



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
SPECIAL MEETING

#15-1091

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: September 8, 2015

TITLE: Ordinance Amending Stormwater Management Rates

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt an ordinance increasing the Stormwater Management Rates.

Background

Due to its unique geography, varied infrastructure conditions and the need for an increased level of service due to sea level rise and increased storm events, the City has identified significant investment needs in its stormwater infrastructure.

The current Code of Ordinances provides for automatic annual adjustments to the Stormwater Management Rate of five percent (5%). However, the increase necessary to support the activities and programs of the Stormwater Utility in the FY 2016 proposed budget exceeds the automatic adjustment, which necessitates an ordinance amendment.

The FY 2016 proposed budget includes a monthly Stormwater Management Rate of \$6.00 for residential properties with three units or less, which is a \$1.90 increase from the FY 2015 rates. Additionally, commercial, industrial and residential property of greater than 3 units will increase from \$41.33/acre to \$60.48/acre and vacant land, parks and well fields from \$13.10/acre to \$19.17/acre. The first public hearing for this ordinance was held on Thursday, September 3, 2015 at 6pm.

Staff is currently working with a consultant to prepare a rate study in order to update the Stormwater Management Rate. The new rate structure is expected to yield a bifurcated rate where neighbors would pay a base fee for the basic Stormwater Program service provision and an additional fee if the property resides in close proximity to coastal waterways where they could be subject to saltwater infiltration and sea level rise.

A rate comparison for each customer category is provided below:

**Stormwater Management Rates
Effect of Monthly Increase on Neighbors**

Stormwater Charge	Old Rate	Proposed Rate	\$ Change
Residential <= 3 Units	4.10/unit	\$6.00/unit	\$1.90/unit
Commercial, Industrial, and Residential > 3 Units	\$41.33/acre	\$60.48/acre	\$19.15/acre
Vacant Land, Parks, and Well Fields	\$13.10/acre	\$19.17/acre	\$6.07/acre

Resource Impact

The increased Stormwater Management fee will result in an estimated increase of \$2,096,050 in Stormwater revenue. The Fiscal Year 2016 Stormwater fees are expected to generate \$8,500,000. This is the basis for the FY 2016 budget.

Strategic Connections

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018* initiative, included within the **Internal Support Cylinder**, specifically advancing:

- Goal 12: Be a leading government organization, managing our resources wisely and sustainably.
- Objective 1: Ensure sound fiscal management

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We Are Community*.

Related CAM

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Attachment

Exhibit 1: Ordinance

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