



Briefing on Front Foot Benefit and House Connection Rates

November 18, 2020

Agenda

- Front Foot Benefit Rates
- House Connection Charges
- Public Hearing Outreach and Notification



Background: Front Foot Benefit

- HB 824 approved in 1998, transferred responsibility for subdivision-sized line construction to developers, so front foot footage declined significantly
- WSSC Water constructs major transmission & collection lines, which are funded by bonds and system development charges
 - Developers build most of the smaller water & sewer mains
 - WSSC Water only builds the smaller lines for single lot applicants or health hazard applicants

Front Foot Benefit Rates

- Rates are effective January 1, 2021, and are applied to all properties abutted in the prior year
- Once set, rates cannot be increased
- Rates are based on actual costs of construction
- Rates are established on a per foot basis
- The front foot benefit charge is uniform for each class of property

No Changes to Front Foot Benefit Rates in 2021

- Establish maximum front foot benefit rates per foot of \$4.00 for water and \$6.00 for sewer to be paid annually over a period of 30 years

Background: House Connections

- Rates are effective January 1, 2021
- The deferred payment option is effective for owner-occupied, single-family dwelling units
- Rates are estimated based on size and type of connection
- The basis for the rates is historical cost

Improved and Unimproved Rates

- Separate rates are charged for two types of house connections:
 - Improved connections are made to existing water and sewer lines installed in a street, road, alley or right-of-way which has been paved or otherwise improved
 - All other connections are unimproved (consequently, an extension must also be built)

Proposed 2021 House Connection Charges

Residential Small Size

	Unimproved	Improved
Water - inside and outside meters	() = Deferral Option Charges	
1"	\$2,250 (\$2,350)	\$7,850 (\$8,250)
1 1/2"	\$2,250 (\$2,350)	\$7,850 (\$8,250)
2"	\$3,250 (\$3,400)	\$8,250 (\$8,650)
Sewer		
1 1/4" - 1 1/2" pressure	\$3,500 (\$3,675)	\$14,500 (\$15,225)
4" - 6"	\$3,500 (\$3,675)	\$14,500 (\$15,225)

Proposed 2021 House Connection Charges

Right-of-Way (No changes from current rates)

Right-of-Way (connection installed by plumber)	Proposed Charges (2021)
Water	
1"	\$375
1 1/2"	\$375
2" residential	\$450
Sewer	
1 1/4" – 1 1/2" pressure	\$500
4" – 6"	\$500

Public Hearing Outreach & Notification

- Advertised in Washington Post on October 29.
- Issued press release on Public Hearing, posted notices in WSSC Water's One Stop Office
- Disseminated via Customer Connect, website, social media
- Met with Maryland Building Industry Association on November 12

