



**PARKS & PUBLIC WORKS DEPT.**

38624 SE River St  
PO Box 987  
Snoqualmie, WA 98065

Phone: 425-831-4919  
Fax: 425-831-6041

info@ci.snoqualmie.wa.us  
www.ci.snoqualmie.wa.us

**Proposed Utility Rate Increases and  
Added Connection Charges for 2017-2020**

**Information Sheet and FAQ**

As the provider of water, sewer, stormwater and irrigation utility services in Snoqualmie, the City of Snoqualmie sets utility rates and fees to cover the costs of providing these services.

The City conducted a comprehensive utility rate study to ensure its customers are paying a rate that approximates the cost of providing utility services. Following the study, the Parks & Public Works Department determined that utility rate increases and connection charges are needed to continue optimum operation of water, sewer, and stormwater utility systems while meeting the needs of Snoqualmie’s current population and future growth.

The City of Snoqualmie is proposing to increase utility rates for the next four years (2017-2020) to address inflation, regulatory requirements, and reliability issues, as well as provide for needed improvements to each utility.

**Monthly Utility Bill for a Typical Single-Family Residence**

Average Residential Monthly Bill	Existing	Proposed Rates			
		2017	2018	2019	2020
Water	\$ 46.37	\$ 48.69	\$ 51.12	\$ 53.68	\$ 56.36
Sewer	\$ 48.51	\$ 56.76	\$ 66.41	\$ 77.69	\$ 81.97
Storm	\$ 19.36	\$ 20.45	\$ 21.61	\$ 22.83	\$ 24.12
<b>Total Monthly Bill</b>	<b>\$114.24</b>	<b>\$125.90</b>	<b>\$139.14</b>	<b>\$154.20</b>	<b>\$162.45</b>

*Water assumes a 3/4" meter with 7 ccf monthly water consumption. Commercial businesses will see a higher rate than a single-family residence reflected on its billing statement.*

**Why are rate increases and connection charges needed?**

The 2017-2020 rate proposal ensures the City of Snoqualmie can continue meeting regulatory requirements under state and federal environmental laws. To keep the water, sewer and stormwater utility systems operating reliably for the current population and anticipated future growth, the City of Snoqualmie will need to continue investing in system upgrades and improvements.

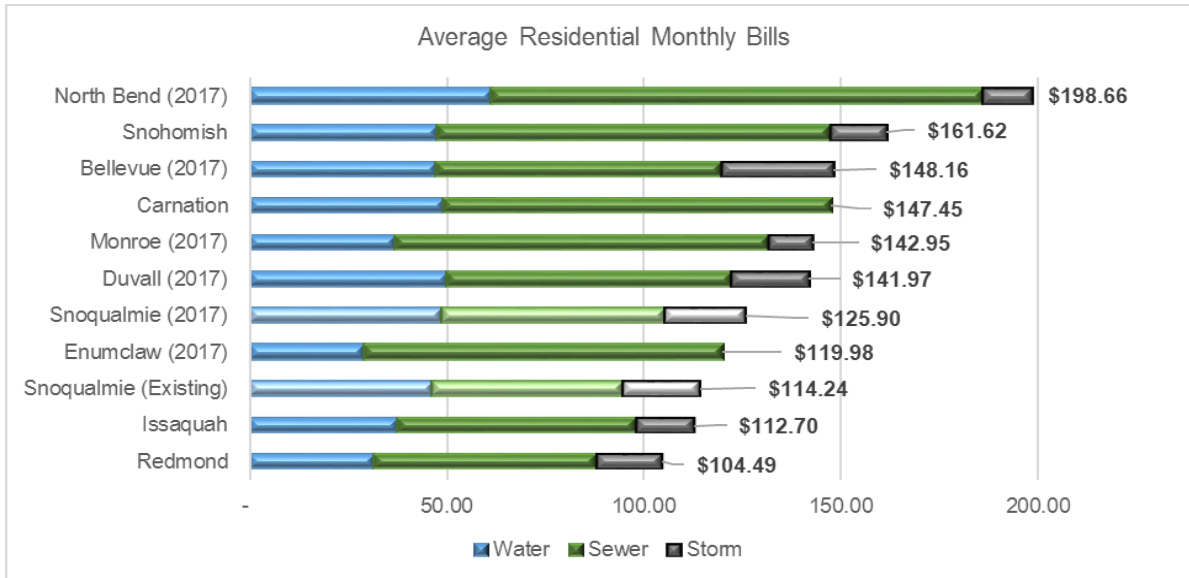
**What do utility rate increases fund?**

Utility rates provide revenue to operate water, sewer and stormwater infrastructure; operate and maintain water and wastewater treatment facilities; and inspect and maintain equipment. Rates revenue also covers the cost to recycle valuable resources from the City’s wastewater process, including providing reclaimed water for irrigation. As well, the utility rate proposal protects the City’s credit rating to continue obtaining favorable interest rates on money borrowed for capital improvements.

**What do connection charges fund?**

Connection charge revenue goes towards new facilities and system upgrades designed to accommodate Snoqualmie’s growing population.

**How does Snoqualmie’s residential utility rates compare to its neighbors?**



**What are connection charges?**

Connection charges ensure that each connecting property bears its share of the cost of the public utility systems and the cost of materials. Connection charges apply to any customer requesting a new service or a change in service. Proposed rates for 2017 for a new single family connection are as follows.

Utility	Water	Sewer	Storm	Total
Connection Charge	\$5,233	TBD	TBD	\$5,233
General Facilities Charge	\$7,421	\$12,168	\$328	\$19,917
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,654</b>	<b>\$12,168</b>	<b>\$328</b>	<b>\$25,150</b>

**What types of programs will be funded through the new rates and connection charges?**

- Water main replacements and improvements for water quality and reliability.
- Fire flow improvements including new reservoirs.
- Two new pressure zones to increase or decrease water pressure at tap.
- Improvements to the City’s sources of supply.
- Installation of storm drainage systems.
- Implementation of stormwater programs to meet new state requirements for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Phase II Permit.
- Downtown Snoqualmie water main and sewer replacement and stormwater improvements
- Improvements to wastewater treatment facility, including a new generator, solids handling facilities, and other treatment improvements to assure 24/7 operations protecting water quality and public health while sustaining a healthy environment. Includes systems to treat sewage efficiently and improve water quality discharges to the Snoqualmie River.
- Reconstruction and upgrades to lift stations that deliver wastewater from neighborhoods to the wastewater treatment facility.