

Tacoma Public Utilities

Budget and Rates Process for 2019-2020

In fall of 2018, Tacoma Public Utilities will present its 2019-2020 budget for approval to the Public Utility Board and Tacoma's City Council. The proposals include rate adjustments for Tacoma Power and Tacoma Water.

Rate proposals for Environmental Services (Wastewater, Solid Waste, and Surface Water) will be presented to the Tacoma City Council after receiving recommendations from the Environmental Services Commission.



Tacoma Power projected rate adjustment

2% system average increase

0.9% average residential increase

- \$0.84 average monthly increase in 2019
- \$0.85 average monthly increase in 2020



Tacoma Water projected rate adjustment

2.5% system average increase

2.9% average residential increase

- \$1.02 average monthly increase in 2019
- \$1.08 average monthly increase in 2020



Surface Water projected rate adjustment

3.5% system average increase

3.8% average residential increase

- \$0.92 average monthly increase in 2019
- \$0.95 average monthly increase in 2020



Wastewater projected rate adjustment

4% system average increase

4% average residential increase

- \$2.05 average monthly increase in 2019
- \$2.24 average monthly increase in 2020



Solid Waste projected rate adjustment

3% system average increase

3.9% average residential increase

- \$1.73 average monthly increase in 2019
- \$1.80 average monthly increase in 2020



These rates are preliminary and are subject to change.

What's driving the adjustments?

The rate adjustments are primarily driven by inflationary increases in operating and capital expenses.

Tacoma Power:

- Technology projects, including investment in Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)
- Regulatory compliance to manage fish and analyze impacts of potential seismic activity
- Enhancement of cyber security measures

Tacoma Water:

- Renewal and replacement of existing water infrastructure
- Technology projects, including investment in Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)
- Regulatory compliance

Environmental Services:

The rate adjustments for surface water and wastewater are influenced by our cooperation with the City initiative to fix our streets. We are replacing and installing pipes in the right of way as we fix our roads. The City is also expanding the surface water system in south and east Tacoma by installing pipes and rain gardens in parts of the City that have not had this infrastructure. Solid Waste faces increasing expenditures as a result of international recycling restrictions.

How is the utility managing costs?

- Asset and project management
- Workforce planning and development
- Efficiency improvement projects
- Enhanced safety program

What can customers do to manage their bills?

- **Budget billing**—helps manage monthly budget MyTPU.org/BudgetBilling
- **Conservation**—lowers your cost and good for the environment MyTPU.org/Rebates
- **Payment assistance**—programs are available for qualifying customers MyTPU.org/Assistance
- **Zero-interest loans**—support for energy efficient home improvement projects MyTPU.org/ZeroInterest
- **Sewer Conservation Loan** for residents in need of private side sewer repair CityofTacoma.org/SideSewer

How can the community get involved?

- Review planning presentations online
- Attend public meetings
- Subscribe to rates email notifications

Visit MyTPU.org/Rates for details.

