## WATER RATES

May 19, 2010

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#### **Portland Water Bureau**



## **Budget Overview**

- Total Budget = \$148.2 million (same as FY 2009-10)
  - \$75.5 million Operating
  - \$72.7 million Capital
- Revenue
  - Rates & Charges = \$121.0 million
    - Retail = \$101.3 million
    - Wholesale = \$15.2 million
    - Capital Contributions = \$2.5 million
    - SDCs = \$2.0 million
- Positions = 643 (no change)

#### **Primary Rate Drivers for FY 2010-11**

- CIP 7.3%
  - LT2 5.8%
  - Interstate facility 0.8%
  - Normal capital projects 2.4%
  - Project deferrals & underspending -1.7%

#### Interest rates 0.5%

- Lower earnings
- Lower return from wholesale customers

#### • Deferral of prior year rate increases 3.7%

- Resources were available to offer temporary rate mitigation, but those resources are being used up.
- Covered increased maintenance, increased CIP, new wholesale contracts, decreased demand
- Retail Demand 1.0%
  - 1% demand reduction
- Other -0.5%
  - Reduced non-rate revenue 0.2%
    - Reimbursable work
    - SDCs
  - No COLA -0.7%

### Demand

- Lower Demand Increases Rates
  - Fixed Costs
- Lowering the Forecast to Align with 2009 Actual
- Forecast next year 27.5 million ccf
- Actual Demands
  - Sold 27.5 million ccf in Calendar 2009
  - Sold 27.7 million ccf in FY 2008-09
  - 27.0 million ccf or less only occurred 1 time since 1970.

# FY 2010-11 Rate Summary

- The average effective retail rate increase is 12.0%.
- Low income discount program
  - Discount for single family residential customers of 50%, which is \$10.96 per month (\$131.52 per year in total discount).
  - Crisis vouchers of \$150, safety net, fixture repairs, payment plans, and more
- System Development Charge (SDC) <u>decreases</u> 4.6 percent.
  - Basic residential SDC decreases from \$1,793 to \$1,710
  - Portland remains well below other regional providers.
  - Waivers for affordable housing continue and temporary ADU exemptions.
- Establishing fixed prices for services, mains, and other facilities
  - Provides bill certainty for developers

## **Base Charge**

- Base Charge and Volume Charge both increase same percentage
  - Base charge currently below cost-of-service
    - Excludes meter purchases, meter testing, meter maintenance, & overhead
- Cost of service would:
  - Increase base charge further
  - Mitigate increase in volume charge
- Cost of service supported by OMF and Joint Staff-PURB work group
- Proposal for cost of service being deferred
  - Wait for improvement in economy

### Water Bills

- Typical residential (6 ccf) monthly bill increases \$2.64,
  from \$22.02 to \$24.66.
- Qualified low income residential (5 ccf) monthly bill increases \$1.17 from \$9.79 to \$10.96 (with discount).
- Medium commercial (200 ccf) monthly bill increases \$61.26 - from \$510.13 to \$571.39.
- Portland water bills are only about 6 percent of the typical utility services for retail residential customers.

### Water-Sewer Bills

		FY 2011		
	FY 2010	Proposed	\$	%
Monthly Bill	Current	Alternative	Increase	Increase
Residential (6 ccf) - 4,488 gallons				
Volume Charge	\$14.64	\$16.40		
Base Charge	\$7.38	\$8.26		
<b>Total Water Monthly Bill</b>	\$22.02	\$24.66	\$2.64	12.0%
Total Sewer/Stormwater Monthly Bill	\$50.15	\$53.33	\$3.18	6.34%
Total	\$72.17	\$77.99	\$5.82	8.1%

#### **Average Utility Services**



1) The proposed rates for Water, Sew er and Solid Waste & Recycling are to be effective July 1, 2010.

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#### Comparison of Typical Residential System Development Charges

Portland (proposed)

Tigard

Beaverton

Gresham

**Tualatin Valley Water District** 

\$1,710.00 \$2,041.00 \$3,180.00 \$4,153.00 \$5,538.00