



CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS

Public Works Committee Agenda Communication

Meeting Date: October 11, 2021

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Agenda Item: Stormwater Management Funding Consideration

Explanation: Last year, Council approved a Citywide Stormwater Study. During discussions, Council made it apparent that they did not want this to just be a plan to sit on a shelf and collect dust. While the dream of every design project is to receive grant money, that is simply not a solution we can depend on. As of late, more and more of this grant money is being allocated to communities serving low-income or impoverished areas. This will leave staff and Council to prioritize infrastructure projects versus stormwater projects, as they both are funded from the general fund.

Just a month ago, Council members and citizens spoke strongly on fixing issues in the Trails Edge subdivision. For some of these problems along 100-year flood routes and stormwater surface drainage easements, the funding is just not there without stopping infrastructure projects. These citizens are not the only complaints heard, as staff have also heard from Washington Estates residents about the drainage area from Gilman to Bus 24 at past committee meetings.

Attached is a chart with over 20 different stormwater utility fees in Illinois. Many of these follow an Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) model that estimates an ERU to be a specific impervious area. Some municipalities split residential units into small, medium, large lot sizes and then bill them accordingly.

Morton and Eureka both have stormwater utilities. If we were to follow Morton's model, the residential units would be charged at \$5.49 per month and would net the City just over \$430,000 per year. If we were to follow the Eureka model, residential units would be charged \$6.00 per month and would net the City just over \$473,000 per year.

Commercial properties would be a little more difficult to account for. While they do have an increase in impervious areas, they also have restrictions in our codes that require them to reduce runoff via detention. While Menards has a lot more impervious area than a house, the business has also installed a detention pond that they are required to maintain and that reduces the flow to pre-development levels. There are commercial developments that do not have detention that do not follow the code we have established.

Fiscal Impact: TBD depending on if there is interest in pursuing a funding mechanism to address a variety of drainage-related projects throughout the city.

Action Requested: Discussion on funding mechanisms to address the various drainage-related projects.

Municipality	SF Residential Cost/ERU/Month	ERU (sf)	Residential Details	Non-Residential	Billed	All Others
Bloomington	\$1.89	1,000	Small: <7k sf; Medium: 7k-12k; Large: >12k		Utility bill	
Champaign	\$5.55	3,478			Utility bill	
Decatur	\$3.67	4,500		\$3 + \$0.67/ERU		
Downers Grove	Varies	3,300	<2,500 sf: \$10.11; 2,500-4k sf: \$13.48; 4k-7k sf: \$20.22	\$13.48/ERU		
East Moline						
Eureka	\$6.00	3,250				
Freeport	\$4.00					
Highland Park	\$8.50	2,765				
Hoffman Estates	Varies	3,300	<7,500 sf: \$1.50/month; 7,500-15k sf: \$2/month; >15k sf: \$2.50/month	\$2/ERU		
Moline	Varies		<0.25 acres: \$1.95; 0.25-0.5 acres: \$3.75; 0.5-2 acres: \$7.69	\$29.28*EHA; EHA = (Impervious acreage*0.95) + (Pervious acreage*0.15)	Utility bill	
Morton	\$5.49	3,300				
Mundelein	Varies		<1 acre: \$3; 1-1.99 acres: \$6; 2-3.99 acres: \$12; 4-5.99 acres: \$20; 6+ acres: \$30	Same as residential	Utility bill	
Normal	\$4.60	3,200				
Peoria	\$5.00	1,000				
Rantoul						
Rock Island	Varies	2,800	<6k sf: \$3.11; 6k-18k sf: \$4.15; >18k sf: \$5.19	\$4.15/ERU	Utility bill	
Rolling Meadows	\$4.76			Same as residential	Utility bill	
Urbana	\$4.94	3,100			Utility bill	
Wheeling	\$2.00	3,000		\$2/ERU	Utility bill	
Wilmette	Varies	3,590	<3k sf impervious: \$12; 3k-4,300 sf impervious: \$14.58; >4,300 sf impervious: \$18.75	(Impervious sf/ERU)*\$10.42 + \$4.17	Utility bill	
Winnetka	\$21.83	3,400			Utility bill	