



**CITY of NOVI CITY COUNCIL**

**Agenda Item 4  
Meeting Date**

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Proposed Water & Sewer Rate Resolutions for 2019 - 2020

**SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT:** Finance/Water and Sewer

**CITY MANAGER APPROVAL:** *AA*

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The Finance Department and Department of Public Services annually reviews and proposes water and sewer rates for City Council consideration. The City of Novi purchases treated water and sewer services from other governmental entities. The attached rate schedules incorporate the charges from the Great Lakes Water Authority ("GLWA"), formerly Detroit Water & Sewerage Department (DWSD), for water services and the combined pass-through partial increase from the Oakland County Water Resource Commission (OCWRC) for sewer services.

GLWA charges both a fixed rate and a variable rate to its customers. In fiscal years prior to 2016, DWSD fees were 70% based on volume (or consumption) and 30% fixed costs. Beginning in fiscal year 2015-2016, GLWA altered their fee structure with fixed costs accounting for 60% of the City's overall costs and the remaining 40% of costs based on volume or consumption. During fiscal year 2016, the City constructed a water storage facility to help alleviate peak hour usage charges from GLWA and ultimately decrease the City's overall water costs. In the first year of operating the storage facility (2017), the City's total water costs decreased 23% from the year before. In fiscal year 2018, water costs increased 9%. Estimated costs for fiscal year 2020 are estimated to stay consistent with the prior two fiscal years.

Fiscal Year	Fixed Costs	Contract Volume Costs (Variable)	Total DWSD Costs (Revenue Requirement)	Percent Change from Previous yr.
2015-2016	\$6,727,200	\$16.99	\$11,212,560	7%
2016-2017	\$5,122,800	\$12.98	\$8,536,540	-23%
2017-2018	\$5,336,400	\$12.99	\$9,281,889	9%
2018-2019	\$5,557,000	\$12.57	\$9,261,379	0%
2019-2020	\$5,521,200	\$12.12	\$9,201,000	-.6%

The Oakland County Water Resource Commission (OCWRC) has also moved from a former variable rate charged to users to a fixed rate. The Huron Rouge Sewage Disposal System ("HRSDS") (the largest of three systems within the City) has an estimated overall rate increase from the prior year of \$1.1 Million or 16%. While the increase of 16% is substantial, the City has not received an increase in costs from HRSDS since December 2015. The rate for the Novi-Walled Lake Sewer System and Commerce arm are estimated to decrease \$260,000 or 15% over the prior year. The total increase of all three systems, combined, is 9%.

Additional costs to be covered by the water and sewer user fees include annual operating costs such as salary and fringes, maintenance and cleaning costs, current equipment costs and vendor contracts for water installation fees.

The City sets water and sewer rates using a multi-year budget and capital plan which allows the current year cost increase of 9% for sewer to be spread out over several years. Prior years' efficiencies in operations have also allowed the City to have no increase or minimal increases in rates over the past three fiscal years and will allow the current year proposed rates to be minimal compared to the actual cost increases. The proposed combined water and sewer rate increase to the average customer for the 2019-20 fiscal year will be approximately 1.6% or \$15 annually for residential 5/8" meter size and approximately 2.3% for a large user with a 1" meter. The net increase in the overall rate includes no change to the water fixed fee, a 2.0% increase in the variable rate, no change to the fixed sewer rate and a 3.0% increase in the variable sewer rate. The City expects a net operating cash inflow in fiscal year 2020 of approximately \$2.9 million which will be used to help offset the 2020 budgeted capital costs of \$2.8 million and an additional \$21 million of rollover capital costs from fiscal year 2019 will be funded from fund balance/cash reserves. While costs for sewer are projected to continue to increase in the coming years, the City will continue to work to minimize future rate increases.

The City of Novi Water & Sewer Fund, the Oakland County Water Resource Commission (OCWRC) and the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) are all not-for-profit entities and therefore rates are intended and required to cover operating, maintenance, capital replacement and debt service costs. The American Water Works Association (AWWA) recommends government agencies be prudent in the computations of reserves, either through depreciation or through a future debt service reserve to cover current and future replacement infrastructure costs.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Approval of Proposed Water & Sewer Rate Resolutions for 2019 - 2020

**RESOLUTION  
WATER RATES**

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WHEREAS, the City of Novi through the Code of Ordinance, Section 34 has empowered itself to acquire, Construct, and operate a water supply system; and,

WHEREAS, by Section 34-19 the City of Novi may establish rates to operate said system; and,

WHEREAS, certain rates must reflect actual costs of usage and consumption; and,

WHEREAS, certain rates must cover the costs related to administration, construction, maintenance and replacements to the system; and,

WHEREAS, the cost to finance said system demonstrates a need to increase the water rates.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following rates shall be implemented as the rates of the Water Supply System pursuant to Section 34-19 for all bills rendered after August 1, 2019.

<b>WATER RATES</b>	
<b><u>Minimum (Fixed) Rate Schedule:</u></b>	
<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Minimum Rate per Quarter</u>
5/8"	\$ 56.00
1"	80.00
1.5"	174.00
2"	232.00
3"	665.00
4"	850.00
6"	1,778.00
8"	2,114.00
10"	2,425.00
<b><u>Consumption Rate:</u> \$3.33 per Thousand Gallons</b>	

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**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the rates related to water fees will be established as follows:

▪ **EQUIPMENT FEES**

<u>Service Size</u>	<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Public Street Copper</u>	<u>Private Street Copper</u>
1"	5/8"	\$1,725	\$1,340
1"	1"	\$1,865	\$1,480
1.5"	1"	\$2,670	\$1,865
1.5"	1.5"	\$2,865	\$2,060
2"	1.5"	\$3,440	\$2,520
2"	2"	\$3,580	\$2,660

- Service on Public Roads over 60 feet, there will be an additional fee per Right of Way foot of:

<u>SERVICE SIZE</u>	<u>FEE/PER RIGHT OF WAY FOOT COPPER</u>
1"	\$17.00
1.5"	\$18.00
2"	\$21.00

*An additional \$ 1,500 fee will be assessed for taps into a concrete water main. A separate additional fee will be assessed if a directional bore is needed (please contact the Water & Sewer Department).*

▪ **METERING EQUIPMENT FEES**

<u>SIZE</u>	<u>METER</u>	<u>METER HORN</u>	<u>FLANGES</u>	<u>STRAINER</u>	<u>RADIO REMOTE</u>
5/8"	\$ 150	\$ 40	N/A	N/A	\$ 86
1"	260	70	N/A	N/A	86
1.5"	450	N/A	70	N/A	86
2"	575	N/A	90	N/A	86
3" (Compound)	2,085	N/A	90	735	86
4" (Compound)	2,980	N/A	130	890	86
6" (Compound)	3,790	N/A	210	1,665	86

**8" and larger Compound and Turbine meters and equipment will be actual costs plus 15% City of Novi Administrative Fee**

**MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES**

Miscellaneous Inspection Fee	\$ 90
Turn-off or Turn-on Service (regular hours)	90
Turn-off or Turn-on Service (Saturdays or Evenings)	175
Turn-off or Turn-on Service (Sundays or Holidays)	250
Water Meter Test	85
Unmetered Water – Single Family Residential Construction	105
Unmetered Water – Non-Single Family Residential Construction	365
Permits to Use Fire Hydrant Fees:	
Backflow Preventer & Meter Deposit: 1" meter	500
Backflow Preventer & Meter Deposit: 2" meter	1900
Backflow Preventer & Meter Deposit: 3" meter	1900
Hydrant Deposit	200
Permit Fee	60
Inspection Fee	60
Rental Fee	\$3.00/per day, \$20/per month

**WATER TAP FEES**

For the privilege of tapping into the Water Supply System, there shall be a charge of One Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$1,850.00), multiplied by the unit factor set forth in the Unit Factor Chart as adopted by the City Council. With the exception of those users served directly by the water main constructed and financed by Special Assessment District Number 126 who will be charged Five Hundred Dollars (\$ 500.00) multiplied by the factor set forth in the Unit Factor Chart.

**SPECIAL RATES**

For miscellaneous services for which, in the judgment of the City Council a special rate should be established, such rates shall be established and charged in accordance with the schedule of rates adopted by resolution of the City Council.

**CERTIFICATION**

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Novi at a regular meeting held the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of July 2019.

By: Cortney Hanson  
Its: City Clerk

**RESOLUTION  
Huron-Rouge Sewer Rates**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Novi through the Code of Ordinance, Section 34-145 has established that the rates are to be sufficient to provide for the payment of the expenses of administration and operation and such expenses for the maintenance of the system as are necessary to preserve the same in good repair and working order, to provide for the payment of the sewage disposal charge required to be paid to the county, to provide for the annual payments required to be made to the county in connection with the Huron-Rouge System, to provide for the payment and interest as required by the contract with the county, and to provide for the payment of such other expenditures and funds for the system as this division may require. Such rates shall be fixed and revised from time to time as may be necessary to produce these amounts.

**WHEREAS**, Oakland County has notified the City of Novi that their charge to us for sewage disposal has increased by 16% for 2019-2020,

**WHEREAS**, the cost to finance said system demonstrates that the sewer rates will be increasing,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following rates shall be implemented as the rates of the sewer system pursuant to Section 34-145 for all bills rendered after August 1, 2019.

<u>Base Sewer Rates</u>	
<u>Minimum (Fixed) Rate Schedule</u>	
<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Minimum Rate Per Quarter</u>
5/8"	\$30.00
1"	50.00
1.5"	85.00
2"	105.00
3"	320.00
4"	410.00
6"	850.00
8" or larger	995.00

**\$4.01** per thousand gallons for metered consumption, and  
**\$99.83** per quarter/per tap unit for un-metered consumption

**INSPECTION FEE**

Sewer Inspection Fee.....\$90.00

**High Strength Pollutants (HSP) and for Industrial Waste Control (IWC)**

**WHEREAS**, the pass-through surcharges from the Great Lakes Water Authority for High Strength Pollutants (HSP) and for Industrial Waste Control (IWC) which are regulated by the Clean Water Act and may change every year.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the City of Novi will collect the HSP and IWC surcharges as determined by the Great Lakes Water Authority.

**SEWER TAP FEES**

For the privilege of tapping into the Sanitary Sewer System, there shall be a charge of Two Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$2,720.00), multiplied by the unit factor set forth in the Unit Factor Chart as adopted by the City Council.

**CERTIFICATION**

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Novi at a regular meeting held the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of July 2019.

By: Cortney Hanson  
Its: City Clerk

**RESOLUTION**  
**Novi-Walled Lake Sewer System**

**WHEREAS**, the Oakland County Drain Commission (OCDC) operates the Novi-Walled Lake Treatment Plant for the Cities of Novi and Walled Lake; and

**WHEREAS**, certain rates must reflect actual costs of providing services;

**USAGE FEE**

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the new rate to the user of this system is established at \$96.67 per unit per quarter for all bills rendered after August 1, 2019.

**SEWER INSPECTION FEE**

**WHEREAS**, OCDC operates and maintains the Novi-Walled Lake Treatment Plant, and all sewer infrastructures for effluent to the plant;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the City of Novi will collect the pass-through OCDC sewer inspection fee as determined by the OCDC.

**INDUSTRIAL PRETREATMENT PROGRAM (IPP)**

**WHEREAS**, the pass-through IPP surcharges from OCDC are regulated by the Clean Water Act and change every year;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the City of Novi will collect the IPP surcharge as determined by the OCDC.

**CERTIFICATION**

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Novi at a regular meeting held the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of July 2019.

By: Cortney Hanson  
Its: City Clerk

**Example of Water and Sewer charges using Huron Rouge Metered Rate**

	<u>2018-2019</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>	<u>Increase</u>
<b>Quarterly:</b>			
Water			
Fixed rate	\$ 56.00	\$ 56.00	
20,000 gallons	\$ 65.20	\$ 66.50	
Sewer			
Fixed rate	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	
20,000 gallons	\$ 77.80	\$ 80.13	
<b>Quarterly</b>	<u>\$ 229.00</u>	<u>\$ 232.64</u>	\$ 3.64
<b>Annually</b>	\$ 916.00	\$ 930.55	\$ 14.55

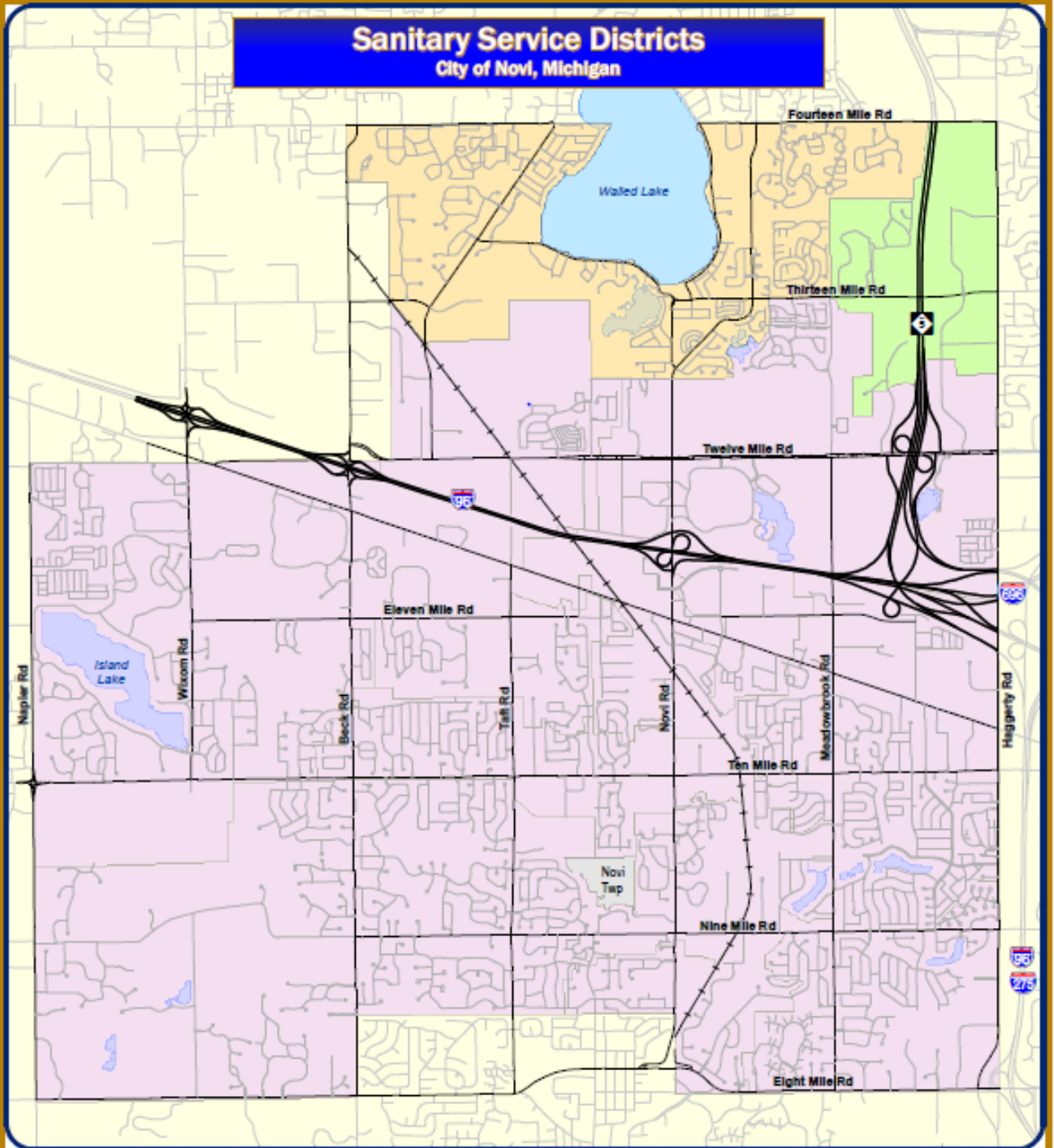
Estimated increase 1.6%

Note:  
 Example of Water and Sewer Charges using Huron Rouge Metered Rate  
 Department and Oakland County Water Resource Commission.



# Sanitary Service Districts

## City of Novi, Michigan



Map Author: Karl Blough  
 Date: July 18, 2019  
 Project: Sanitary Service Districts  
 Version #: 1.0

**MAP INTERPRETATION NOTICE**

Map information depicted is not intended to replace or substitute for any official or primary source. This map was intended to meet National Map Accuracy Standards and use the most recent, accurate sources available to the people of the City of Novi. Please contact the City GIS Manager to confirm source and accuracy information related to this map.

**Sanitary Service District**

- Commerce Township
- Huron-Rouge
- Walled Lake



**City of Novi**

Engineering Division  
 Department of Public Works  
 28500 Lee BeGole Drive  
 Novi, MI 48375  
[cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org)





**Final Approved FY 2020 Suburban Wholesale Water Service Charges  
Novi**

	<u>Existing Charges</u> <i>FY 2019</i>	<u>Originally Proposed Charges</u> <i>(a)</i>	<u>Final Approved Charges</u> <i>(b)</i>
1 Fixed Monthly Charge - \$/month	459,900	462,600	<b>460,100</b>
2 Commodity Charge - \$/Mcf	12.48	12.19	<b>12.12</b>
3 Projected Annual Sales Volume - Mcf	294,700	303,700	<b>303,700</b>
4 Projected Annual Revenue - \$	9,196,700	9,252,200	<b>9,201,000</b>

*(a) Reflects proposed charges originally presented on January 27, 2019, which supported an overall 3.1% Budget increase for FY 2020.*

*(b) Reflects reduction in revenue budget from an effective 3.1% increase to a 2.5% increase, as approved by the GLWA Board of Directors on March 13, 2019.*



**WRC**  
**WATER RESOURCES COMMISSIONER**

*Jim Nash*

December 18, 2018

Mr. Pete Auger, Manager  
City of Novi  
45175 West Ten Mile Road  
Novi, Michigan 48375-3024

**RE: Walled Lake-Novı Sewage Disposal System Rate Review**

*1-1-2019*

Dear Mr. Auger:

After reviewing the financial statements from the Walled Lake-Novı Sewage Disposal System at the close of fiscal year 2017, it has been determined the rate will be \$361,714.60, per quarter for the 2019 rate year, beginning January 1, 2019. This fixed quarterly billing utilizes historical metered sewage flow information for Novi and Walled Lake to determine the percentage allocation for each city. Further, this charge will be billed to the Novi SDS Fund with Oakland County which will then bill the City of Novi for the services provided by the Walled Lake-Novı SDS along with the expenditures associated with the Novi SDS local system.

The Industrial Pretreatment Program (IPP) quarterly charge for sewer customers in the City of Novi will decrease from \$7.60 to \$6.34 per unit for non-domestic sewer customers.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at 248-858-7598.

Sincerely,



Tim Prince, P.E.  
Manager

