



SKYWAY SKYLINES

www.skyways.org

March 2018

2018 Water & Sewer Rates

Commissioner's Corner

Miscellaneous Ramblings:

Who (or what) is WASWD? It's the Washington Association of Sewer and Water Districts. WASWD is made up primarily of Washington State "Special Purpose" sewer, water or combined sewer/water districts and also includes persons, companies, state or local agencies, non-district local governments, consultants and associations.



Jon Ault

Skyway is a member of WASWD along with over 50% of all water, sewer or combined districts in Washington State. WASWD's mission is to advance the work of districts through education/training, advocacy and collaboration. They ARE a part of the joint group fighting against King County's attempt to impose a charge (tax) for the Right-of-Way where water and sewer pipes and other district facilities are installed/constructed.

Time to Act!

It's not too late to express your views and let your voice be heard about the tax King County is planning to charge us to rent the ground they don't own! If you have a few minutes, send an email to King County Executive, Dow Constantine (kcxec@kingcounty.gov), and/or your King County Councilmember, Larry Gossett, Larry.Gossett@kingcounty.gov. You might remind them that they were elected to represent your interests, not to pass (without input from their constituents) ordinances that are outrageously unfair.

The Board of Commissioners of Skyway Water and Sewer District is responsible for setting rates. Each year, with the aid of District staff and consultants, they work in open public meetings to analyze the District's operating, maintenance, and capital replacement requirements.

In addition to the daily cost of operating the water and sewer systems, the District must plan for the cost to repair and replace parts of the systems as they become obsolete or deteriorated. This is an ongoing activity and much of our infrastructure, particularly sewer facilities, were originally installed as much as 75 years ago. As part of the rate setting process,

District staff develop a 10-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) that prioritizes repair and replacement projects based on the risks and benefits of each project. The CIP and rate schedule are reviewed by the Board of Commissioners to confirm that the CIP program balances their obligation to maintain your vital water and sewer facilities against the cost to District customers.

The enclosed bill reflects a rate increase for both water and sewer. The water increase (\$2.08/month for the average single family customer) will help to fund the replacement and upsizing of old water mains and the development and treatment of District wells/well water. The sewer increase (\$5.37/month for the average single family customer) will help

fund the ongoing replacement of our aging sewer collection and transmission system such as the upcoming Skyway Park Lift Station Consolidation project. The rate schedule is set to cover costs through steady measured increases rather than large or erratic increases.

Over the next 6 years, the District's capital improvement program to repair and/or replace aging infrastructure is anticipated to average \$9.1 million dollars per year. The rate schedule, at a cost of \$3.35 per day for water and sewer service for the average single family customer, pays for **ALL** ongoing system operations and CIP projects. The District operates **solely** on your customer rates; **it receives no tax revenue.**

SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL								
MONTHLY METER RATES			BI-MONTHLY VOLUME BLOCKS		MONTHLY SEWER RATES			
Meter Size	SF	SF Discount	0-8 ccf	\$4.27		SF	SF Discount	
5/8x3/4"	\$19.24	\$13.47	9-12 ccf	\$5.41	District	\$46.65	\$21.21	
1"	\$45.27	\$31.69	13-24 ccf	\$6.82	King County	\$44.22	\$44.22	
1 1/2"	\$88.71	\$62.10	Over 24 ccf	\$8.69	Total	\$90.87	\$65.43	
NON-SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL								
MONTHLY WATER RATES							MONTHLY SEWER RATES	
METER SIZE	5/8x3/4"	1"	1-1/2"	2"	3"	4"	6"	KING COUNTY DNR & DISTRICT RATE (per 100 cubic feet)
	\$29.01	\$63.78	\$137.90	\$219.60	\$437.56	\$682.43	\$1363.07	
BI-MONTHLY VOLUME BLOCKS								
COMMERCIAL			INSTITUTIONAL		MULTI-FAMILY		IRRIGATION	
\$6.16			\$6.16		\$5.96		\$17.24	
							\$14.12	

2018 SENIOR & DISABLED DISCOUNT APPLICATION



CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

You may have noticed construction work being done east of 78th Ave So along South 116th Street. The contractor, McClure & Sons Inc, has mobilized onsite and work is in progress on the District's **Well Site & Treatment Upgrades** project. This second phase of the overall project includes water piping, pump and treatment improvements; construction of a masonry building with lab facilities; site grading, drainage and paving; and an emergency generator. Contact the District if you would like more information on the project.



Filling Sodium Hypochlorite tank.



As you read this article, please keep in mind that your water and sewer rates pay for all District operations, maintenance, repair and replacement work. The District receives no tax revenue.

In January 2017 we told you about Ordinance 18403 that King County had adopted which would charge the District fees for using the public right-of-way under our franchise agreement with the County.

In May 2017, we told you that the District's position is that we already have authority granted to us by the State of Washington to have our pipes and other infrastructure in the right-of-way and that we had presented our objection during a public hearing before the Ordinance was adopted.

In November 2017, we mailed a letter, background information and FAQs to our customers, along with a response card, so that our customers could individually provide comments to King County on the Ordinance.

In December 2017, we submitted

comments to King County objecting to the Ordinance and implementing rule.

On January 25, 2018, **King County filed a lawsuit in King County Superior Court** against the District and 20 other water-sewer districts seeking a judgment that the Ordinance and implementing Rule are valid. The lawsuit was filed under Case No. 18-2-02238-0 SEA.

On February 15, 2018, the District and the other 20 water-sewer districts filed their answer and counterclaims against King County seeking to have the Ordinance and Rule declared invalid.

As we have reported to you before, it is the District's position that the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 57.08.005 (3) and (5) empowers the District to use the roadway right-of-way for the purpose of constructing and maintaining our water and sewer utilities. The District has and will continue to **advocate on behalf of our customers** that the County cannot charge the District for use of the public right-of-way in the manner intended by the Ordinance.

don't miss: **West Hill Community Association's Spring Community Quarterly Meeting**
 Special presentations, community announcements, news & reports.
 📅 Tues April 17th 📍 Skyway VFW, 7421 S126th St
 🕒 Open House at 6pm • Meeting at 7pm
 🗣️ Meet our new Sheriff, Mitzl Johanknecht!

How can I get important events and info in my inbox?
 📧 Sign up for email newsletters at MyWestHill.org!

How can I directly support real change in my community?
 💰 Make a donation at MyWestHill.org/donate!

What's going on in my neighborhood this week?
 📅 Check out the events calendar at MyWestHill.org/calendar!

MyWestHill.org • [MyWestHill](https://www.facebook.com/MyWestHill)
[MyWestHill](https://www.instagram.com/MyWestHill) • [WestHillTweets](https://twitter.com/WestHillTweets)

"Stealing Beauty"

Inspiration for Low-Water-Use Plants from Around the World

Marianne Binetti

Thursday, 3/15/17
 7:00 to 8:30 pm

6723 S 124th St.
 Seattle, WA
 (Skyway Office)

Cascade Gardener

To register, visit: stealingbeauty.brownpapertickets.com



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2018 LOW INCOME SENIOR CITIZEN / SOCIAL SECURITY (SSI) DISABILITY DISCOUNT FORM

Name: _____
 Property Address: _____
 Birth Date: _____

Account #: _____
 Phone #: _____

Check the following which are true:

- I am the owner and/or tenant at the address listed above
- I am 62 years of age or older or my spouse is 62 years of age or older, OR
- My age or that of my spouse is less than 62, but I or my spouse are recipients of US Social Security (SSI) Disability payments

My gross household income from ALL SOURCES (including 100% of social security and other pension) for 2017 was less than the following:

- 1 person household: **\$33,600/year or \$2,800/month; OR**
- 2+ person household: **\$38,400/year or \$3,200/month**

DECLARATION:

I swear under the laws of the State of Washington, under the penalty of perjury, that the foregoing statements are true and correct:

 Signature City where signed Date

Annual renewal of this form is required for program eligibility. Please return form by 3/30/18.