



# Water, Sewer, and Storm Rate Study

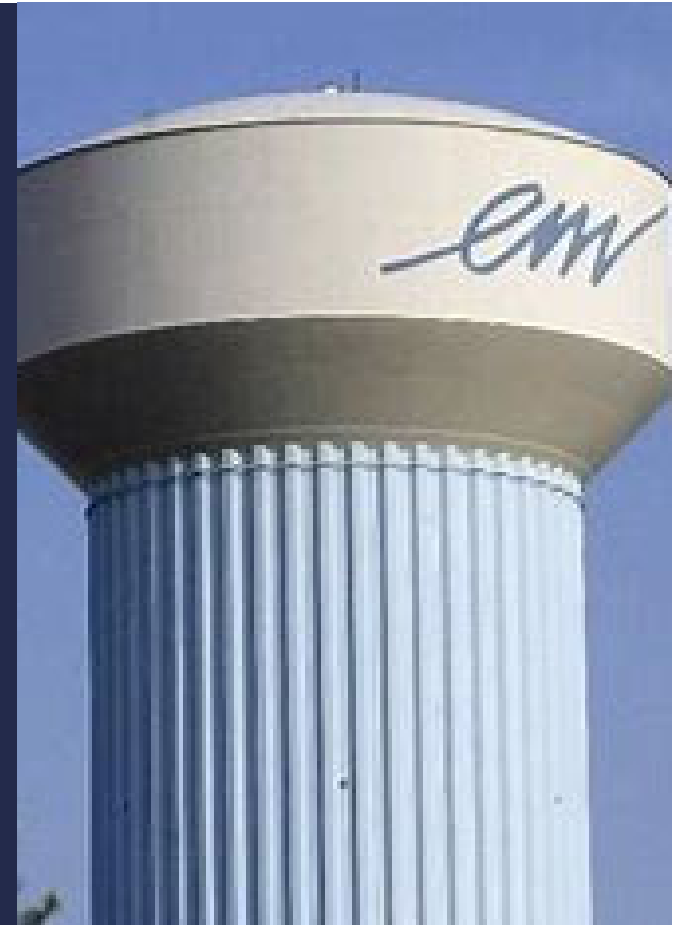
December 9, 2024









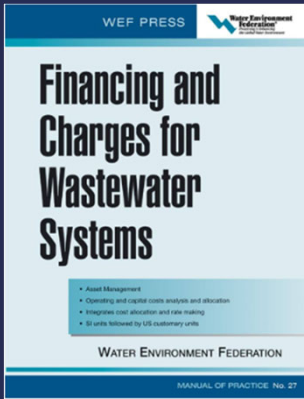
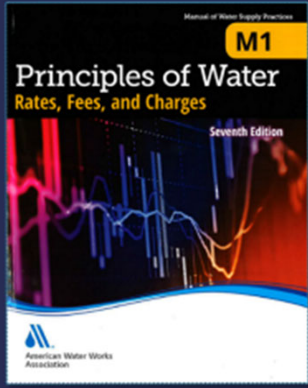
# Purpose of the Presentation

- Receive Council feedback and input on the updated water, sewer, and storm rate study:
  - Capital funding approach
  - Proposed rate approach and level
  - Consideration of a low income program/rate
  
- Next Steps
  - Incorporate Council feedback and input
  - Present rate study results and ordinance adoption
    - 12/16/24 Council Meeting?



# Overview of the Presentation

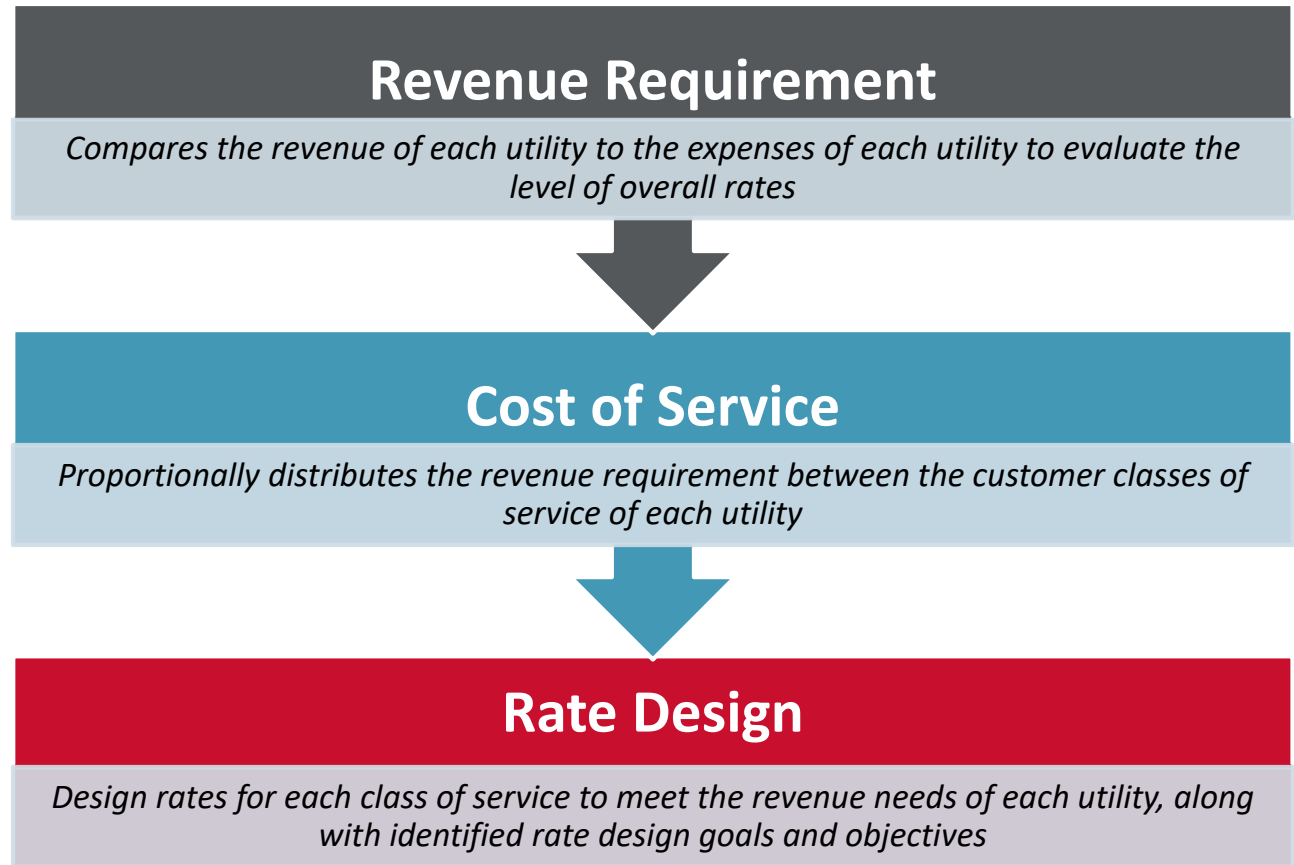
-  Purpose of the Study
-  Overview of the Rate Study Process
-  Rate Study Results and Recommendations
-  Summary and Next Steps



## Purpose of the Rate Study

- Provide sufficient revenue to operate and maintain the City's water, sewer, and storm infrastructure
- Develop proportional and cost-based rates to reflect the City's customer and system characteristics
- Reflect prudent financial planning criteria
  - Funding capital improvement needs
  - Maintain target minimum reserve levels
  - Meet debt coverage requirements
- Develop the study using generally accepted methodologies tailored to the City's system and customer characteristics

# Developing Cost-Based Rates



# Key Rate Drivers

- Adequately fund the annual operating expenses for each utility
  - Maintain prudent reserve levels (e.g., emergency needs, cash flow requirements, capital improvements)
- Providing sufficient annual renewal and replacement funding
  - Water and wastewater pipeline replacement
  - Stormwater drainage and dredging
- System betterments and improvements funding
  - Regulatory projects (LSLR and WW Treatment)
  - System improvements (Clearwell, dredging)
- Cost-based and proportional rates
  - Reflect costs of operating and maintaining each utility system and infrastructure
  - Based on each customers' demands on the system
    - Avoid one class subsidizing another i.e., need to pay "fair share"
  - Costs driven by sizing of utility systems to serve customer demands

# Revenue Requirements





# Revenue Requirements Overview

Compares utility revenues to expenses

- Determines the level of rate revenue adjustment necessary

Uses prudent financial planning criteria

- Adequate funding of renewal and replacements
- Maintaining sufficient ending reserve balances

Reviews a specific time period

- Typically five-to-ten-year period
- Rate Setting is often 2 – 5 years

Each utility analyzed on a “stand-alone basis”

- No transfer of funds from other City funds
- Rates need to support operations and capital

Utilizes the “cash basis” methodology

- Generally accepted method for municipal utilities



# Revenue Requirement Revisions Since 11/18

- Water
  - Moved administrative building to final two years of study period
  - Revised debt assumptions to reflect program terms (extended length of loans)
  - Updated average bill
  - Long term borrowing of \$39.1M over 5-year rate period; \$66.5M over 10-year rate period
- Sewer
  - Revised debt assumptions to reflect loan program (extended length of loans, added interest on borrowed amounts)
  - Long term borrowing of \$62.6M over 5-year rate period; \$92.1M over 10-year rate period
- Storm
  - Removed 18<sup>th</sup> street project from CIP
  - Long term borrowing of \$1.3M over 5-year rate period



# Summary of the Revenue Requirements

- Annual rate adjustments are necessary to fund water, sewer, and storm utilities
  - Increase of funding for annual renewal, replacement and needed improvements and annual debt service
  - Maintain adequate reserves to support cash flow, emergencies, and credit ratings
  - Maintain adequate financial metrics needed to issue long-term debt

	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
<b>Water</b> <sup>1</sup>						
Avg Customer Bill <sup>2</sup>	\$42.14	\$47.64	\$53.28	\$59.77	\$67.35	\$72.35
Annual Monthly Change	--	\$5.50	\$5.64	\$6.49	\$7.58	\$5.00
<b>Sewer</b>						
Avg Customer Bill <sup>2</sup>	\$27.98	\$32.88	\$38.63	\$44.62	\$51.31	\$57.72
Annual Monthly Change	--	\$4.90	\$5.75	\$5.99	\$6.69	\$6.41
<b>Storm</b>						
Avg Customer Bill <sup>2</sup>	\$2.61	\$4.31	\$4.50	\$4.70	\$4.91	\$5.14
Annual Monthly Change	--	\$1.70	\$0.19	\$0.20	\$0.21	\$0.23

- Prior to cost of service and rate design
- 1 – Annual monthly change has been reduced over the 5-year study period
- 2 - Billing Charge + 4 CCF water and sewer, 1 ERU stormwater

# Cost of Service



# Cost of Service Overview

## What is cost of service?

- Analysis to proportionally distribute the revenue requirement to the customer classes of service of each utility

## Why cost of service

- Generally accepted as “fair and equitable”
- Avoids subsidies
- Revenues reflect costs

## Objectives of Cost of Service

- Determine if subsidies exist
- Develop average unit costs

# Cost of Service Adjustments

- Water
  - Continuation of adjustments as outlined in the prior study to increase tier pricing to reflect cost of providing service
  - Industrial class currently pays ~\$1.76 per CCF and the cost to treat a CCF is ~\$1.56
- Sewer
  - Minimal cost differences, across the board adjustment to all customers
- Storm
  - Simplified cost of service on an ERU basis
  - Impacts all customers equally based on number of billed ERUs

# Rate Design



# Rate Design Approach

- Water
  - Recommend cost of service adjustments, increased lower cost tiers (higher use tiers) greater than other tiers
    - Larger impact to industrial customers and lower to residential to reflect cost of service analysis results
  - Maintained current rate structure (fixed and consumption charges)
- Sewer
  - No cost of service adjustments
  - Maintained current rate structure (fixed and volume charges)
- Storm
  - No cost of service adjustments
  - Maintained current rate structure (per ERU basis)



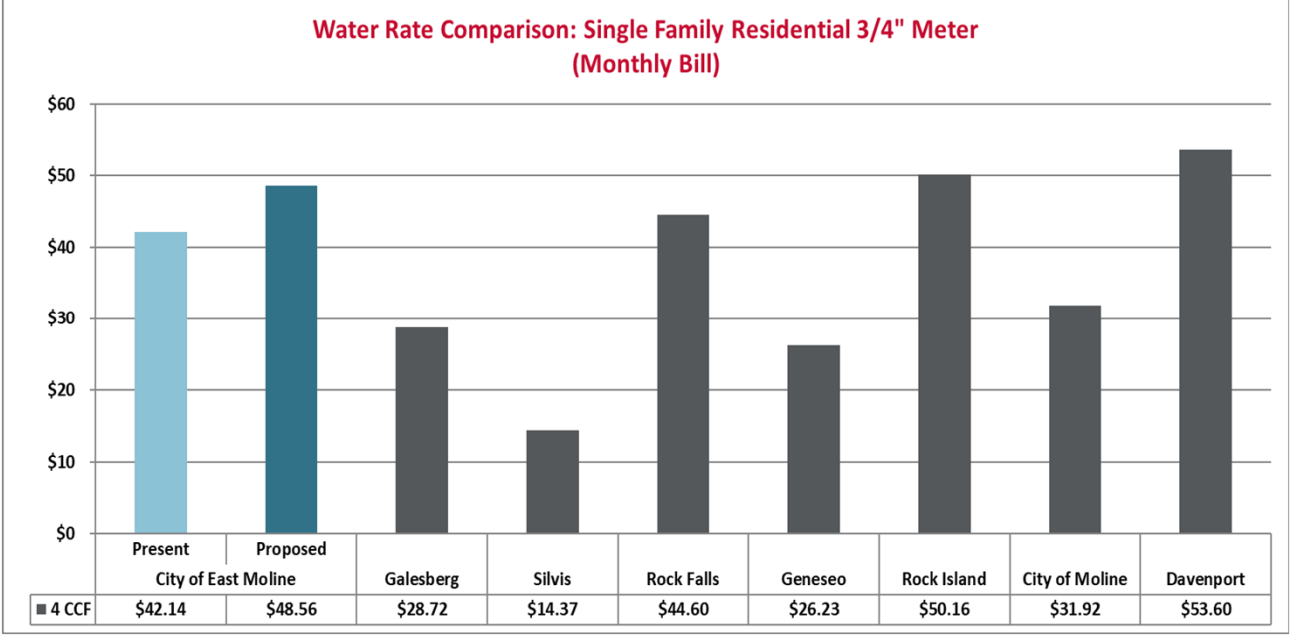
# Rate Design Water Present Rates

	<i>Present Rates</i>	<i>Proposed Rates</i>				
		<i>FY 2025</i>	<i>FY 2026</i>	<i>FY 2027</i>	<i>FY 2028</i>	<i>FY 2029</i>
<b>Billing Charge</b>	<i>\$/Mo</i>					
	\$5.82	\$7.00	\$8.00	\$9.25	\$10.50	\$11.50
<b>Consumption Charge - Water</b>	<i>\$/CCF</i>					
0 - 80	\$9.08	\$10.16	\$11.32	\$12.63	\$14.21	\$15.21
80 - 200	\$6.03	\$6.74	\$7.50	\$8.38	\$9.43	\$10.11
200 - 700	\$5.88	\$6.57	\$7.32	\$8.19	\$9.19	\$9.86
700 - 1,337	\$4.22	\$4.72	\$5.71	\$6.74	\$7.62	\$8.21
1,337 - 8,022	\$1.52	\$1.85	\$2.30	\$2.71	\$3.30	\$3.80
8,022 - 33,423	\$1.15	\$1.52	\$1.95	\$2.50	\$3.08	\$3.69
33,423 - 66,845	\$1.06	\$1.41	\$1.84	\$2.38	\$2.96	\$3.57
66,845 +	\$0.84	\$1.29	\$1.84	\$2.38	\$2.96	\$3.57



# Revenue Requirement Water

	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
<b>Water</b>						
Avg Customer Bill <sup>1</sup>	\$42.14	\$47.64	\$53.28	\$59.77	\$67.35	\$72.35
Annual Monthly Change	--	\$5.50	\$5.64	\$6.49	\$7.58	\$5.00



\* East Moline rate projections include LSLR  
 Davenport requested rate increase effective April 2025 of ~38%



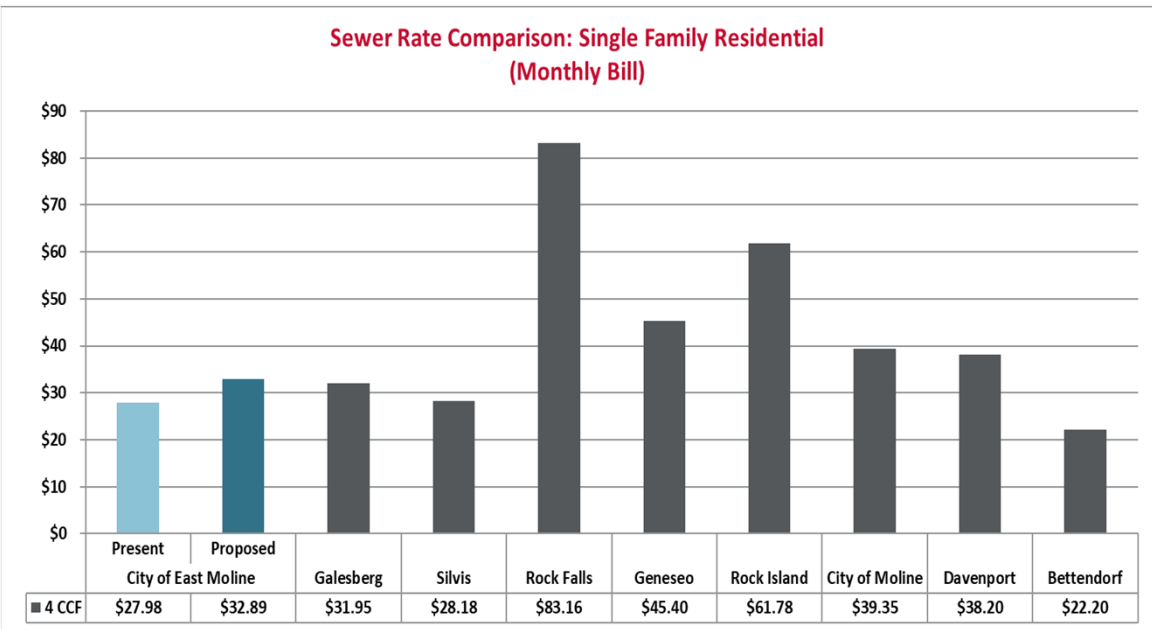
# Rate Design Sewer Present Rates

	<i>Present Rates</i>	<i>Proposed Rates</i>				
		<i>FY 2025</i>	<i>FY 2026</i>	<i>FY 2027</i>	<i>FY 2028</i>	<i>FY 2029</i>
<b><i>Residential</i></b>	<b><i>Rate</i></b>					
Billing Fee	\$3.82	\$4.49	\$5.28	\$6.10	\$7.02	\$7.90
Sewer Usage	6.04	7.10	8.34	9.63	11.07	12.46
<b><i>Commercial</i></b>						
Billing Fee	\$3.82	\$4.49	\$5.28	\$6.10	\$7.02	\$7.90
Sewer Usage	6.04	7.10	8.34	9.63	11.07	12.46
<b><i>Industrial</i></b>						
Billing Fee	\$3.82	\$4.49	\$5.28	\$6.10	\$7.02	\$7.90
Sewer Usage	6.04	7.10	8.34	9.63	11.07	12.46
<b><i>Municipal</i></b>						
Billing Fee	\$3.82	\$4.49	\$5.28	\$6.10	\$7.02	\$7.90
Sewer Usage	3.59	4.22	4.96	5.73	6.59	7.41



# Revenue Requirement Sewer

	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
<b>Sewer</b>						
Avg Customer Bill <sup>1</sup>	\$27.98	\$32.88	\$38.63	\$44.62	\$51.31	\$57.72
Annual Monthly Change	--	\$4.90	\$5.75	\$5.99	\$6.69	\$6.41



- Prior to cost of service and rate design



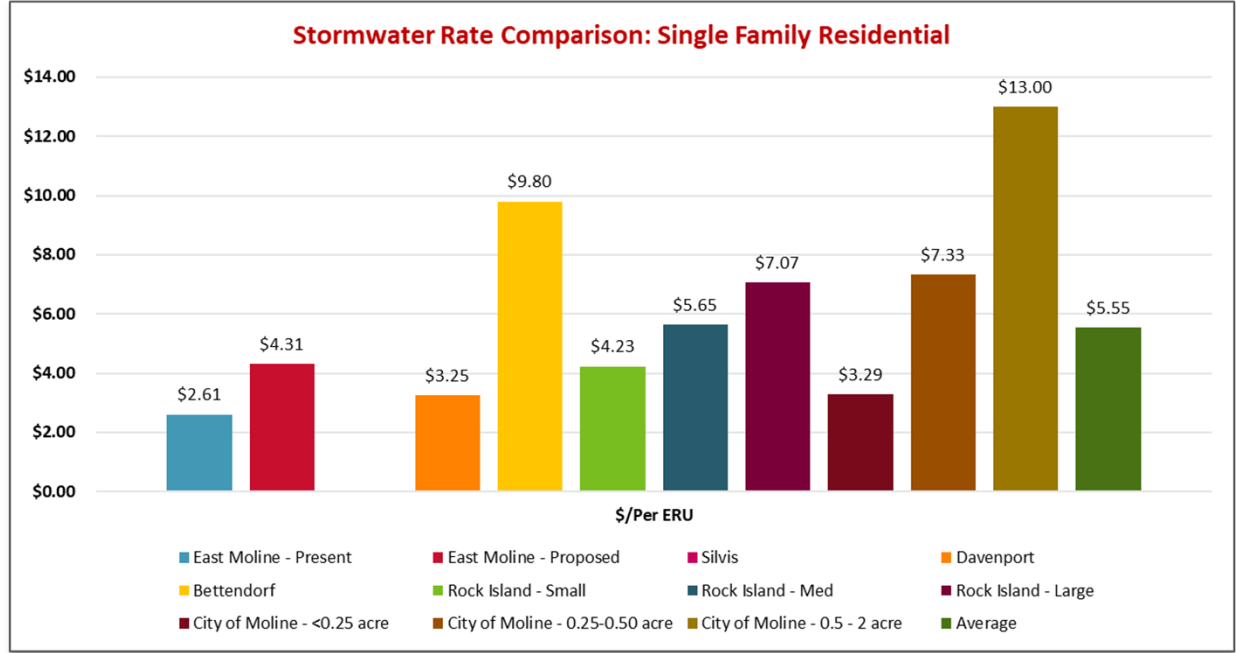
# Rate Design Storm Present Rates

	<i>Present Rates</i>	<i>Proposed Rates</i>				
		FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
	<i>Rate</i>					
Rate Per Equivalent Unit	\$2.61	\$4.31	\$4.50	\$4.70	\$4.91	\$5.13



# Revenue Requirement Storm

	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
<b>Storm</b>						
Avg Customer Bill <sup>1</sup>	\$2.61	\$4.31	\$4.50	\$4.70	\$4.91	\$5.14
Annual Monthly Change	--	\$1.70	\$0.19	\$0.20	\$0.21	\$0.23



- Prior to cost of service and rate design
- 1 - ERU Charge



# Combined Average Bill

	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
<b>Water, Sewer, and Storm</b>						
Avg Customer Bill <sup>1</sup>	\$72.73	\$84.83	\$96.41	\$109.09	\$123.57	\$135.21
Annual Monthly Change	--	\$12.10	\$11.58	\$12.68	\$14.48	\$11.64
11/18 Annual Monthly Change		\$16.39	\$18.26	\$18.52	\$18.74	\$19.54

- 1 - Billing Charge + 4 CCF water and sewer, 1 ERU stormwater

# Next Steps

- Council feedback and input is necessary to move forward with rate adoption process
- 12/16/24 present rate ordinance for adoption



# Council Discussion

- Capital funding approach
- Proposed rate approach and level
- Consideration of a low income program/rate



Thank you for your input!