

## Financial Services Audit Committee Communication

**Date:** August 25, 2023

**To:** Great Lakes Water Authority Audit Committee

From: Matthew S. Lane, MPA, Charges Outreach and Modeling Manager

**Re:** Charges Outreach & Modeling Update

**Background:** The Charges Outreach & Modeling (CO&M) Team was established in Fiscal Year 2023 as part of the Financial Management & Planning Group to facilitate internal communication and external outreach with GLWA Member Partners as it relates to the charge methodology and charge-related financial matters. This team also serves as liaison between GLWA and third-party consultants in the development, maintenance and review of the annual water and sewer charges.

**Analysis:** This month we present an update on activities related to charges work group activities.

- 1. Water Charges Work Group
  - This group is made up of Member Partners and staff from GLWA and convenes for the purpose of reviewing the water charge methodology and recommending potential changes.
  - The Water Charges Methodology Review Subgroup is made up of interested volunteer
    Member Partners and convenes to work closely with GLWA on the technical analysis
    and provide input on charges scenarios. The subgroup meets twice per month and
    reports its findings and updates to the larger Charges Work Group as needed. We
    received valuable feedback from Member Partners at-large during the Charges
    Rollout process that will help guide future discussions for this subgroup.
  - A smaller team within the Water Charges Methodology Review Subgroup has been meeting less formally to establish a new set of proposals which were presented at the most recent in-person meeting of the Water Charges Methodology Review Subgroup held on June 2, 2023. The smaller team provided further information on June 29, 2023.
  - The Water Charges Methodology Review Subgroup meetings for July 7, 2023 and July 21, 2023 were cancelled but an in-person meeting was held on Friday, August 4<sup>th</sup>.
- 2. Combined Water and Wastewater Charges Workgroup
  - The overall Charges Work Group met virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, July 11, 2023. An August workgroup meeting is tentatively being scheduled for late August.
- 3. One Water Partnership (OWP) Meetings
  - The next OWP meeting date is currently to-be-determined.

**Proposed Action:** Receive and file this report.