



Wastewater Consumption Assumptions for New Customers – TMC Update

City of Tacoma | Environmental Services
Government Performance & Finance Committee
July 1, 2025

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BACKGROUND & ISSUES



Assumed water usage does not reflect current average usage patterns

12.08B.210 Rates and fees for wastewater service inside the City limits.

C. For new residential services or account holders which have incomplete or no winter flow records available, the monthly flow portion of the Residential Flow Rate for wastewater service shall be computed using the flows listed below:

Single-family Dwellings - 6.0 ccf per month

Multiple-family Dwelling - 5.0 ccf per unit per month

Except that charges for existing multiple-family dwellings with previous consumption history shall not change solely due to changes in account holder or ownership.

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2025 ANALYSIS



- The ES Rates & Budget team reviewed Winter Quarter Average water usage from the last three years for residential wastewater customers
- Based on the data review, average water usage has decreased by 1 ccf
 - 5 ccf for single-family dwellings
 - 4 ccf per unit for multi-family dwellings



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PROPOSAL



Update water usage flow assumptions based on recent usage patterns

12.08B.210 Rates and fees for wastewater service inside the City limits.

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Single-family Dwellings - 5.0 ~~6.0~~ ccf per month

Multiple-family Dwelling - 4.0 ~~5.0~~ ccf per unit per month

Except that charges for existing multiple-family dwellings with previous consumption history shall not change solely due to changes in account holder or ownership.

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FISCAL IMPACT



- Customers in single-family dwellings without winter flow data will see their bill decrease by \$6.34 per month in 2026
- Customers in multi-family dwellings without winter flow data will see their bill decrease by \$6.34 per month in 2026 (per unit)



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RECOMMENDATIONS



TMC 12.08B.210 C

- Update TMC to reflect new monthly flow assumptions for new residential customers without winter flow records to 5.0 ccf per month for single-family dwellings and 4.0 ccf per unit per month for multi-family dwellings

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NEXT STEPS



- City Council First & Second Readings – TBD
- Effective Date – January 1, 2026

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