthly base charge in subsection [\(A\)\(1\)](#) of this section, each customer shall pay the following additional charge on his/her bill, based upon the amount of water consumed per each billing period:

~~Effective January 1, 2022~~

Customer Class	Inside City Limits	Outside City Limits
Single Family:	2.85/CCF	4.28/CCF
Multifamily:	2.45/CCF	3.68/CCF
Nonprofit Shelters:	0.63/CCF	0.94/CCF
Commercial ¹ and Industrial ¹ :	2.45/CCF	3.68/CCF
Government ¹ :	2.18/CCF	3.27/CCF
Effective January 1, 2023		

Customer Class	Inside City Limits	Outside City Limits (1.483 x Inside)
Single Family:	2.98/CCF	4.42/CCF
Multifamily:	2.56/CCF	3.80/CCF
Nonprofit Shelters:	0.66/CCF	0.98/CCF
Commercial ¹ and Industrial ¹ :	2.56/CCF	3.80/CCF
Government ¹ :	2.28/CCF	3.38/CCF
Effective January 1, 2024		

Customer Class	Inside City Limits	Outside City Limits (1.466 x Inside)
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Single-Family:	3.11/CCF	4.56/CCF
Multifamily:	2.68/CCF	3.93/CCF
Nonprofit Shelters:	0.69/CCF	1.01/CCF
Commercial ¹ and Industrial ¹ :	2.68/CCF	3.93/CCF
Government ¹ :	2.38/CCF	3.49/CCF

Effective January 1, 2025

<u>Customer Class</u>	<u>Inside City Limits</u>	<u>Outside City Limits</u> <u>(1.45 x Inside)</u>
<u>Single-Family:</u>		
<u>Tier 1 (0-11 CCF)</u>	<u>2.80/CCF</u>	<u>4.06/CCF</u>
<u>Tier 2 (11-22 CCF)</u>	<u>3.25/CCF</u>	<u>4.71/CCF</u>
<u>Tier 3 (22+ CCF)</u>	<u>4.75/CCF</u>	<u>6.88/CCF</u>
<u>Multifamily:</u>	<u>2.80/CCF</u>	<u>4.06/CCF</u>
<u>Nonprofit Shelters:</u>	<u>0.72/CCF</u>	<u>1.04/CCF</u>
<u>Commercial¹ and Industrial¹:</u>	<u>2.80/CCF</u>	<u>4.06/CCF</u>
<u>Government¹:</u>	<u>2.49/CCF</u>	<u>3.61/CCF</u>

Effective January 1, 2026

<u>Customer Class</u>	<u>Inside City Limits</u>	<u>Outside City Limits</u> <u>(1.433 x Inside)</u>
<u>Single-Family:</u>		
<u>Tier 1 (0-11 CCF)</u>	<u>2.93/CCF</u>	<u>4.20/CCF</u>
<u>Tier 2 (11-22 CCF)</u>	<u>3.40/CCF</u>	<u>4.87/CCF</u>
<u>Tier 3 (22+ CCF)</u>	<u>4.96/CCF</u>	<u>7.11/CCF</u>
<u>Multifamily:</u>	<u>2.93/CCF</u>	<u>4.20/CCF</u>
<u>Nonprofit Shelters:</u>	<u>0.75/CCF</u>	<u>1.07/CCF</u>
<u>Commercial¹ and Industrial¹:</u>	<u>2.93/CCF</u>	<u>4.20/CCF</u>
<u>Government¹:</u>	<u>2.60/CCF</u>	<u>3.73/CCF</u>

1 Note: As this use is classified under VMC Title [20](#).

2. All volume charges are computed per 100 cubic feet (CCF).

3. “Single-family customer” class shall include single dwelling unit with one meter, mobile homes either on individual lots or in mobile home parks. This also includes ADUs that take water and sewer service from service connections separate from the primary residence. This definition is for utility billing purposes only.

4. “Multifamily customer” class shall apply to customers with two or more living units per meter. This also includes ADUs that share water or sewer service from service connections for the primary residence. This definition is for utility billing purposes only.

5. *Nonprofit Shelter*. For the purpose of applying the rates as set forth in subsection (B)(1) of this section, the term “nonprofit shelters” shall be defined to mean a facility operated by a nonprofit organization that provides clients with on-site food, beds or shelter for free or at significantly below market rates.

C. *Charges for Cutting Off and Restoring Service*.

1. *Service Cut-Off*.

a. *Cutting Off Service for Nonpayment*. There shall be a \$40.00 charge to cut off service for nonpayment. There shall be no additional charge for restoring service after such cut-off.

b. *Emergencies – Cut-Off*. No cut-off charge shall be made if service is cut off to meet an actual emergency.

c. *Customer Request*. No cut-off charge shall be made if service is cut off at customer’s request for the first such request. Each additional request shall be a \$25.00 charge during regular office hours and \$125.00 outside of regular office hours.

2. *Restoring Service*.

a. For starting or restoring service at the customer’s request, there shall be a charge of \$25.00 if requested during regular office hours, and a fee of \$125.00 for each such request outside of regular office hours or same day service starts.

b. *Altered Service*. If the meter or service has been altered without the written authorization of the director, the charge shall be \$15.00 additional to all other charges in this section.

c. *Multiple Cut-Off/Restoration Requests*. For customers who require more than one trip to the service address to cut off or restore service at their request, there shall be a fee of \$25.00 per each additional trip during regular office hours.

D. *Testing Meters – Customer’s Request*. The first meter test will be no charge to the customer, and additional meter tests requested by the customer within a 12-month period will be charged per schedule of meter test charges where meter is found not defective:

1 inch and under	\$50.00
1-1/2 inch	\$60.00
2 inch	\$60.00
3 inch	\$80.00
4 inches or more	At cost
Meter resets	\$50.00

Meters tested and found to be defective will be replaced at no cost to the customer for testing or for replacement.

E. *Testing Meters – Other Than at Customer’s Request.* The city reserves the right to test meters at any time. No charge will be made to the customer for meters tested pursuant to this subsection.

F. Temporary water use from hydrant fees shall be set by the director pursuant to VMC [14.04.100\(L\)](#).

SECTION 2. Vancouver Municipal Code Section 14.04.230 is hereby amended to read as follows:

14.04.230 Sanitary sewer service – User charges.

A. *Monthly User Charges.*

1. *Residential Customers.* Each residential customer shall pay a monthly user charge as follows:

~~Effective January 1, 2022~~

Customer Class	Inside City Limits	Outside City Limits
a. Single-Family Residential	\$49.28 per mo. or \$6.16 per CCF	\$73.92 per mo. or \$9.24 per CCF
b. Multifamily Residential	\$49.28 per mo. or \$6.16 per CCF	\$73.92 per mo. or \$9.24 per CCF
e. Nonprofit Shelter	\$1.66 per CCF	\$2.50 per CCF

Effective January 1, 2023

Customer Class	Inside City Limits	Outside City Limits (1.483 x Inside)
a. Single-Family Residential	\$52.24 per mo. or \$6.53 per CCF	\$77.47 per mo. or \$9.68 per CCF
b. Multifamily Residential	\$52.24 per mo. or \$6.53 per CCF	\$77.47 per mo. or \$9.68 per CCF
e. Nonprofit Shelter	\$1.76 per CCF	\$2.61 per CCF

Effective January 1, 2024

Customer Class	Inside City Limits	Outside City Limits (1.466 x Inside)
a. Single-Family Residential	\$55.36 per mo. or \$6.92 per CCF	\$81.16 per mo. or \$10.14 per CCF

Customer Class	Inside City Limits	Outside City Limits (1.466 x Inside)
b. Multifamily Residential	\$55.36 per mo. or \$6.92 per CCF	\$81.16 per mo. or \$10.14 per CCF
c. Nonprofit Shelter	\$1.87 per CCF	\$2.74 per CCF

Effective January 1, 2025

<u>Customer Class</u>	<u>Inside City Limits</u>	<u>Outside City Limits (1.45 x Inside)</u>
a. <u>Single-Family Residential</u>	<u>\$58.72 per mo. or \$7.34 per CCF</u>	<u>\$85.12 per mo. or \$10.64 per CCF</u>
b. <u>Multifamily Residential</u>	<u>\$58.72 per mo. or \$7.34 per CCF</u>	<u>\$85.12 per mo. or \$10.64 per CCF</u>
c. <u>Nonprofit Shelter</u>	<u>\$1.98 per CCF</u>	<u>\$2.87 per CCF</u>

Effective January 1, 2026

<u>Customer Class</u>	<u>Inside City Limits</u>	<u>Outside City Limits (1.433 x Inside)</u>
a. <u>Single-Family Residential</u>	<u>\$62.24 per mo. or \$7.78 per CCF</u>	<u>\$89.20 per mo. or \$11.15 per CCF</u>
b. <u>Multifamily Residential</u>	<u>\$62.24 per mo. or \$7.78 per CCF</u>	<u>\$89.20 per mo. or \$11.15 per CCF</u>

<u>Customer Class</u>	<u>Inside City Limits</u>	<u>Outside City Limits</u> <u>(1.433 x Inside)</u>
<u>c. Nonprofit Shelter</u>	<u>\$2.10 per CCF</u>	<u>\$3.01 per CCF</u>

2. Sewer charges for each single-family or multifamily residential customer shall be based upon that customer’s average water usage, recorded when meters are normally read for billing purposes, within the previous January through March window. Each customer, other than qualifying low-income seniors as defined in subsection [\(A\)\(2\)\(e\)](#) of this section, is subject to a minimum volume charge of three CCF per month.

a. Single-family or multifamily residential customers shall be charged an average 60-day consumption of the billing periods specified above at the applicable inside city or outside city rate per CCF for sewer as set forth in subsection [\(A\)\(1\)](#) of this section. For new accounts in which the two-month water consumption history has not been established, the director may establish an interim rate in accordance with department policies. The director shall approve a written policy for the setting of this interim rate that will include, but not be limited to, how the interim rate is calculated.

b. The applicable inside city or outside city flat rate set forth in subsection [\(A\)\(1\)](#) of this section shall be used as the monthly sewer billing rate for any customer for whom for any reason the provisions of this subsection cannot be used.

c. The utilities division shall develop written rules consistent with this subsection and the ordinance codified in this section for the fair and efficient administration of such sewer rate.

d. For the purpose of applying the rates as set forth in subsection [\(A\)\(2\)\(c\)](#) of this section, the term “nonprofit shelter” shall be defined to mean a facility operated by a nonprofit organization that provides clients with on-site food, beds or shelter for free or at significantly below-market rates.

e. For the purpose of applying the low income senior minimum sewer flow waiver as set forth in subsection [\(A\)\(2\)](#) of this section, applicants shall meet the following:

- i. Applications shall be obtained from and filed with the director or their designee. The application shall be on a form prescribed by the director, and shall contain the

information necessary to evaluate the applicant's qualification for the low income senior minimum sewer flow waiver.

- A. Submission of an application for a utility discount shall constitute a verification by the applicant that all information provided in such application is true and correct to the best of the applicant's knowledge.
 - B. Once approved by the department, the application shall become effective the next billing cycle after approval of the application.
 - C. Each application is effective for 12 months commencing the first month the reduced rate becomes effective for the applicant. It shall be the sole responsibility of the applicant to reapply for successive 12-month periods of eligibility.
 - D. The rate reduction shall only apply to utility charges for service to a residence. The residence for which the rate reduction is requested must be the applicant's principal place of residence.
 - E. The applicant must be the head of the household for the residence for which the rate reduction is requested.
 - F. The utility account must be in the applicant's name or the name of the applicant's spouse.
- ii. For purposes of this section, the term "low-income senior" shall be defined as follows:
- A. Be 62 years of age or older at all times during any period for which a minimum sewer flow waiver is requested; and
 - B. Have been a sewer customer of the city at all times during any period for which a minimum sewer flow waiver is requested; and
 - C. Have an income during the calendar year or portion thereof for which a minimum sewer flow waiver is requested, from all sources whatsoever, either (1) not exceeding 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines for a household of any size as published by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development or (2) not exceeding the income qualification for low-income seniors set forth in RCW [84.36.381\(5\)\(a\)](#), whichever is greater.

3. *Commercial, Industrial, Electronics and Government Customers.* Each such customer shall pay a monthly user charge per hundred cubic feet (CCF) as follows; provided, each such customer is subject to a minimum user charge equal to the applicable inside or outside city flat monthly rate for one single-family service set forth in subsection (A)(1) of this section:

~~Effective January 1, 2022:~~

Customer Class	Inside City Limits	Outside City Limits
a. Commercial	\$7.22 per CCF	\$10.82 per CCF
b. Government	\$4.41 per CCF	\$6.62 per CCF
c. Industrial	\$7.47 per CCF	\$11.20 per CCF
d. Electronics	\$5.49 per CCF¹⁹	\$8.24 per CCF²⁰

~~Notes for Electronic Customer Class — Effective January 1, 2022 — December 31, 2022:~~

~~**19** For monthly average flows above 2.88 million gallons per day, the rate shall be \$4.39 per CCF.~~

~~**20** For monthly average flows above 2.88 million gallons per day, the rate shall be \$6.59 per CCF.~~

~~Effective January 1, 2023:~~

Customer Class	Inside City Limits	Outside City Limits (1.483 x Inside)
a. Commercial	\$7.65 per CCF	\$11.34 per CCF
b. Government	\$4.67 per CCF	\$6.93 per CCF

Customer Class	Inside City Limits	Outside City Limits (1.483 x Inside)
e. Industrial	\$7.92 per CCF	\$11.75 per CCF
d. Electronics	\$5.82 per CCF ²¹	\$8.63 per CCF ²²

Notes for Electronic Customer Class – Effective January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023:

~~21 For monthly average flows above 2.88 million gallons per day, the rate shall be \$4.65 per CCF.~~

~~22 For monthly average flows above 2.88 million gallons per day, the rate shall be \$6.90 per CCF.~~

Effective January 1, 2024:

Customer Class	Inside City Limits	Outside City Limits (1.466 x Inside)
a. Commercial	\$8.11 per CCF	\$11.89 per CCF
b. Government	\$4.95 per CCF	\$7.26 per CCF
c. Industrial	\$8.40 per CCF	\$12.31 per CCF
d. Electronics	\$6.17 per CCF ²³	\$9.05 per CCF ²⁴

Notes for Electronic Customer Class – Effective January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024:

23 For monthly average flows above 2.88 million gallons per day, the rate shall be \$4.93 per CCF.

24 For monthly average flows above 2.88 million gallons per day, the rate shall be \$7.23 per CCF.

Effective January 1, 2025:

<u>Customer Class</u>	<u>Inside City Limits</u>	<u>Outside City Limits</u> <u>(1.45 x Inside)</u>
<u>a. Commercial</u>	<u>\$8.60 per CCF</u>	<u>\$12.47 per CCF</u>
<u>b. Government</u>	<u>\$5.25 per CCF</u>	<u>\$7.61 per CCF</u>
<u>c. Industrial</u>	<u>\$8.90 per CCF</u>	<u>\$12.91 per CCF</u>
<u>d. Electronics</u>	<u>\$6.54 per CCF²⁵</u>	<u>\$9.48 per CCF²⁶</u>

Notes for Electronic Customer Class – Effective January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025:

25 For monthly average flows above 2.88 million gallons per day, the rate shall be \$5.23 per CCF.

26 For monthly average flows above 2.88 million gallons per day, the rate shall be \$7.58 per CCF.

Effective January 1, 2026:

<u>Customer Class</u>	<u>Inside City Limits</u>	<u>Outside City Limits</u> <u>(1.433 x Inside)</u>
<u>a. Commercial</u>	<u>\$9.12 per CCF</u>	<u>\$13.07 per CCF</u>
<u>b. Government</u>	<u>\$5.57 per CCF</u>	<u>\$7.98 per CCF</u>
<u>c. Industrial</u>	<u>\$9.43 per CCF</u>	<u>\$13.51 per CCF</u>
<u>d. Electronics</u>	<u>\$6.93 per CCF²⁷</u>	<u>\$9.93 per CCF²⁸</u>

Notes for Electronic Customer Class – Effective January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026:

27 For monthly average flows above 2.88 million gallons per day, the rate shall be \$5.54 per CCF.

28 For monthly average flows above 2.88 million gallons per day, the rate shall be \$7.94 per CCF.

4. The rate for discharging septage at the city's publicly owned treatment works (POTW) as provided for in Chapter [5.72](#) VMC effective January 1, 2021, shall be \$155.00 for each 1,000 gallons, or fraction thereof, discharged into the POTW. The rate for discharging septage at the city's POTW may be adjusted not more than once per calendar year by the director to address the unique operational and capital needs associated with providing this service.

5. "Industrial customer" is defined as an industrial user of the public sewer system who:

- a. Has a discharge flow of 10,000 gallons of processed wastewater or more per average workday; or
- b. Has a concentration of biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) and suspended solids (SS) in excess of 200 milligrams per liter per average work day; or
- c. Is found by the city, State Department of Ecology or U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to have potential for a significant impact on the wastewater treatment system.

6. "Electronics user" is defined as an industrial user of the public sewer system who:

- a. Has a discharge flow of 500,000 gallons or more per average work day; and
- b. Has a concentration of biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) and suspended solids (SS) less than 200 milligrams per liter per average work day.

B. *Liquids Not Originating From City Water System.* Any person discharging into the city sanitary sewerage system sewage which has in it liquids which did not originate from the city water system shall meter or measure by some method approved by the director all water used in the premises, whether the water is obtained from the municipal water supply system or from wells, private water systems or other sources.

C. *Used Water Not Flowing Into Sewer System.* Where the user of water is such that a portion of all of the water used does not flow into a city sewer but is lost by evaporation or is used in manufacture or processes such as ice, beverages, foods or the like and the person in control provides proof of this fact and installs a meter or other measuring device approved by the

director to measure the amount of water so used or lost, no charge shall be made for sewerage because of water so used or lost.

D. *Computation of Utility Rates.* For the purpose of computing water and sewer bills, all residences, regardless of number of units, shall be deemed residential, and each unit therein shall be deemed a residence. All other uses shall be deemed commercial, industrial or government.

SECTION 3. Vancouver Municipal Code Section 14.09.060 is hereby amended to read as follows:

14.09.060 Rates for storm and surface water management.

A. Because all real property in the city contributes stormwater runoff to and/or benefits from the city’s stormwater system, the owners thereof shall pay monthly charges as set forth in this section. Monthly charges will have two components as follows:

1. *Operation and Maintenance.* To provide for administrative and field operations, billing, accounting, and for the maintenance, repair and upgrade of existing stormwater facilities.
2. *Capital Expenditures.* To provide for basin-wide and system master planning and subsequent capital improvement projects as identified in the stormwater capital plan.

B. The water and sewer utility is authorized to establish charges for the use and discharge to the city’s stormwater system. Such charges shall be based on the cost of providing stormwater service to all properties within the city and may be different for properties receiving different classes of service. Monthly charges shall be established as follows:

Effective January 1, 2022

Single-Family	Multifamily	Commercial	Industrial
\$13.01 per month	\$13.01 per 2,500 sq. ft. hard surface per month (\$13.01 minimum)	\$13.01 per 2,500 sq. ft. hard surface per month (\$13.01 minimum)	\$13.01 per 2,500 sq. ft. hard surface per month (\$13.01 minimum)

Effective January 1, 2023

Single-Family	Multifamily	Commercial	Industrial
\$14.05 per month	\$14.05 per 2,500 sq. ft. hard surface per month (\$14.05 minimum)	\$14.05 per 2,500 sq. ft. hard surface per month (\$14.05 minimum)	\$14.05 per 2,500 sq. ft. hard surface per month (\$14.05 minimum)

Effective January 1, 2024

Single-Family	Multifamily	Commercial	Industrial
\$15.17 per month	\$15.17 per 2,500 sq. ft. hard surface per month (\$15.17 minimum)	\$15.17 per 2,500 sq. ft. hard surface per month (\$15.17 minimum)	\$15.17 per 2,500 sq. ft. hard surface per month (\$15.17 minimum)

Effective January 1, 2025

<u>Single-Family</u>	<u>Multifamily</u>	<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Industrial</u>
<u>\$16.38 per month</u>	<u>\$16.38 per 2,500 sq. ft. hard surface per month (\$16.38 minimum)</u>	<u>\$16.38 per 2,500 sq. ft. hard surface per month (\$16.38 minimum)</u>	<u>\$16.38 per 2,500 sq. ft. hard surface per month (\$16.38 minimum)</u>

Effective January 1, 2026

<u>Single-Family</u>	<u>Multifamily</u>	<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Industrial</u>
<u>\$17.69 per month</u>	<u>\$17.69 per 2,500 sq. ft. hard surface per month (\$17.69 minimum)</u>	<u>\$17.69 per 2,500 sq. ft. hard surface per month (\$17.69 minimum)</u>	<u>\$17.69 per 2,500 sq. ft. hard surface per month (\$17.69 minimum)</u>

C. “Multifamily customer” class shall apply to customers with living units that share a common wall.

1. Multifamily customers with two or more living units per meter will be charged the effective rate per 2,500 square feet of impervious surface.
2. Multifamily customers with one water meter per living unit will be charged the prevailing “single-family customer rate” per unit. “Single-family customer rate” shall apply to mobile homes either on individual lots or in a mobile home park.

D. *State Highway Charge.* Pursuant to RCW [90.03.525](#), the monthly charge for all state highway properties within the city shall be 30 percent of the charge provided in subsection [B](#) of this section, unless the city and state agree to a different rate or unless the court of competent jurisdiction holds otherwise.

E. *Application to Publicly Owned Properties.* Other publicly owned properties shall be charged at the industrial rate as set forth herein.

F. *Application to Active Gravel Mining Operations and Publicly Owned Streets, Alleys and Rights-of-Way.* Active gravel mining operations, publicly owned streets, alleys and rights-of-way shall be charged at the state highway charge rate provided in subsection [D](#) of this section.

G. *Application to Certain Qualifying Properties.* For qualifying properties meeting all of the following criteria, the monthly charge shall be 30 percent of the charge provided in subsection [B](#) of this section.

1. The qualifying property is subject to a stormwater management program regulated by and in compliance with the requirements for a Phase 1, Phase 2, or secondary permittee as defined by Special Condition S6 of the NPDES Western Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit, and as hereafter amended; and
2. The qualifying property does not discharge stormwater into the city of Vancouver surface water drainage system; and
3. If infiltrating on site, water quality treatment shall meet current city of Vancouver and Department of Ecology standards and requirements for the land use. (Ord. M-4391 § 4, 2022; Ord. M-4359 § 3, 2021; Ord. M-4327 § 3, 2021; Ord. M-4315 § 3, 2020; Ord. M-4257 § 8, 2018; Ord. M-4239 § 12, 2018; Ord. M-4193 § 6, 2017; Ord. M-4184 § 5, 2016; Ord. M-4179 § 20, 2016; Ord. M-4143 § 4, 2015; Ord. M-4099 § 3, 2014; Ord. M-4032 § 3, 2012; Ord. M-4022 § 42, 2012; Ord. M-4007 § 2, 2011; Ord. M-3899 § 4, 2008; Ord. M-

3677 § 1, 2004; Ord. M-3650 § 1, 2004; Ord. M-3514, 2000; Ord. M-3398, 1998; Ord. M-3337, 1997; Ord. M-3274, 1996; Ord. M-3145 § 1, 1994)

SECTION 4. Savings. Those sections of any ordinances amended or repealed by this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect until the effective date of this ordinance.

SECTION 5. Severability. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section, or part of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such order or judgment shall be confined in its operation to the controversy in which it was rendered and shall not effect or invalidate the remainder of any parts thereof to any person or circumstances and to this end the provisions of each clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part of this law are hereby declared to be severable.

SECTION 6. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective as of January 1, 2025, following the date of final adoption.

SIGNED this 2nd day of December, 2024.

DocuSigned by:
Anne McEnerny-Ogle
6C89D9089EC5424...

Anne McEnerny-Ogle, Mayor

Attest:

DocuSigned by:
Natasha Ramras
493E940414AE4BD...

Natasha Ramras, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

DocuSigned by:

9A7DC2E31F694A2...
Jonathan Young, City Attorney

SUMMARY

ORDINANCE NO. M-4484

AN ORDINANCE related to the water, sewer and surface water utility user rates, amending Vancouver Municipal Code Sections 14.04.210, 14.04.230, and 14.09.060; and providing for savings, severability, and an effective date.

The full text of this ordinance will be mailed upon request. Contact Raelyn McJilton, Records Officer at 487-8711, or via www.cityofvancouver.us (Go to City Government and Public Records).