



## FY 2025 Service Charges Highlights

Preliminary proposed Water and Service Charges for FY 2025 have been presented to the GLWA Audit Committee. This is the first step in a review process that will include a Public Hearing before the GLWA Board of Directors on February 28, 2024.

### Charges are Based on Four Key Elements.

**1) Budget:** The daily costs to provide service (such as the people, utilities, chemicals, contractors, and materials to operate plants and maintain the pipes), the lease payment for the regional system, Water Residential Assistance Program (WRAP) funding, debt service, legacy pension, and capital project funding. The budget is also known as the “revenue requirement” as it defines the amount of revenue required to run the utility.

**2) Capital Improvement Plan (CIP):** Annually the GLWA’s engineers evaluate the physical improvement needs of the regional systems. Those needs are funded by a combination of cash on hand and debt.

**3) Units of Service (UOS):** Quantifies each community’s service needs based on engineering studies, metering data, and other criteria. Each member partner is assigned an allocation of the annual revenue requirement based on their relative use of the system. For the water system, this includes the amount of water purchased each year and contracted demands during peak periods. For the sewer system, each member partner’s SHARE is based on contributed wastewater.

**4) Cost of Service Study (COS):** The inputs from the three sources above are applied to an agreed upon charges methodology to allocate the revenue requirement (i.e., budget) by functional categories (such as purification for the water system or sludge disposal for the sewer system) and then allocated to each customer. The outcome is the charge calculation for each member partner.

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## Proposed FY 2025 Water System Charges

The average system charge adjustment for water is a 3.25 percent increase. This is the result of a proposed Water budget increase of 4.0 percent offset by 0.75 percent reflecting the net effect of a) increased investment earnings and b) reductions in estimated sales volumes. As a result of the 2022 Contract Alignment Process (CAP), the FY 2025 Units of Service only changed for three Member Partners (MOD). Proposed charges for these three Member Partners have been calculated using the new simplified Water Charge Methodology. There are no significant variances from the system-wide charge (after consideration of contract adjustments) increase of 3.06 percent for the remaining 85 (No MOD) Member Partners.

## Proposed FY 2025 Sewer System Charges

The average system charge adjustment for sewer is a 3.0 percent increase. This is the result of a proposed Sewer budget increase of 4.0 percent offset by increased investment earnings which funds 1.0 percent of the proposed budget increase. The proposed Sewer SHARES have been updated to include FY 2023 flow balance data in the ten-year average for the FY 2025 Units of Service, and the updated COS. These proposed SHARES are scheduled to remain in effect until the Sewer SHARES are updated for FY 2028.

### Average System Charge Adjustments

Year	Water	Sewer
2018	1.8%	-0.7%
2019	1.8%	0.1%
2020	0.6%	0.8%
2021	3.2%	2.0%
2022	1.5%	-0.6%
2023	3.7%	2.4%
2024	2.75%	2.75%
2025	3.25%	3.0%
8-Year Average	2.3%	1.2%