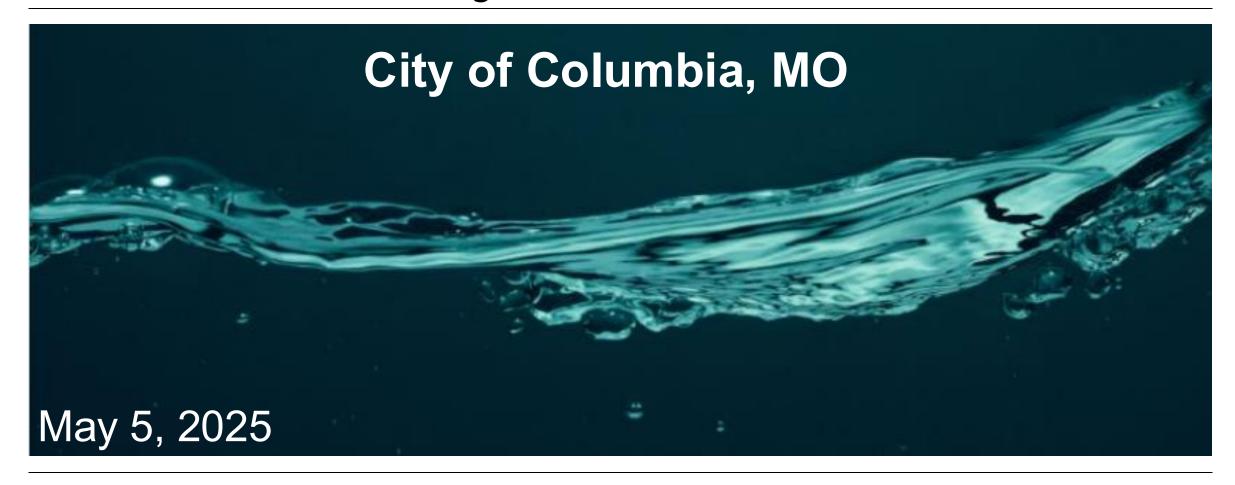
Water Rate Study Recommendations





A Rate Study is a Series of Connected Investigations

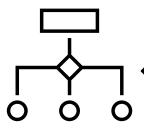
How Much?



Revenue Sufficiency

- Maintain policies & targets
- Fund system investment needs
- Achieve sustainable funding of operations

From Whom?



Defensible Allocation Methods

- Utilize industry accepted approaches
- Maintain inter and intra class proportionality
- Define correct and appropriate units of service

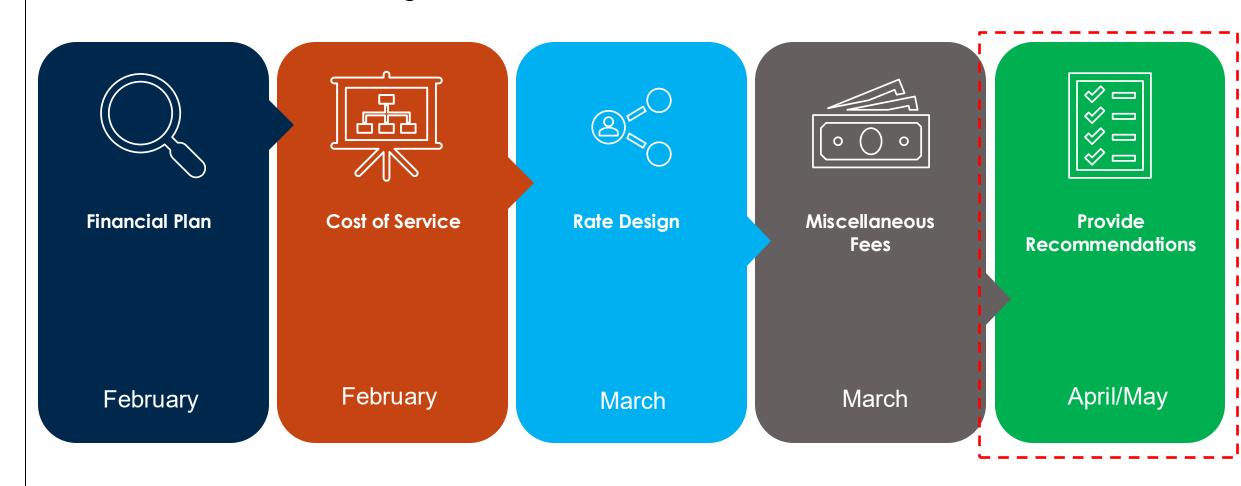
How to Collect?



Simple & Sustainable Rates

- Collect revenue proportional to services provided
- Balance affordability and financial objectives
- Accomplish revenue stability

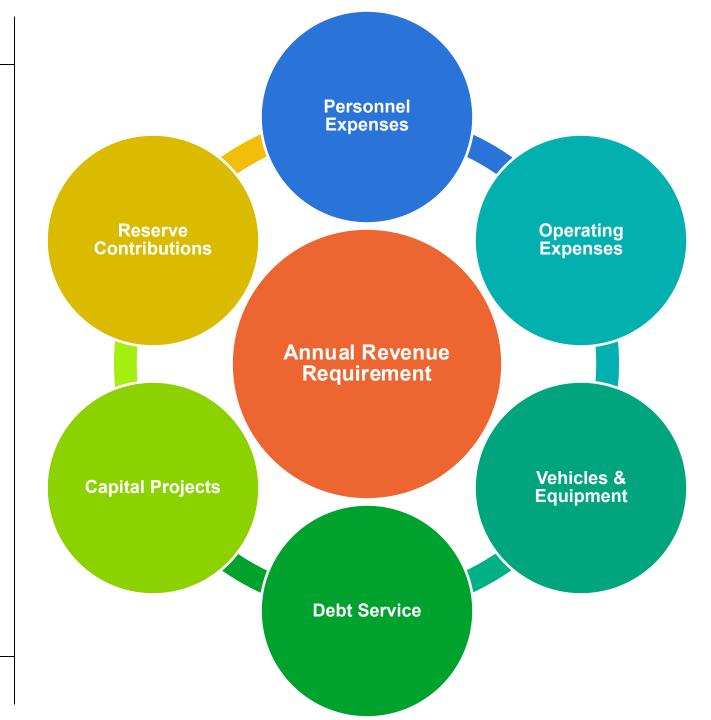
Water Rate Study Overview





Financial Plan

Typical Components of Utility Revenue Requirements



Starting Water System Revenue Requirements

Personnel and Operating Expenses

Source: FY25 Budget

(budget execution factors applied)

\$21.7M

FY 25

Capital Projects, Vehicles, and Repair & Replacement

Source: Conservative CIP Master

\$3.3M

\$36.0M

Debt Service

Source: 2014A, 2015A, 2019A, 2019B, 2023A

\$6.7M

Transfers

Source: PILOT, 2016 SO Bonds, General fund, Parks & Recreation

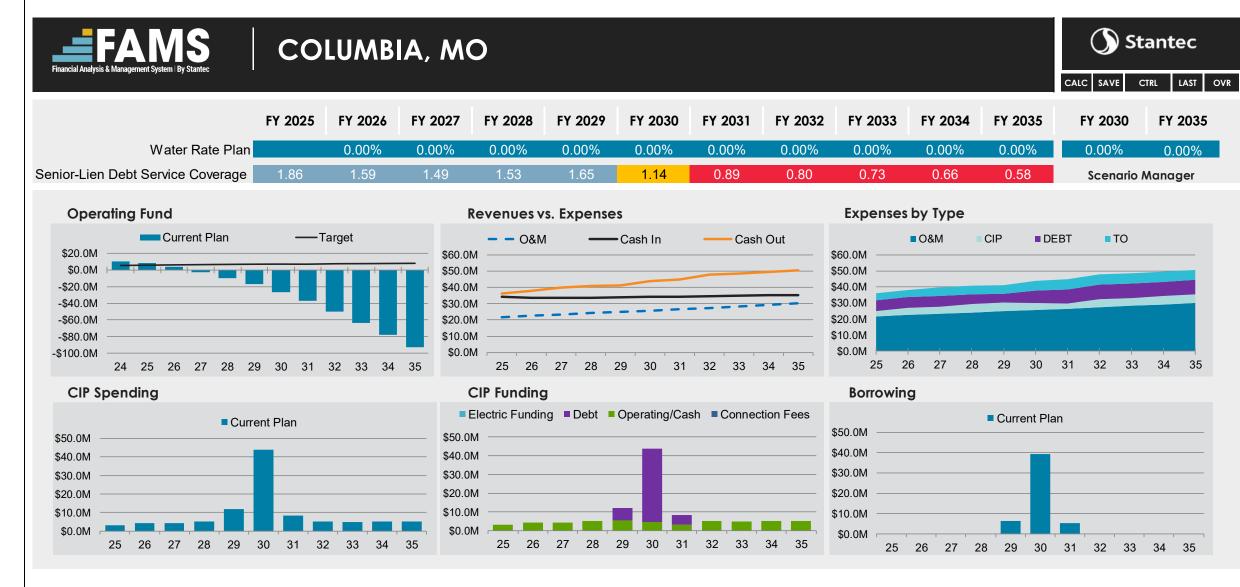
\$4.3M

^{1:} Total may be off due to rounding

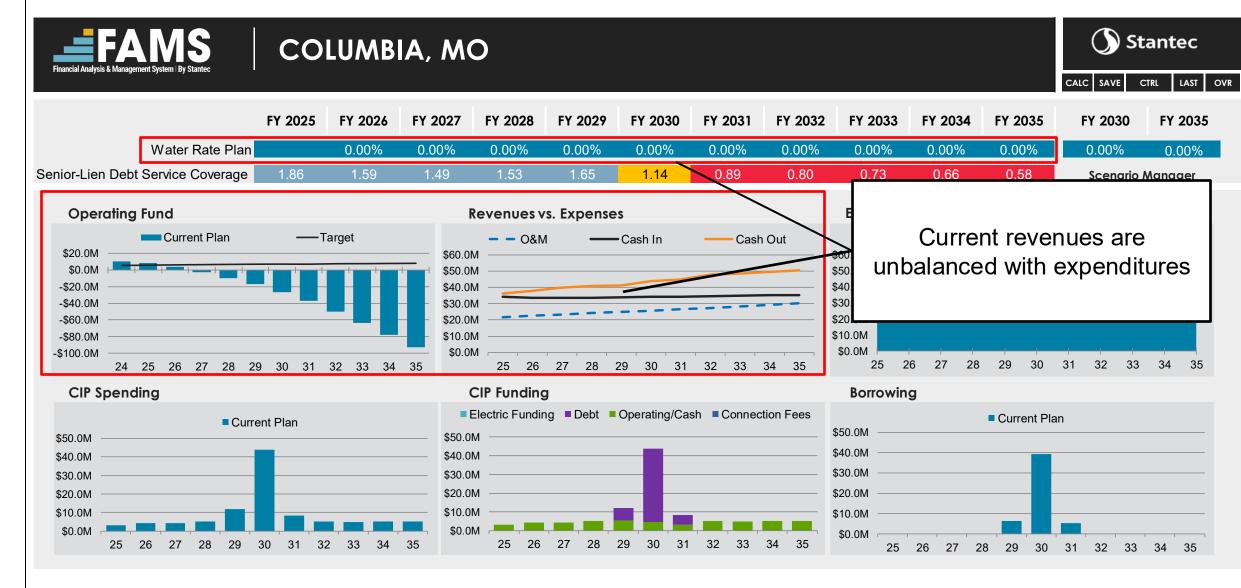
Key Assumptions

- Audited FY 2024 ending balances
- FY 2025 Adopted Budget
- Forecasting reflects status quo operations and capital investments
 - Excludes the purchase of AMI Meters
 - Minimum capital investment needs are met
 - No new personnel positions forecasted
 - Next debt referendum in FY 2030 (\$51M)

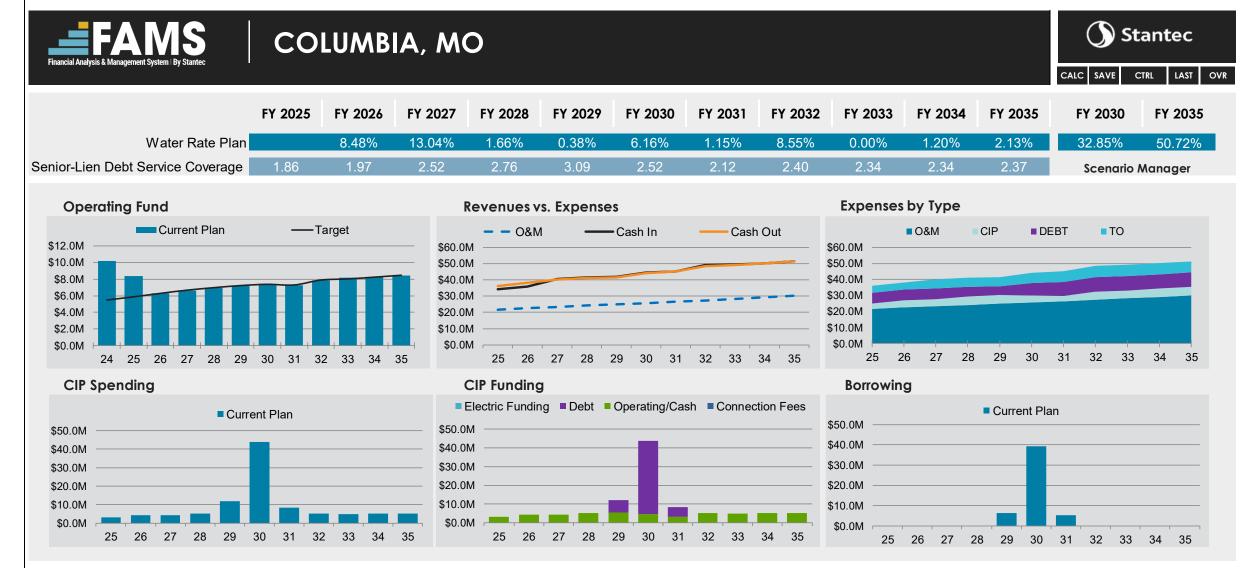
10-Year Financial Plan – Diagnostic



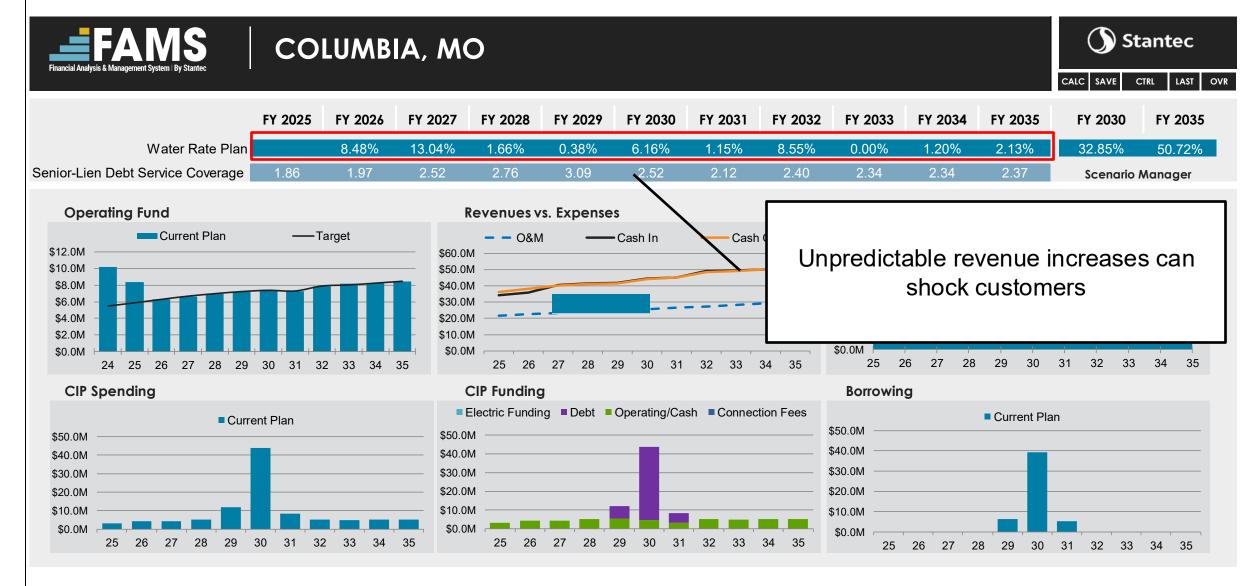
10-Year Financial Plan – Diagnostic



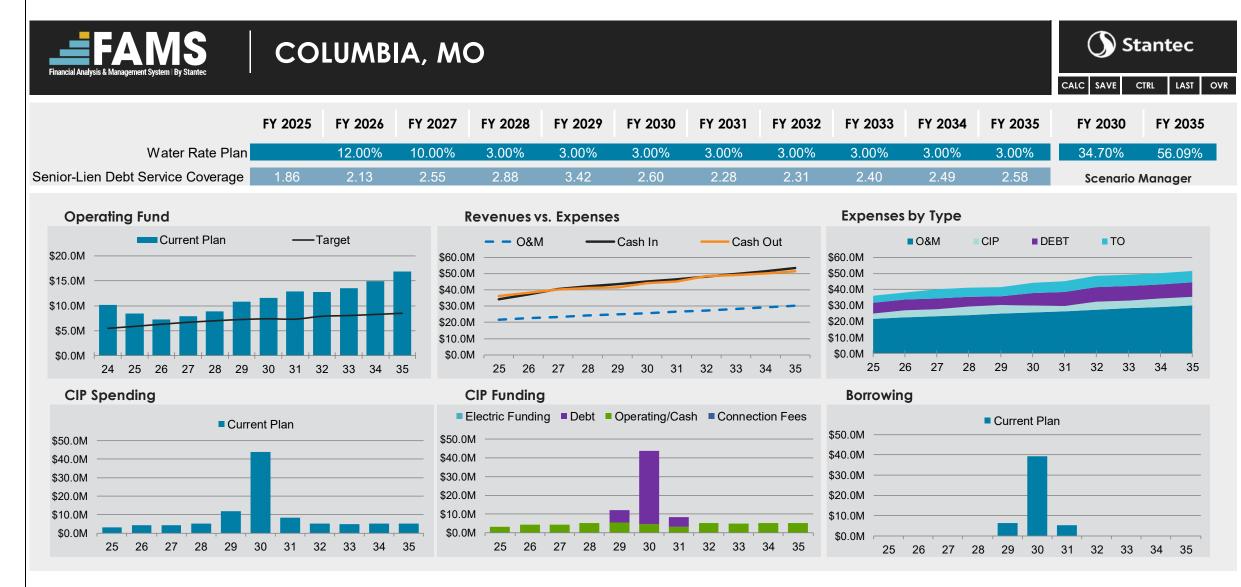
10-Year Financial Plan – Just In Time Revenue Increases



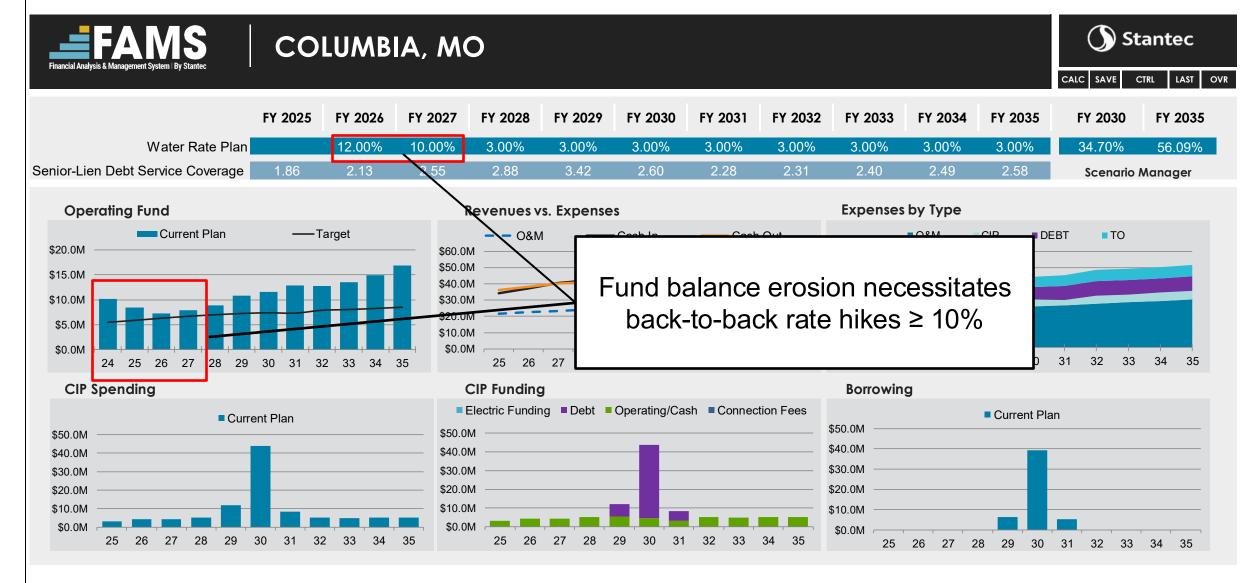
10-Year Financial Plan – Just In Time Revenue Increases



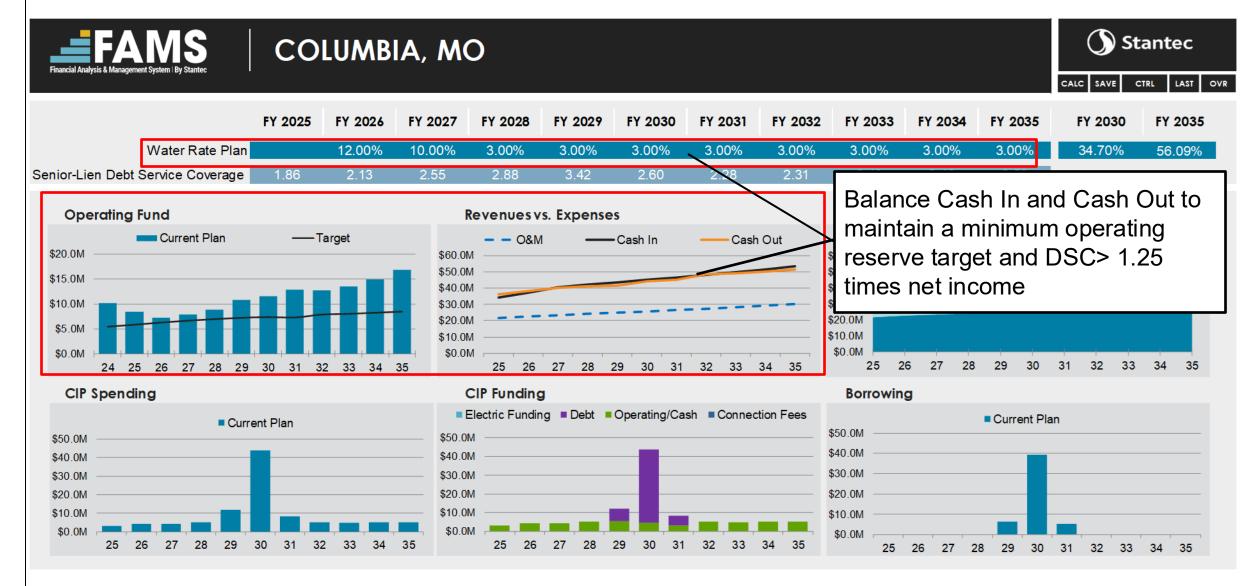
10-Year Financial Plan – Recommended Revenue Increase



10-Year Financial Plan – Recommended Revenue Increase



10-Year Financial Plan – Recommended Revenue Increase

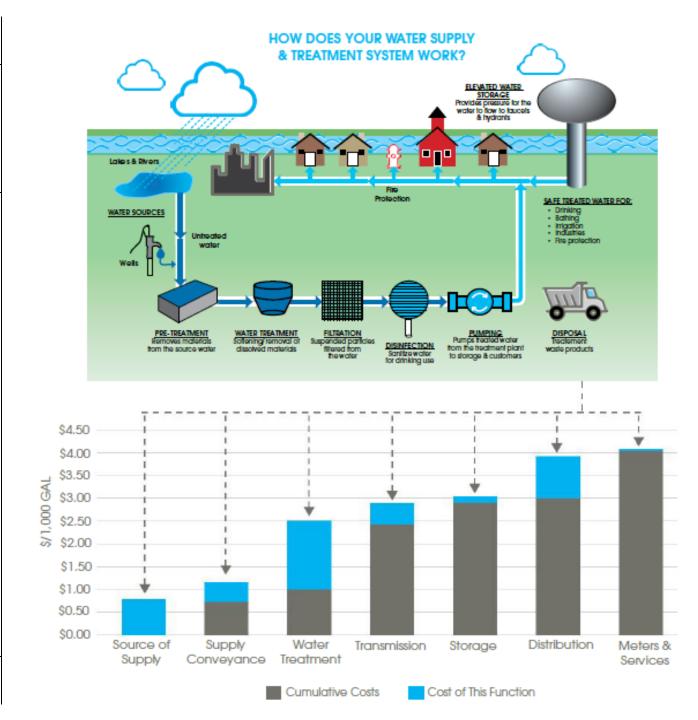




Cost of Service

Cost to Serve

Goal: Determine the cost of providing service by function



Starting Water System Revenue Requirements

Personnel and Operating Expenses

Source: FY25 Budget

(budget execution factors applied)

\$21.7M

FY 25

Capital Projects, Vehicles, and R&R

Source: Conservative CIP Master

\$3.3M

\$36.0M

Debt Service

Source: 2014A, 2015A, 2019A, 2019B, 2023A

\$6.7M

Transfers

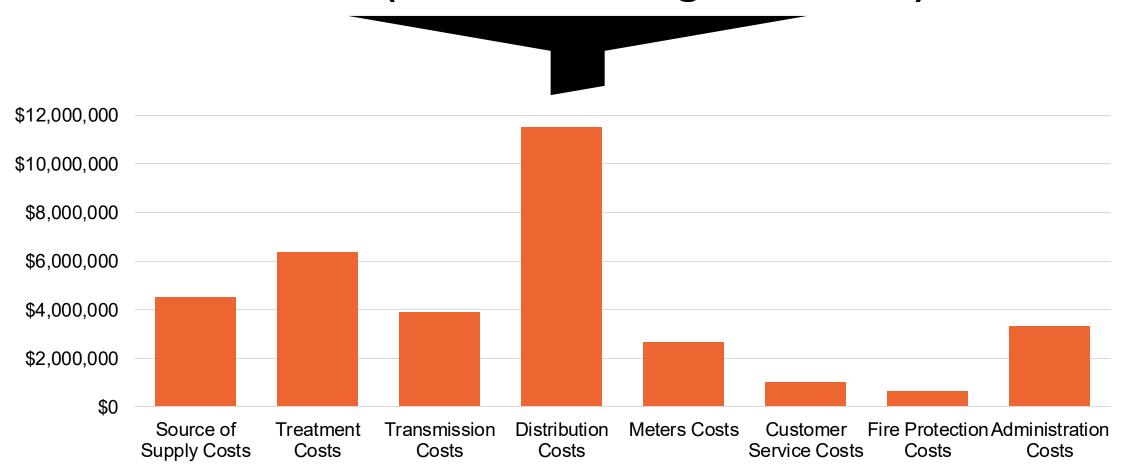
Source: PILOT, 2016 SO Bonds, General fund, Parks & Recreation

\$4.3M

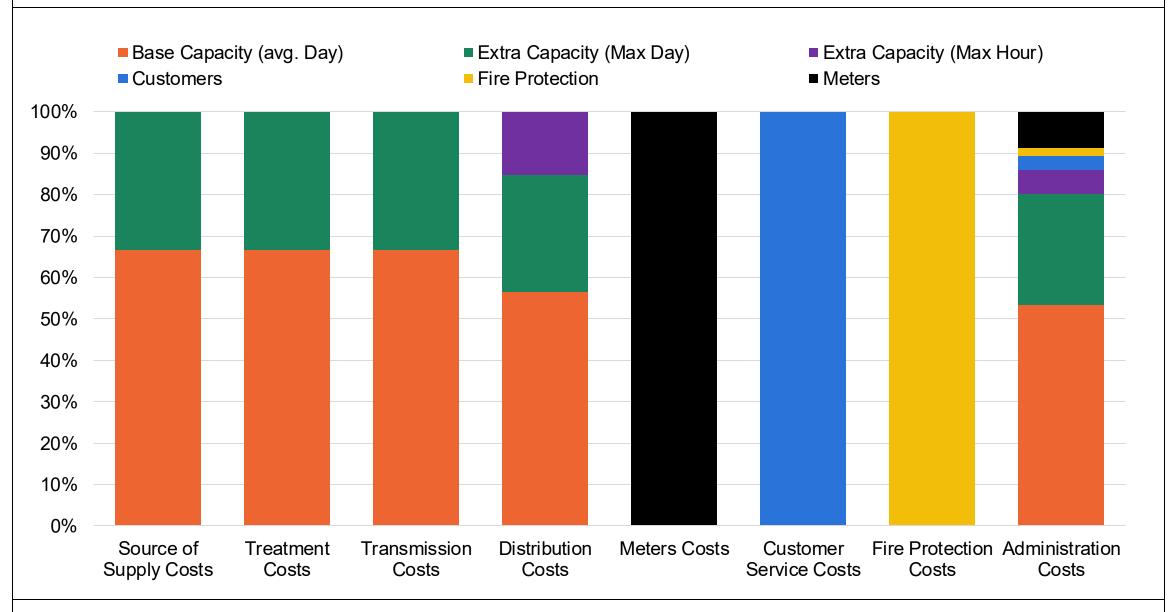
1: Total may be off due to rounding

Functional Allocations

FY 2026 Test Year Rate Revenue Requirements \$34.1M (With Offsetting Revenues)



System Functions to System Units



Unit Costs

Average Day Total	Average Day Allocation \$18,175,950	CCF per Year 5,480,631	Unit Cost \$3.32
Max Day	Max Day Allocation	CCF per Year	Unit Cost
Total	\$9,135,754	9,609	\$950.71
Peak Hour	Max Hour Allocation	CCF per Year	Unit Cost
Total	\$1,953,892	4,432	\$440.81
Customer	Customer Allocation	Annual Bills 626,892	Unit Cost
Total	\$1,143,067		\$1.82
Public Fire Protection Total	Customer Allocation \$705,148	Hydrants 6,443	Unit Cost \$109.44
Meters	Customer Allocation	EQ Meters 62,937	Unit Cost
Total	\$2,962,524		\$47.07



Rate Design

Current Rates

Customer Classes:

Residential

Commercial

Large Commercial

Residential Irrigation

Commercial Irrigation

Airport

Additional Charges

- Lawn Irrigation is charged at tier 3 in the summer
- An additional fire flow charge is applied based on meter size
- Backflow prevention charge is \$2.00 per device
- Columbia Regional Airport has separate rate

Monthly Base Charges		
Meter Size	In-City Base	Fire Charge
5/8" and ¾"	\$12.48	\$1.59
1"	\$20.15	\$1.69
1.5"	\$40.52	\$2.44
2"	\$61.41	\$2.63
3"	\$189.99	\$6.31
4"	\$398.45	\$9.75
6"	\$850.20	\$19.51

In City Volumetric Charges						
Tier	Summer (June through September)	Non-Summer				
Tier 1 (70% of WAC)	\$3.22	\$3.22				
Tier 2 (71%-170% of WAC)	\$4.44	\$3.22				
Tier 3 (>170% of WAC)	\$6.89	\$3.22				

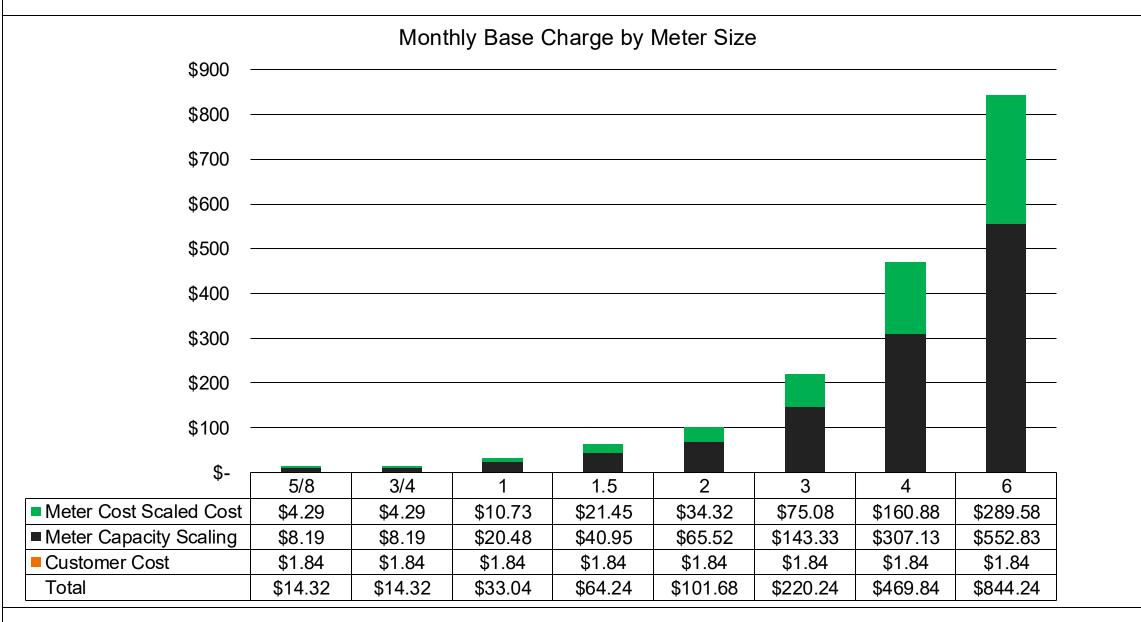
WAC = Winter Average Consumption

Base Rate Recommendations

- Recover 30% of rate revenue requirements in monthly base charges (currently 29%)
- Simplify by including public fire protection cost in base charges
- Combine scaled and unscaled cost by meter size to calculate fees using strong cost basis

Cost Components	Cost	Recovery %	Fixe	d Cost Recovered
Customer	\$ 1,143,067	100%	\$	1,143,067
Meters	\$ 2,962,524	100%	\$	2,962,524
Fire Protection	\$ 705,148	100%	\$	705,148
Average Day	\$ 18,175,950	30%	\$	5,452,785
			\$	10,263,524

Calculated Base Rates



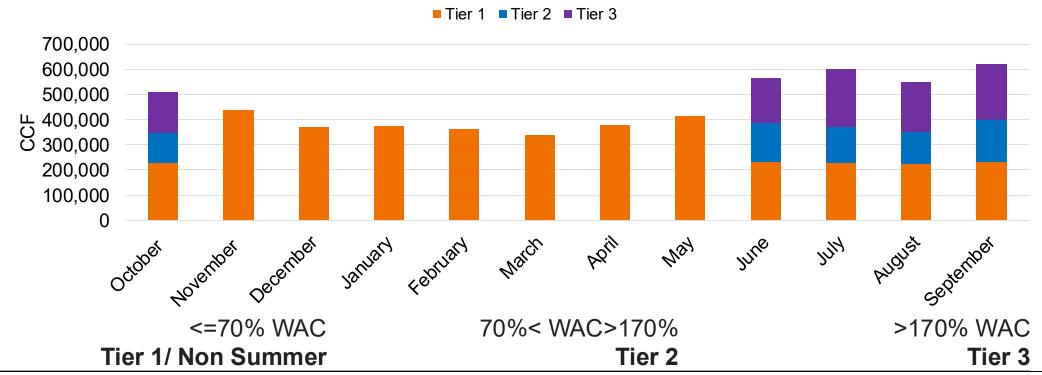
Base Rates Impacts

Meter Size	Current	Calculated	\$ Change	% Change
5/8	\$ 14.07	\$ 14.32	\$ 0.25	1.8%
3/4	\$ 14.07	\$ 14.32	\$ 0.25	1.8%
1.0	\$ 21.84	\$ 33.04	\$ 11.20	51.3%
1.5	\$ 42.96	\$ 64.24	\$ 21.28	49.5%
2.0	\$ 64.04	\$ 101.68	\$ 37.64	58.8%
3.0	\$ 196.30	\$ 220.24	\$ 23.94	12.2%
4.0	\$ 408.20	\$ 469.84	\$ 61.64	15.1%
6.0	\$ 869.71	\$ 844.24	\$ (25.47)	-2.9%

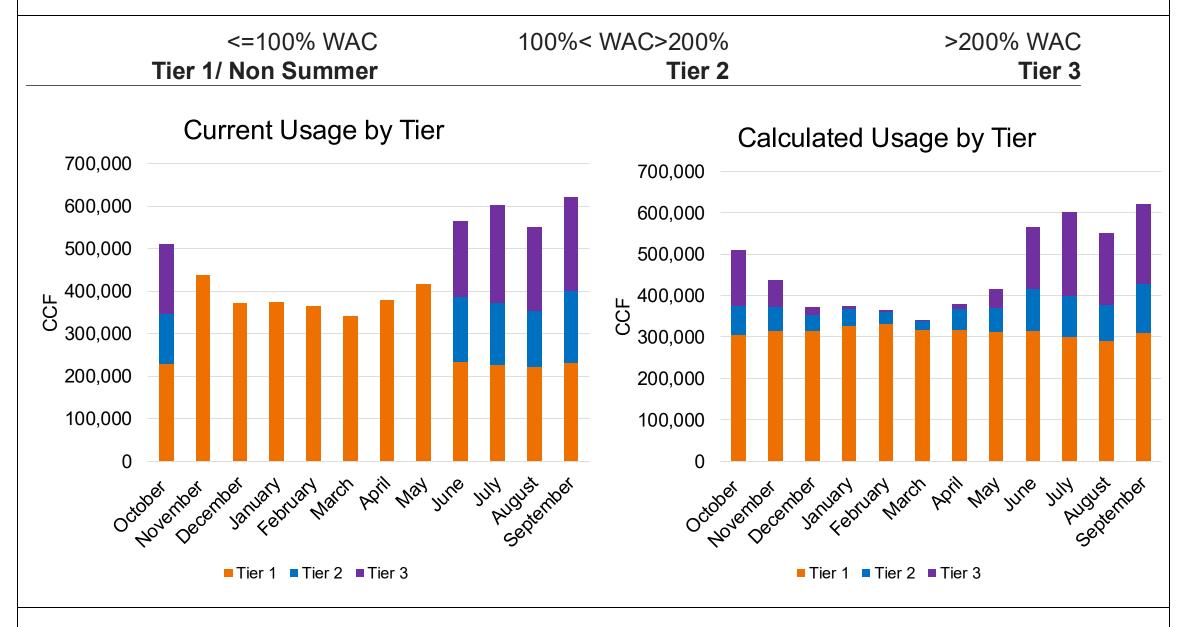
Volume Rates Observations

- 70% of winter average use is restrictive and penalizes steady use during peak months
- Peak use occurs outside the summer; significant shoulder-month use is present
- Tier pricing should reflect the defined cost as identified in the cost of service





Volume Tiers

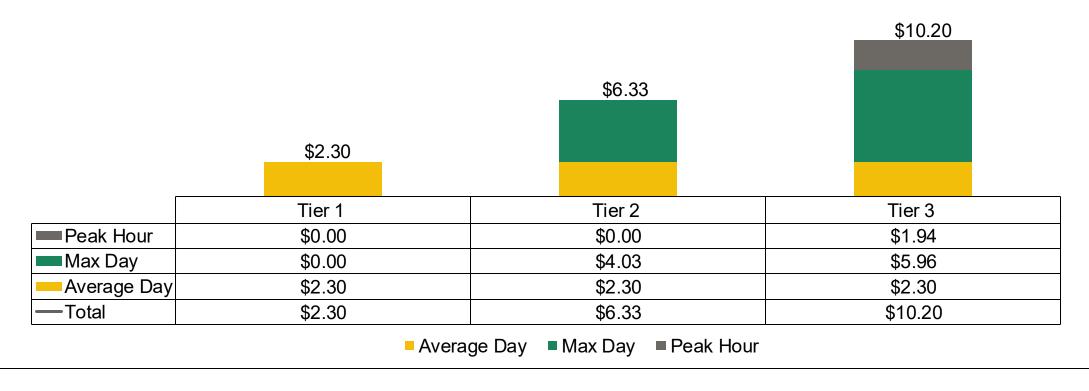


Volume Rates

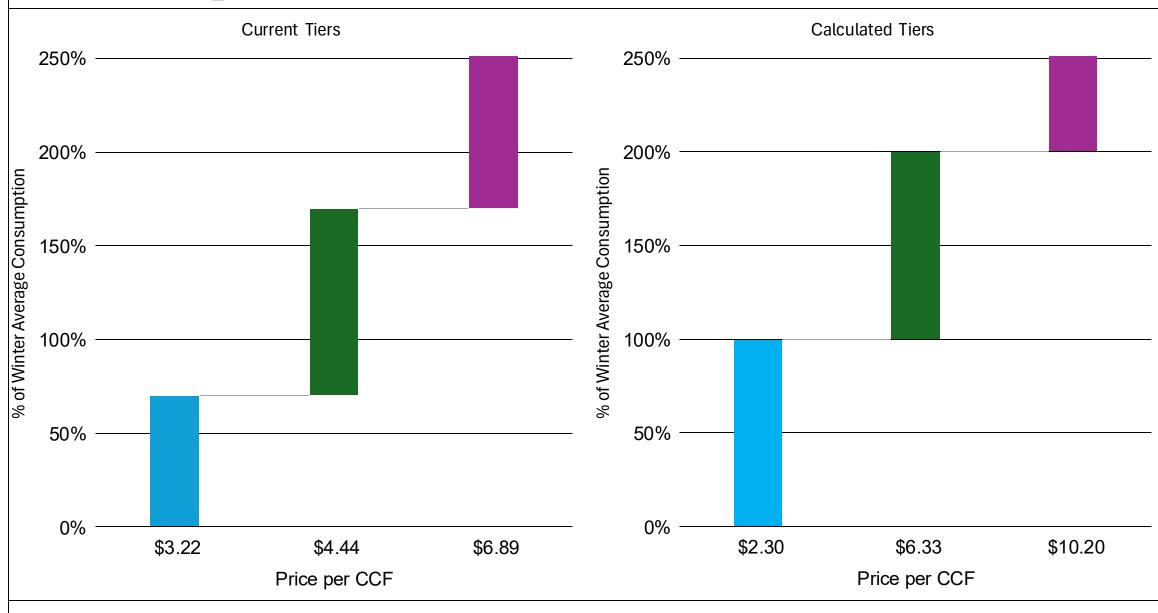
Average Day	Average Day Allocation	CCF per Year	Unit Cost
Total	\$18,175,950	5,480,631	\$3.32
Max Day	Max Day Allocation	CCF per Year	Unit Cost
Total	\$9,135,754	9,609	\$950.71
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Total	\$1,953,892	4,432	\$440.81
Customer	Customer Allocation	Annual Bills	Unit Cost
Total	\$1,143,067	626,892	\$1.82
Public Fire Protection	Customer Allocation	Hydrants	Unit Cost
Total	\$705,148	6,443	\$109.44
Meters	Customer Allocation	EQ Meters	Unit Cost
Total	\$2,962,524	62,937	\$47.07

Calculated Volume Rates

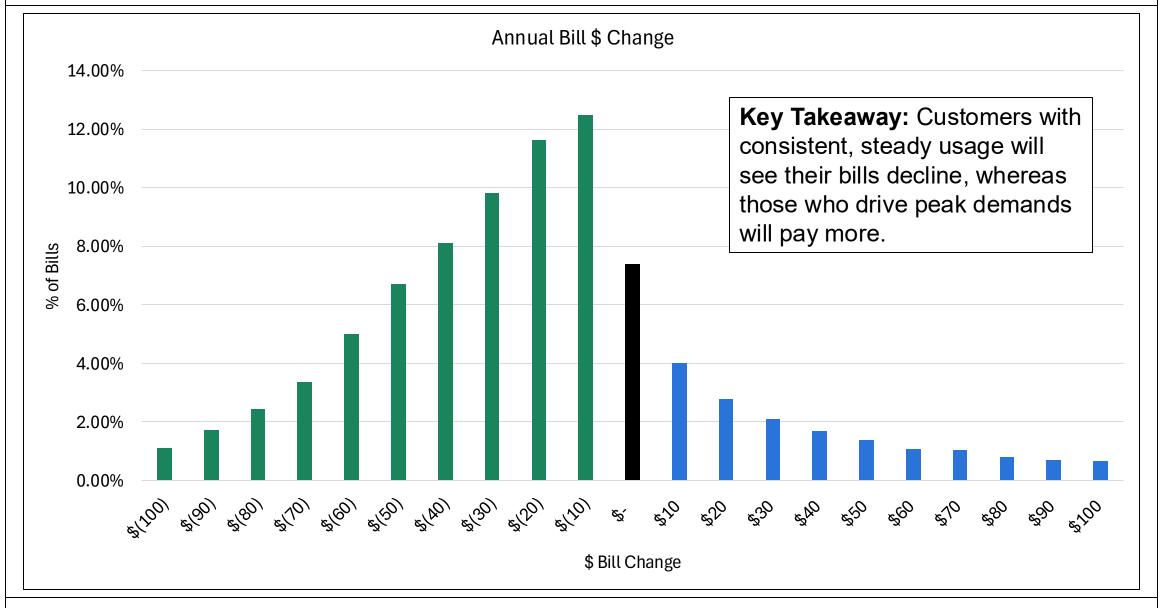
- Use 100% of winter average consumption for Tier 1
- Set tier two max to 200% of winter average consumption based on system peaking data
- Apply tiers year round
- Use identified cost of service components and volume characteristics to calculate rates



Rate Comparison

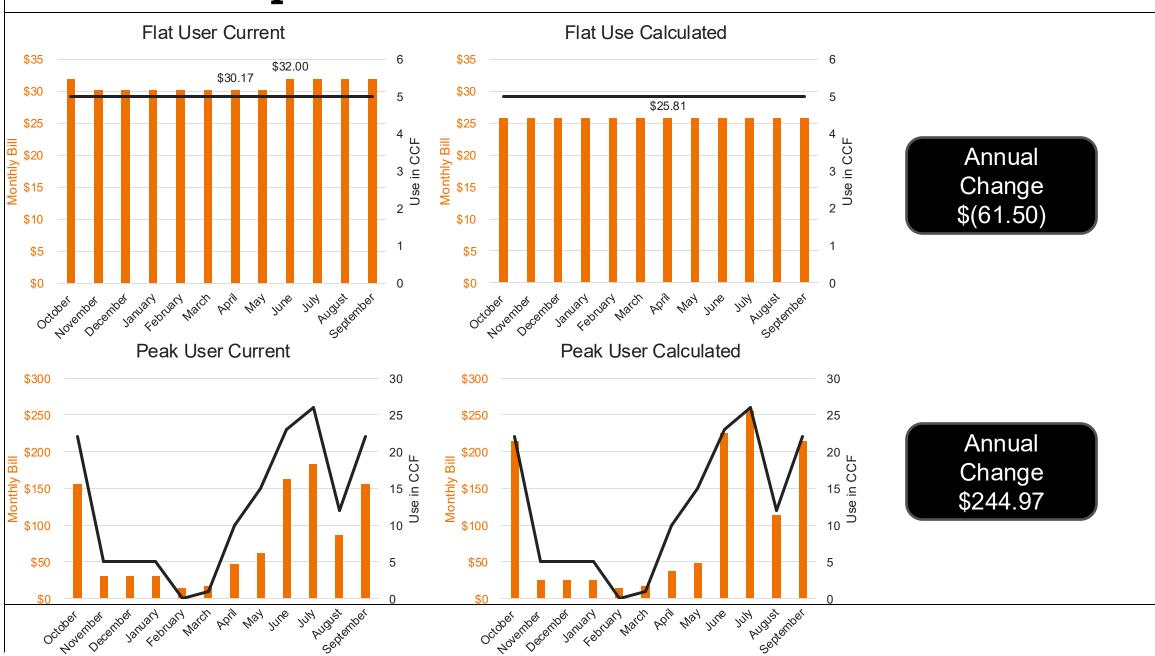


Customer Impacts – Residential

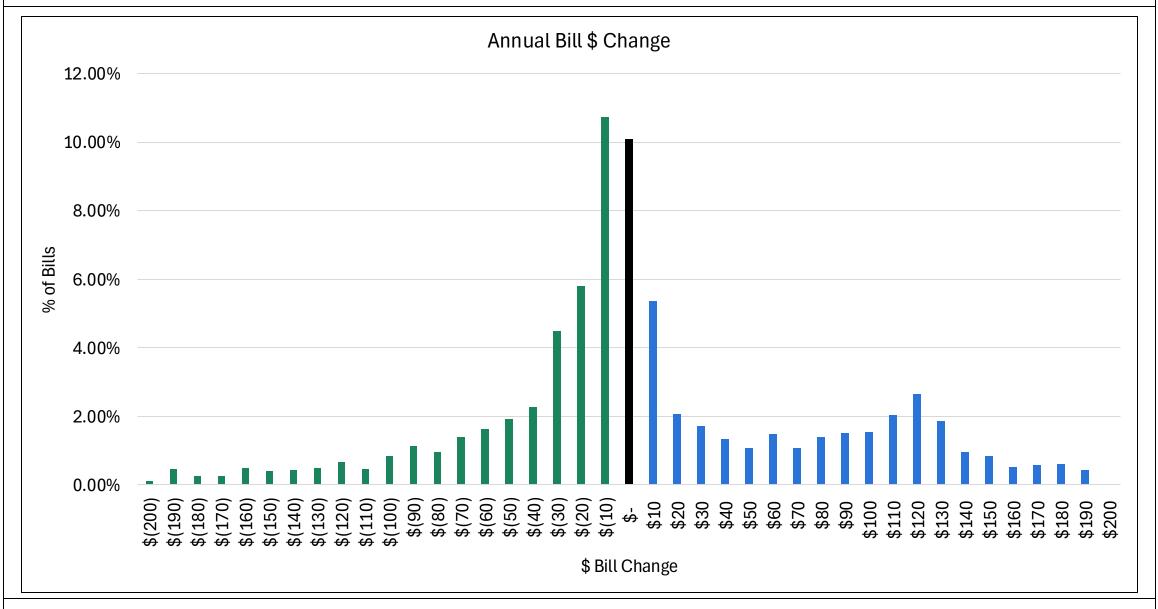


Overall: 65% of annual bills are expected to decrease, while 35% will increase

Customer Impacts – Residential Illustration

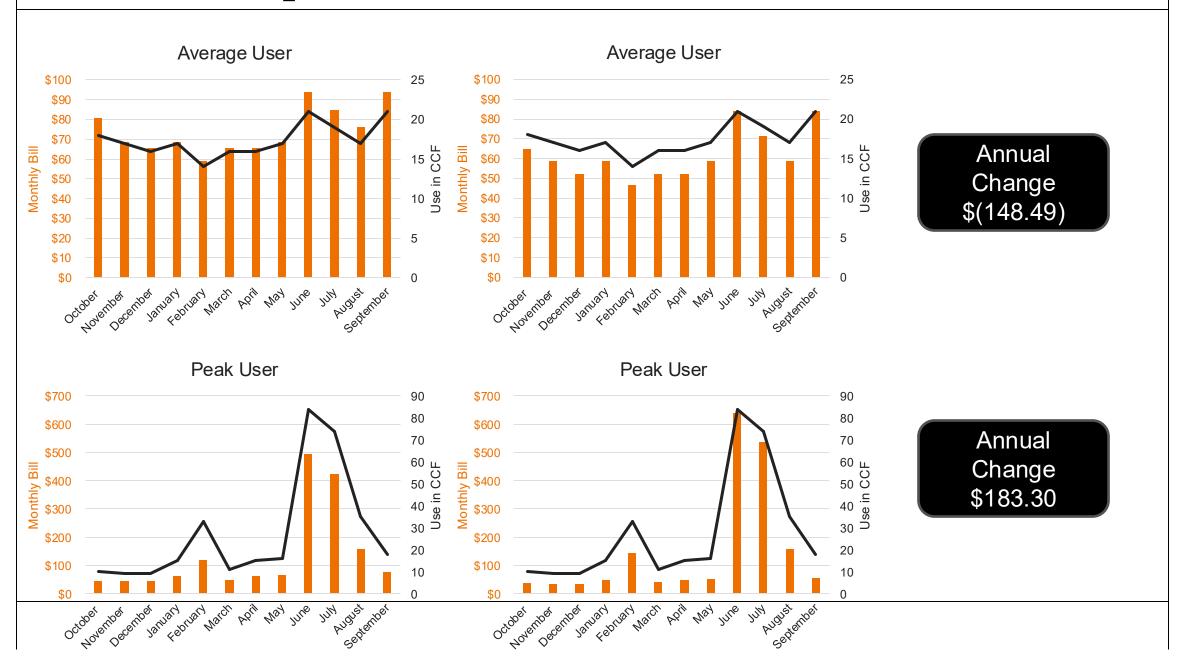


Customer Impacts – Small Commercial

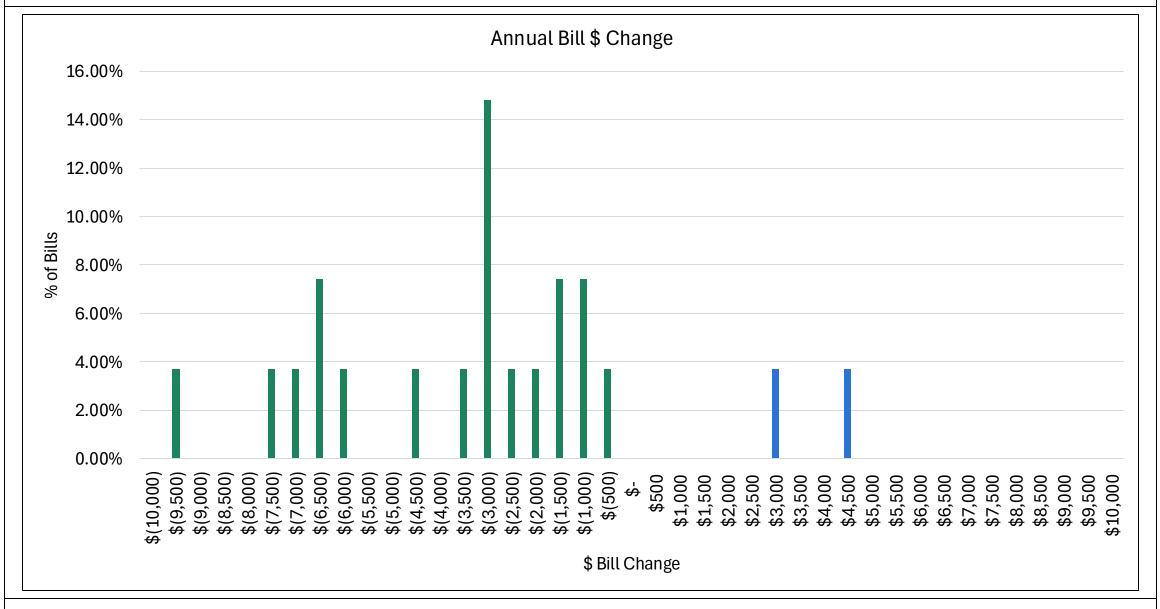


Overall: 46% of annual bills are expected to decrease, while 54% will increase

Customer Impacts – Small Commercial Illustration

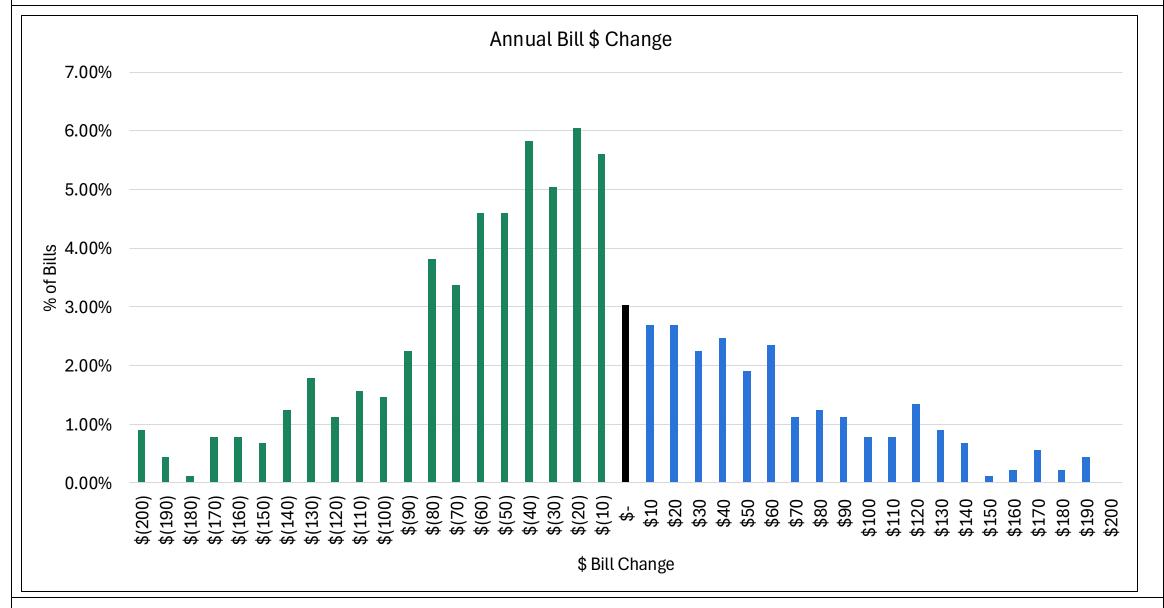


Customer Impacts – Large Commercial



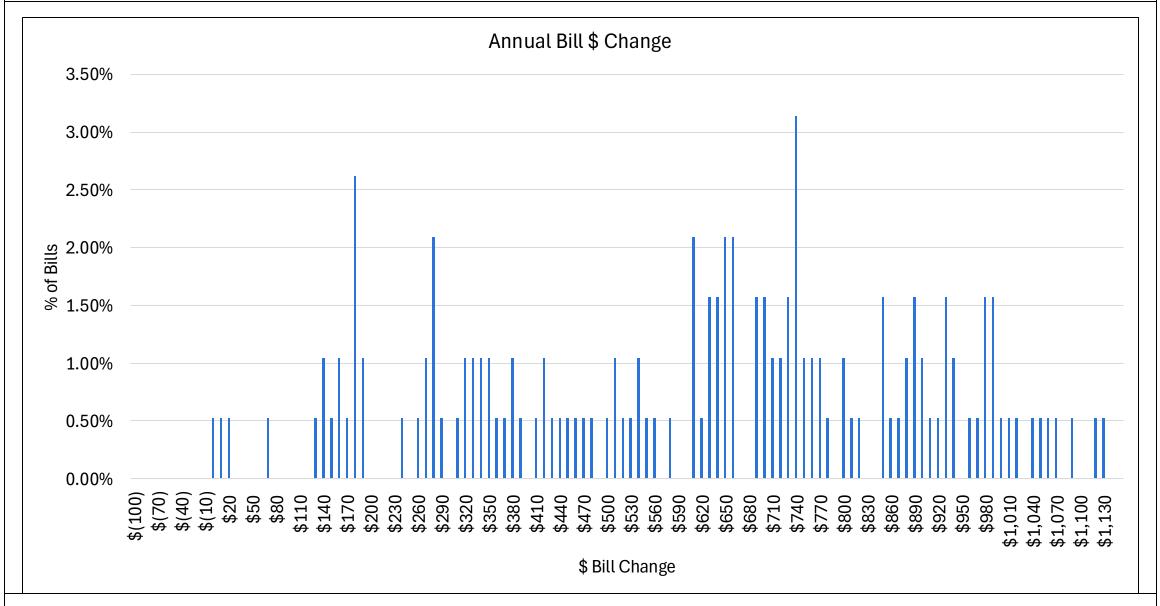
Overall: 89% of annual bills are expected to decrease, while 11% will increase

Customer Impacts – Master Metered



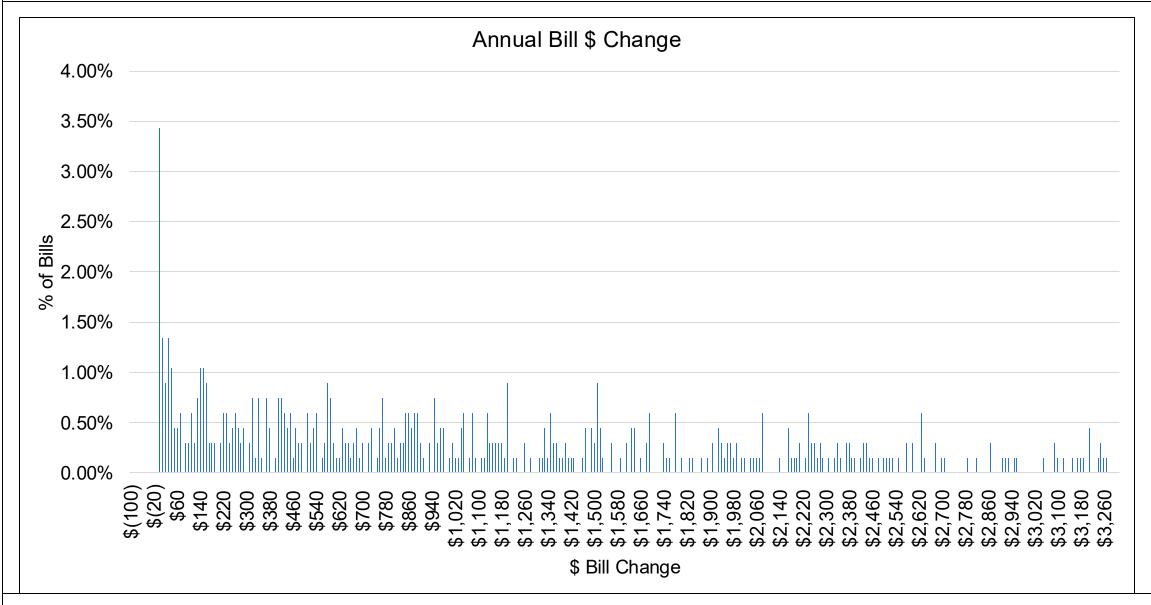
Overall: 67% of annual bills are expected to decrease, while 33% will increase

Customer Impacts – Residential Irrigation



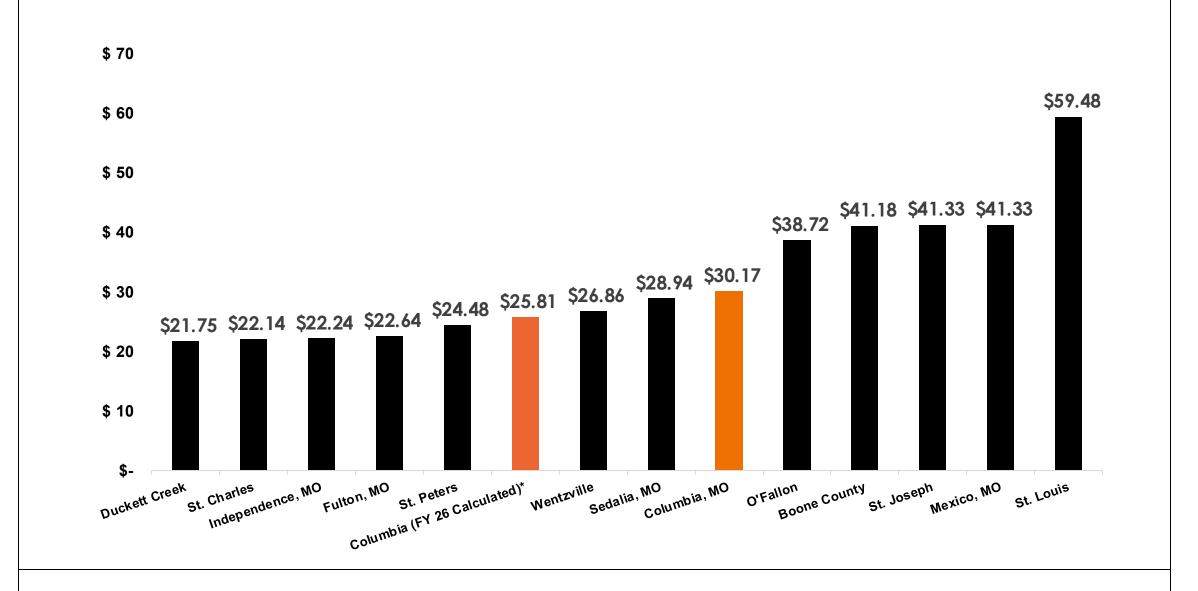
Overall: 100% of bills will increase

Customer Impacts – Commercial Irrigation

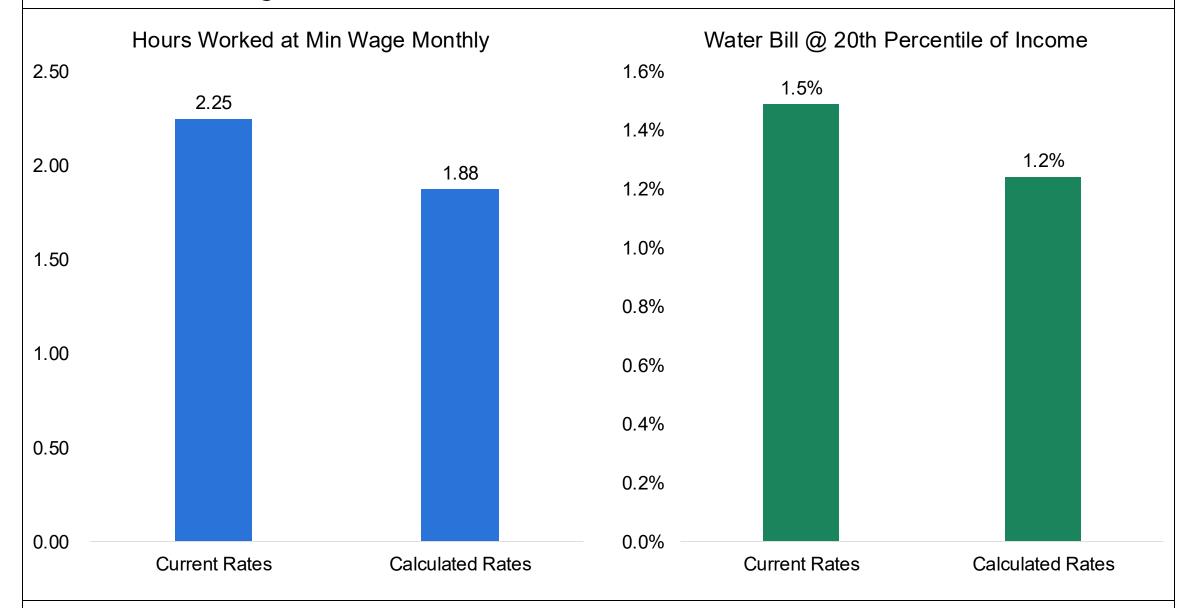


Overall: 100% of bill will increase

Rate Survey at 5 CCF Monthly



Affordability Considerations





Miscellaneous Fees

Miscellaneous Fee Calculation

Identify costs and activities for each service and populate in Stantec's cost template

Labor

How much time does each role spend to perform this service?

Equipment/Vehicles

What pieces of equipment or vehicles are utilized to perform the service?

Materials

What materials are used as part of this service?



Hours Spent Costs per Hour (Customer Service, Utility Tech) X (Labor, vehicles & equipment)

Unit Costs
+ (Materials) =

Cost of Service

Miscellaneous Fees

Fee/Charge Title	Current Charge	Full Cost Recovery Charge	Current Cost Recovery (%)	Proposed Charge	Change (\$)	Proposed Cost Recovery
Service Initiation Fee	\$6.00	\$15.59	38.49%	\$15.00	\$9.00	96.22%
Disconnect/Reconnect Fee (Residential)	\$30.00	\$373.59	8.03%	\$30.00	\$0.0	8.03%
Disconnect/Reconnect Fee (All Other Customers)	\$100.00	\$373.59	26.77%	\$100.00	\$0.0	26.77%
Reconnect Fee - Same Day, Weekend, Holiday, After-Hours (Residential)	\$90.00	\$373.59	24.09%	\$90.00	\$0.0	24.09%
Reconnect Fee - Same Day, Weekend, Holiday, After- Hours (All Other Customers)	\$200.00	\$373.59	53.53%	\$200.00	\$0.0	53.53%
Security Deposits (Water Service)	\$25.00	N/A	N/A	\$25.00	\$0.00	N/A
Tap Fee (Residential 1"-2")	\$1,000.00	\$1,278.44	78.22%	\$1,250.00	\$250.00	97.78%
Tap Fee (Commercial 1", 1.5", 2")	\$335.00	\$186.30	179.82%	\$335.00	\$0.00	179.82%
Tap Fee (Commercial 4" and Larger)	\$575.00	\$1,278.44	44.98%	\$1,000.00	\$425.00	97.00%
Appurtenance Fee (5/8", 1")	\$450.00	\$1,237.09	36.38%	\$1,200.00	\$750.00	100.00%
Meter Fee (5/8")	\$250.00	\$675.10	37.03%	\$675.00	\$425.00	100.00%
Meter Fee (3/4")	\$270.00	\$689.04	39.18%	\$689.00	\$420.00	100.00%
Meter Fee (1")	\$300.00	\$563.63	53.23%	\$710.00	\$410.00	125.97%
Meter Fee (Larger than 1")	At Cost	At Cost	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Special Meter Test (1" or Less)	\$65.00	\$65.00	0.00%	\$65.00	\$0.00	N/A
Special Meter Test (Larger than 1")	\$120.00	\$120.00	0.00%	\$120.00	\$0.00	N/A

Connection Fees (Water System Equity Charge)

Methodology	Description	Appropriate For		
Buy-In Method	Fees are based on cost of constructing existing utility system	System with ample existing capacity to sell		
Incremental Cost Method	Fees are based on planned growth- related capital improvements	System with limited or no existing capacity to sell		
Combined Method	Fees are based on cost of existing system and planned capital improvements	System with existing capacity to sell and with planning growth-related capital projects		

Connection Fees (Water System Equity Charge)

Methodology	Description	Appropriate For		
Buy-In Method	Fees are based on cost of constructing existing utility system	System with ample existing capacity to sell		
Incremental Cost Method	Fees are based on planned growth- related capital improvements	System with limited or no existing capacity to sell		
Combined Method Fees are based on cost of existing system and planned capital improvements		System with existing capacity to sell and with planning growth-related capital projects		

Water System Equity Fee Calculation

Water System
Equity Fee =

Value of system - Debt

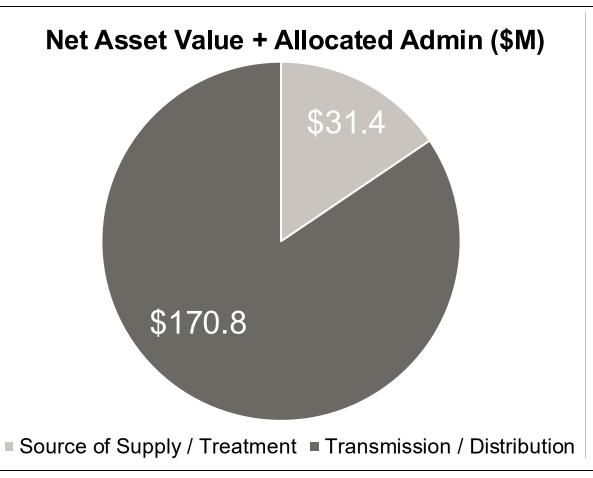
System capacity

Value of system: Depreciated value escalated to current replacement cost (excludes contributed assets)

Debt: Outstanding principal on existing utility debt

System capacity: Volume capacity measured in equivalent units

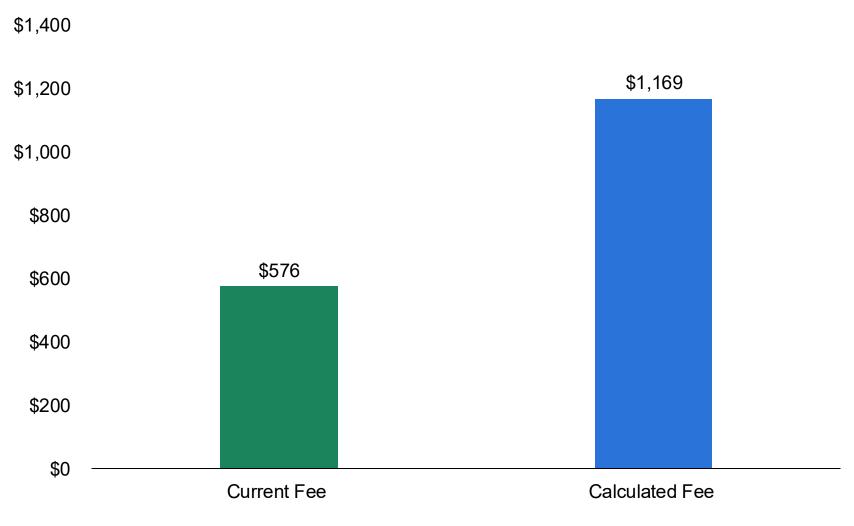
Water System Assets and Capacity



Water System Capacity	Existing Capacity (MGD)
Source of Supply / Treatment	32.00
Transmission / Distribution	32.00
Level of Service	LOS (GPD)
Source of Supply / Treatment	227
Transmission / Distribution	227

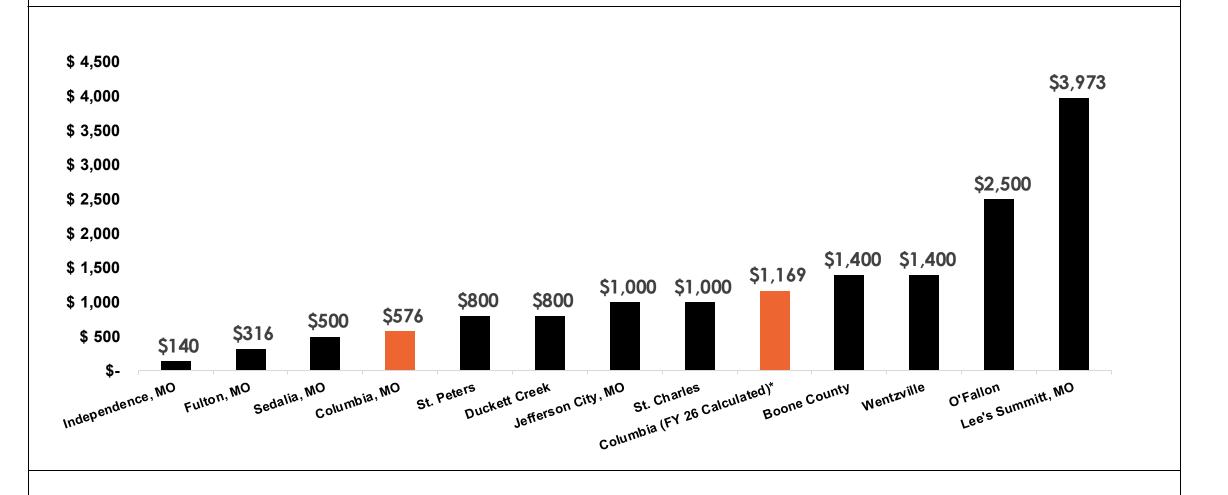
Water System Equity Fee Calculation

Buy-In
Method
Supports a
doubling of
the current
Fee per ERU



- Water Equity Fee should be increased to reflect the value of the system that the City has invested in
- Phasing could be considered to manage impacts

Capacity Fee Survey (Water System Equity Fee)





Next Steps

Outlooks and Recommendations

Financial Plan

- Recommended 12% and 10% revenue increases for FY26 and 27, followed by a 3% each year
- Planned borrowing of ~\$50M to accommodate higher levels of CIP spending in FY29-31

Cost of Service & Rate Design

- Implement Base-Extra Capacity Rates to reflect COS
- Base Rate Charges for 1" to 2" are most out of alignment
- Peak water users and irrigators would see the largest percent changes to their bill impacts

Equity Fee & Misc. Fees

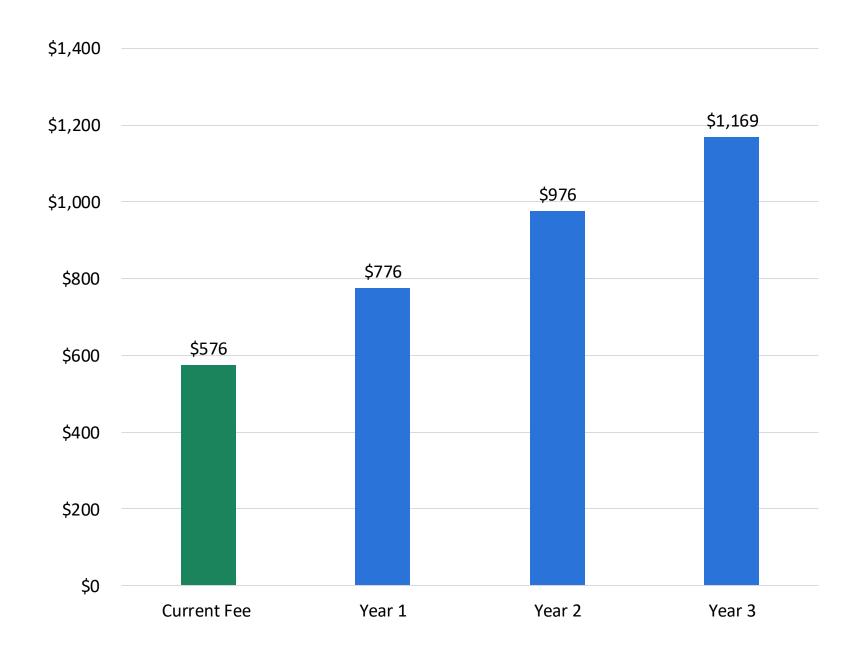
- Buy-in Method Supports ~100% increase in Equity Fee
- Majority of Miscellaneous fees are currently only recovering approximately 20-60% of costs



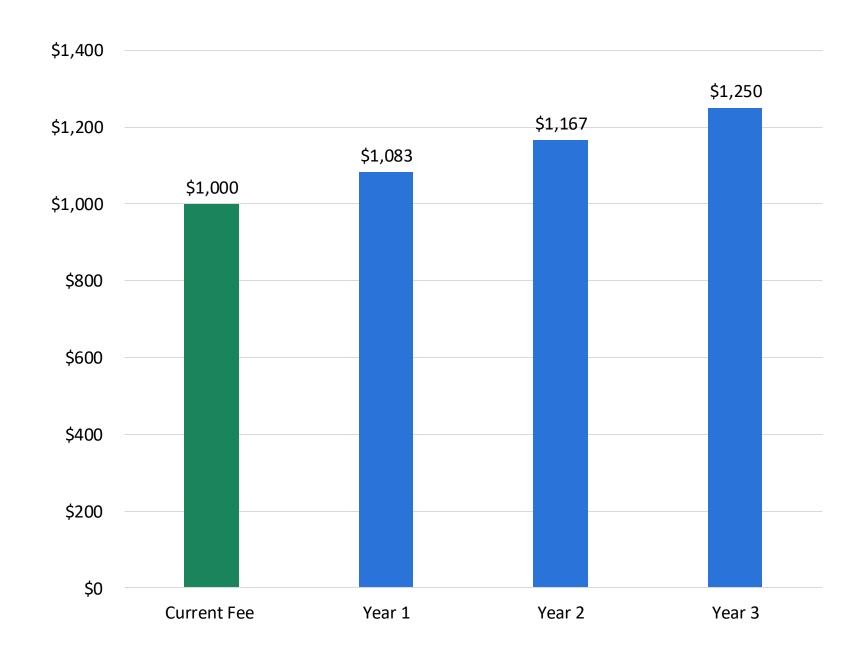
Discussion & Next Steps



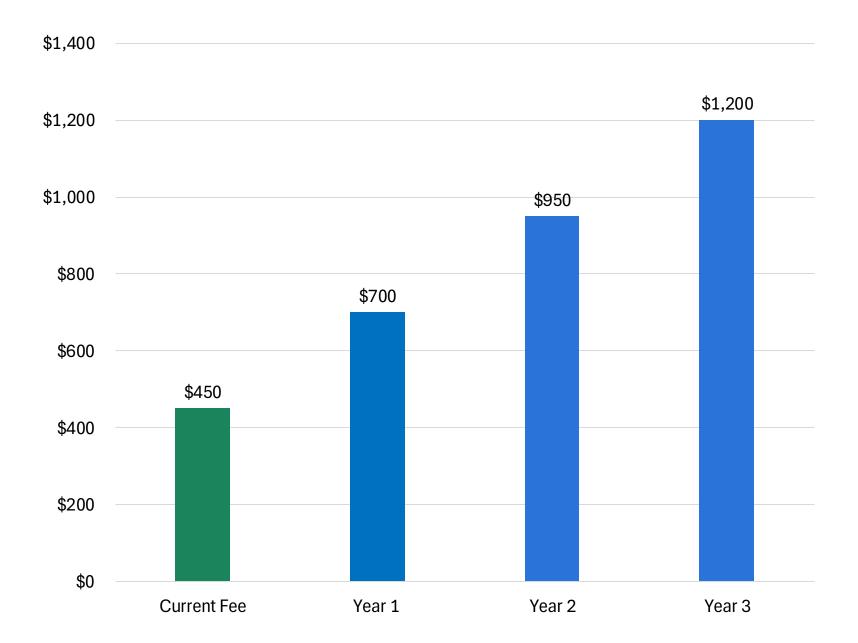
Water System Equity Fee



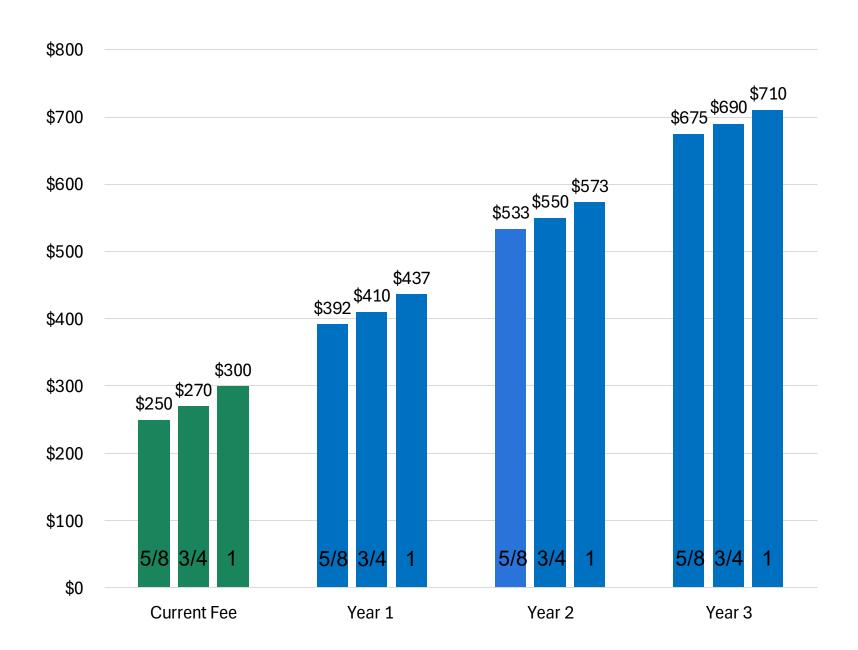
Tap Fee (Residential 1"-2")



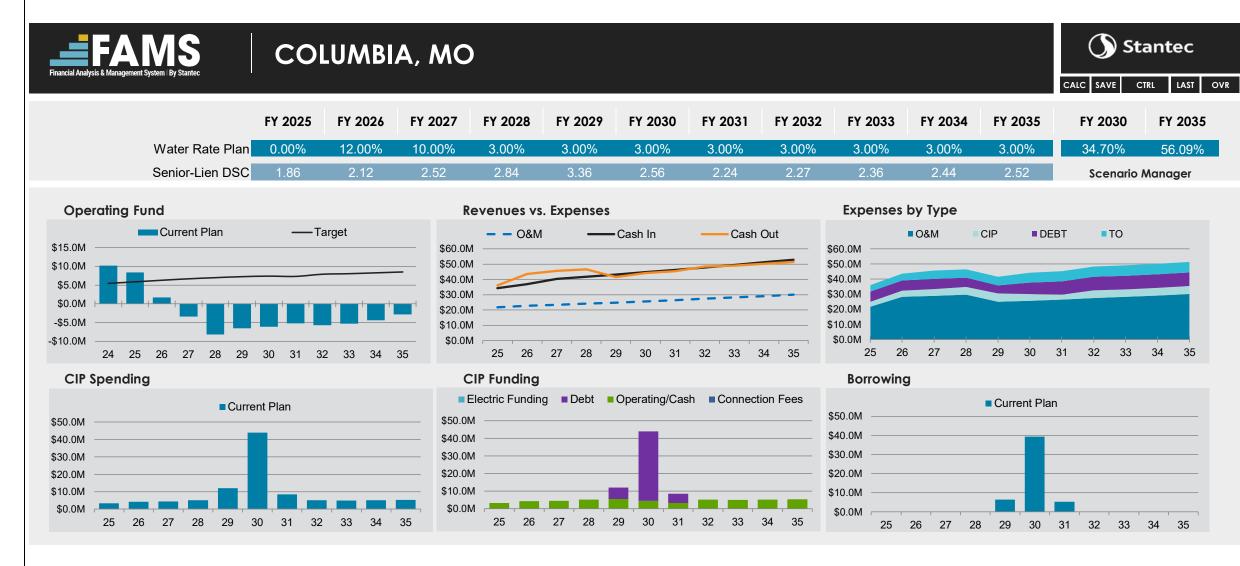
Appurtenance Fee (5/8", 1")



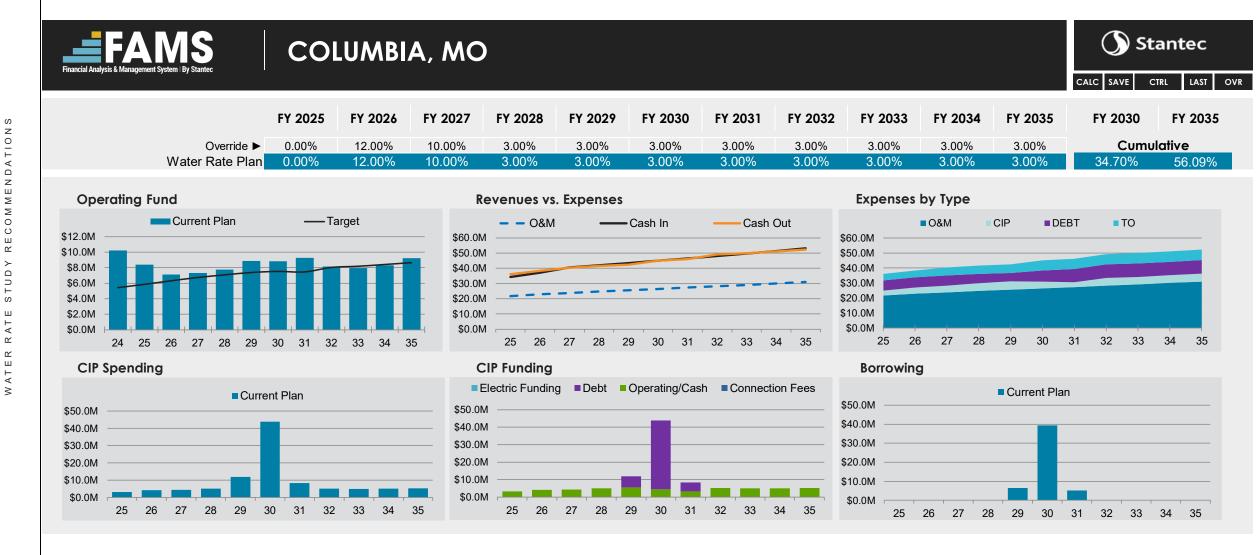
Meter Fees



10-Year Financial Plan – Recommended Rate Increase W/AMI



10-Year Financial Plan – Recommended Rate Increase W/ FTE



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10-Year Financial Plan – Recommended Rate Increase W/FTE

