



ORDINANCE NO. 29000

1 AN ORDINANCE relating to the Department of Public Utilities, Water Division;
2 amending Chapter 12.10 of the Municipal Code, related to “Water -
3 Regulations and Rates,” for water service construction charge adjustments,
4 effective January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2029.

4 WHEREAS the City of Tacoma, through its Department of Public Utilities,
5 Water Division (d.b.a. “Tacoma Water”) regularly reviews its water service
6 construction charges schedule, also referred to as “fixed fees,” in order to ensure
7 that fees charged to customers remain in line with actual utility costs, and
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9 WHEREAS the last update to this fee schedule was approved in 2019,
10 and included annual escalations through 2024, and

11 WHEREAS in addition to revising charges, the proposed changes to the
12 fee schedule include an annual escalator of 3 percent through 2029 to align
13 with the long-run average of the Engineering News Record Construction Cost
14 Index in an attempt to keep fees in line with costs, and
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16 WHEREAS along with the proposed fee schedule, Tacoma Water is
17 recommending the following modifications: (1) increase the number of services
18 available via the fixed fee schedule, (2) remove embedded flagging and paving
19 costs from fixed fees to ensure only those that need those services will pay for
20 them, and (3) reduce the minimum width of the residential service main charge
21 defined in Tacoma Municipal Code 12.10.315.A to align with the Home in Tacoma
22 minimum lot width, and
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1 WHEREAS Tacoma Water engages with the Master Builders Association of
2 Pierce County on an ongoing basis, and from these meetings, the utility received
3 feedback to review and revise policies that may be causing unnecessary delay, and
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5 WHEREAS through discussions with developers and staff, Tacoma Water
6 has identified a number of new water service construction charges that, if adopted,
7 would provide price certainty for developers, reduce administrative burden on utility
8 staff, and minimize the time of quote delivery to customers, and
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10 WHEREAS by working to keep service construction charges in line with
11 actual utility costs, Tacoma Water ensures cost-of-service principles are equitably
12 maintained across customer types, and
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14 WHEREAS the Public Utility Board (“PUB”) approved the proposed changes
15 on October 23, 2024, pursuant to PUB Resolution No. U-11487, and
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17 WHEREAS revisions to the TMC applicable to Tacoma Public Utilities require
18 approval by the PUB and the Tacoma City Council; Now, Therefore,
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20 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF TACOMA:

21 Section 1. That the City Council hereby adopts the Recitals of this
22 Ordinance as its formal legislative findings.
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24 Section 2. That Chapter 12.10 of the Tacoma Municipal Code (“TMC”),
25 “Water - Regulation and Rates,” is hereby amended, to include modifications to
26 TMC 12.10.250 and TMC 12.10.315, and changes to the fee schedule for water
service construction charge adjustments, effective January 1, 2025, through
December 31, 2029, as more fully set forth in the attached Exhibit “A.”



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Section 2. That the City Clerk, in consultation with the City Attorney's Office, is authorized to make necessary corrections to this ordinance, including, but not limited to, the correction of scrivener's/clerical errors, references, ordinance numbering, section/subsection numbers, and any references thereto.

Passed _____

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Chief Deputy City Attorney

Requested by Public Utility Board
Resolution No. U-11487

EXHIBIT "A"

**CHAPTER 12.10
WATER – REGULATIONS AND RATES**

* * *

12.10.250 Water service construction charges.

All water service installations shall be constructed by the Division. For all service installations, the owner or applicant shall pay in advance the fixed charge or a deposit in the amount of the Division's estimated cost for the proposed work. For all estimated work the requestor will be required to sign a time and materials agreement noting their acceptance of the responsibility to pay the actual charges. The amount charged for work performed on an estimated basis will be actual costs to the Division. If the actual cost is less than the estimated cost, the customer will be refunded the difference. Should the cost of the installation exceed the deposit amount, the additional amount will be billed to the customer that signed the time and materials agreement accepting the responsibility for actual charges. Failure to pay charges may result in, but not be limited to, termination of water service.

All required City, county, state, and/or other permits and fees are in addition to the charges listed below.

A. Water service construction charges on existing mains shall be as set forth below. In extraordinary circumstances where the Division determines that the fixed charges are not adequate to cover the actual costs, the water service construction charge will be based upon actual costs to the Division, including overhead and taxes.

Water Service Construction Charges on Existing Mains					
Type of Service	Effective Dates				
	1/1/2020	1/1/2021	1/1/2022	1/1/2023	1/1/2024
3/4" Service with 5/8" Meter	\$3,250	\$3,350	\$3,450	\$3,550	\$3,660
1" Service with 5/8" Meter	\$3,600	\$3,800	\$4,010	\$4,230	\$4,460
1" Service with 3/4" Meter	\$3,675	\$3,900	\$4,140	\$4,400	\$4,670
1" Service with 1" Meter	\$3,825	\$4,040	\$4,270	\$4,510	\$4,760
Meter Exchange from 5/8" to 3/4"	\$700	\$720	\$740	\$760	\$790
Meter Exchange from 5/8" to 1"	\$700	\$720	\$740	\$760	\$790
Meter Exchange from 3/4" to 5/8"	\$325	\$330	\$340	\$360	\$370
Meter Exchange from 3/4" to 1"	\$700	\$720	\$740	\$760	\$790
Meter Exchange from 1" to 5/8"	\$200	\$210	\$210	\$220	\$230
Meter Exchange from 1" to 3/4"	\$200	\$210	\$210	\$220	\$230

<u>Water Service Construction Charges on Existing Mains</u>					
<u>Type of Service</u>	<u>Effective Dates</u>				
	<u>1/1/2025</u>	<u>1/1/2026</u>	<u>1/1/2027</u>	<u>1/1/2028</u>	<u>1/1/2029</u>
<u>3/4" Service with 5/8" Meter</u>	<u>\$4,225</u>	<u>\$4,350</u>	<u>\$4,475</u>	<u>\$4,600</u>	<u>\$4,750</u>
<u>1" Service with 5/8" Meter</u>	<u>\$4,275</u>	<u>\$4,400</u>	<u>\$4,525</u>	<u>\$4,650</u>	<u>\$4,800</u>
<u>1" Service with 3/4" Meter</u>	<u>\$4,300</u>	<u>\$4,425</u>	<u>\$4,550</u>	<u>\$4,675</u>	<u>\$4,825</u>
<u>1" Service with 1" Meter</u>	<u>\$4,325</u>	<u>\$4,450</u>	<u>\$4,575</u>	<u>\$4,700</u>	<u>\$4,850</u>
<u>2" Service with 5/8" Meter</u>	<u>\$8,525</u>	<u>\$8,775</u>	<u>\$9,050</u>	<u>\$9,325</u>	<u>\$9,600</u>
<u>2" Service with 1" Meter</u>	<u>\$9,400</u>	<u>\$9,675</u>	<u>\$9,975</u>	<u>\$10,275</u>	<u>\$10,575</u>
<u>2" Service with 1.5" Meter</u>	<u>\$9,750</u>	<u>\$10,050</u>	<u>\$10,350</u>	<u>\$10,650</u>	<u>\$10,975</u>
<u>2" Service with 2" Meter</u>	<u>\$10,100</u>	<u>\$10,400</u>	<u>\$10,700</u>	<u>\$11,025</u>	<u>\$11,350</u>
<u>Meter Exchange from 5/8" to 3/4"</u>	<u>\$775</u>	<u>\$800</u>	<u>\$825</u>	<u>\$850</u>	<u>\$875</u>
<u>Meter Exchange from 5/8" to 1"</u>	<u>\$800</u>	<u>\$825</u>	<u>\$850</u>	<u>\$875</u>	<u>\$900</u>
<u>Meter Exchange from 5/8" to 1.5"</u>	<u>\$2,325</u>	<u>\$2,400</u>	<u>\$2,475</u>	<u>\$2,550</u>	<u>\$2,625</u>
<u>Meter Exchange from 3/4" to 5/8"</u>	<u>\$550</u>	<u>\$650</u>	<u>\$700</u>	<u>\$750</u>	<u>\$825</u>
<u>Meter Exchange from 3/4" to 1"</u>	<u>\$800</u>	<u>\$825</u>	<u>\$850</u>	<u>\$875</u>	<u>\$900</u>
<u>Meter Exchange from 1" to 5/8"</u>	<u>\$325</u>	<u>\$450</u>	<u>\$575</u>	<u>\$700</u>	<u>\$825</u>
<u>Meter Exchange from 1" to 3/4"</u>	<u>\$325</u>	<u>\$375</u>	<u>\$425</u>	<u>\$475</u>	<u>\$575</u>
<u>Meter Exchange from 1" to 2"</u>	<u>\$2,325</u>	<u>\$2,400</u>	<u>\$2,475</u>	<u>\$2,550</u>	<u>\$2,625</u>
<u>Meter Exchange from 1.5" to 1"</u>	<u>\$1,275</u>	<u>\$1,325</u>	<u>\$1,375</u>	<u>\$1,425</u>	<u>\$1,475</u>
<u>Meter Exchange from 1.5" to 2"</u>	<u>\$2,325</u>	<u>\$2,400</u>	<u>\$2,475</u>	<u>\$2,550</u>	<u>\$2,625</u>
<u>Meter Exchange from 2" to 5/8"</u>	<u>\$1,275</u>	<u>\$1,325</u>	<u>\$1,375</u>	<u>\$1,425</u>	<u>\$1,475</u>
<u>Meter Exchange from 2" to 3/4"</u>	<u>\$1,275</u>	<u>\$1,325</u>	<u>\$1,375</u>	<u>\$1,425</u>	<u>\$1,475</u>
<u>Meter Exchange from 2" to 1.5"</u>	<u>\$1,275</u>	<u>\$1,325</u>	<u>\$1,375</u>	<u>\$1,425</u>	<u>\$1,475</u>
<u>Paving*</u>	<u>\$2,925</u>	<u>\$3,025</u>	<u>\$3,125</u>	<u>\$3,225</u>	<u>\$3,325</u>
<u>Flagging*</u>	<u>\$900</u>	<u>\$925</u>	<u>\$950</u>	<u>\$975</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>
<u>*In addition to construction charges, dependent on need</u>					

Service construction charges for services larger than 1/2-inch will be estimated based upon actual costs to the Division, including overhead.

All services and meters applied for shall be installed within two years of the application. Those customers who have not requested their water service and meter be installed within the two-year period will be required to pay the difference in all current charges and the charges paid at time of application, including the system development charge ("SDC").

Where a service stub was previously installed at the option of the Division, activation of that service shall require payment of all current fees and charges including service construction charge in effect at the time of application for service.

B. Installation of Services and Meters on New Mains.

The standard for residential domestic service is the installation of 3/4-inch services and 5/8-inch meters. Larger service and meter sizes may be provided if requested by the customer and the Division approves the request, or if the Division determines larger service and/or meter is necessary. The developer requesting services and meters for use other than domestic service for residential will be required to provide additional information on the proposed use. Plan review will be required to determine sizing requirements. For stubs, installation occurs after successful samples and pressure tests. For meter installations, system development charges will also apply.

Installation of Services and Meters on New Mains					
Type of Installation	Effective Dates				
	1/1/2020	1/1/2021	1/1/2022	1/1/2023	1/1/2024
3/4" Service Stub	\$925	\$950	\$980	\$1,010	\$1,040
1" Service Stub	\$975	\$1,000	\$1,030	\$1,070	\$1,100
5/8" Meter Only	\$200	\$210	\$210	\$220	\$230
3/4" Meter Only	\$350	\$410	\$480	\$560	\$660
1" Meter Only	\$500	\$520	\$530	\$550	\$560
5/8" Meter, Yoke & Box	\$475	\$490	\$500	\$520	\$530
3/4" Meter, Yoke & Box	\$675	\$720	\$780	\$830	\$890
1" Meter, Yoke & Box	\$1,200	\$1,240	\$1,280	\$1,320	\$1,360

Installation of Services and Meters on New Mains					
Type of Installation	Effective Dates				
	1/1/2025	1/1/2026	1/1/2027	1/1/2028	1/1/2029
3/4" Service Stub	\$825	\$850	\$875	\$900	\$925
1" Service Stub	\$1,475	\$1,525	\$1,575	\$1,625	\$1,675
2" Service Stub	\$4,075	\$4,200	\$4,325	\$4,450	\$4,575
5/8" Meter Only	\$325	\$350	\$375	\$400	\$425
3/4" Meter Only	\$400	\$400	\$425	\$425	\$450
1" Meter Only	\$575	\$600	\$625	\$650	\$675
1.5" Meter Only	\$825	\$850	\$875	\$900	\$925
2" Meter Only	\$1,450	\$1,500	\$1,550	\$1,600	\$1,650
5/8" Meter, Yoke & Box	\$650	\$675	\$700	\$725	\$750
3/4" Meter, Yoke & Box	\$900	\$925	\$950	\$975	\$1,000
1" Meter, Yoke & Box	\$1,375	\$1,425	\$1,475	\$1,525	\$1,575
Paving*	\$2,925	\$3,025	\$3,125	\$3,225	\$3,325
Flagging*	\$900	\$925	\$950	\$975	\$1,000
<i>*In addition to construction charges, dependent on need</i>					

* * *

12.10.315 Water main charge.

Where all or a portion of the premises to be served has not been previously assessed or contributed its share towards the cost of installing a permanent distribution main to serve such premises, or the property does not abut a distribution water main, water service shall be provided upon payment of a water main charge as provided for in this section, in addition to a water service construction charge, in accordance with TMC 12.10.250 and the SDC in accordance with TMC 12.10.310.

If the main is a temporary main and is not acceptable for meeting the water requirements of the customer, the service will be installed and connected to the nearest water main that is acceptable in accordance with TMC 12.10.350, Water main charge - Premises not abutting a water main. If the temporary main is a supply or transmission pipeline, the water service will be installed in accordance with the Customer Service Policies (Direct Service From Supply and Transmission Pipelines).

Credit shall be given for the portion of the property which has been previously assessed or has contributed its share toward the cost of installing a permanent water main. Water main charge shall be based on the frontage of the property served, as determined by the Division, in accordance with the following schedule and subject to the following terms and conditions:

A. Residential Service.

The water main charge shall be based on the frontage of the property served. The minimum charge shall be based on ~~50~~20 front feet and the maximum charge on 100 front feet.

Commencing 1/1/2007
\$50/per front foot

B. Commercial Service.

Where the property is zoned for the same, the water main charge shall be based on the entire frontage of the property served. The minimum charge shall be based on 50 front feet.

Commencing 1/1/2007
\$50/per front foot

C. Industrial Service.

Where the property is zoned for the same, the water main charge shall be based on the entire frontage of the property served. The minimum charge shall be based on 50 front feet.

Commencing 1/1/2007
\$55/per front foot

D. Water main charges for services abutting a permanent main shall be considered revenue of the Division.

The water main charge herein above provided for shall be credited to and considered as a benefit to the specific property served by said connection. Said property so benefited shall be described and recorded as a part of the Division's permanent records pertaining thereto.

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