



Sandy City Council Office

10000 South Centennial
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Memorandum

June 17, 2025

To: City Council

CC: Monica Zoltanski - Mayor
Dustin Fratto – City Council Executive Director
Brian Kelley – Administrative Services Director

From: Cyndi Sharkey – Council Member At Large

Subject: Council Members Sharkey Proposed Amendments to the FY26 Tentative Budget

Description: Reduction of the proposed Storm Water Fee Increase

Proposal Summary:

Each year during our budget process we are tasked with deciding how much of our rising costs we will ask our residents to bear. While the name of the fee we are asked to increase changes from budget year to budget year, those who pay the fees don't. They are our constituents, our neighbors, those who we have been tasked to watch over. Our Storm Water Fee does need to be increased. This is clear when considering just the current and upcoming capital needs of the department. What is also clear is that this Council has been consistent in favoring a steady incremental approach to fee increases, rather than significant sudden increases. While the absolute cost of the increase is just \$2.50 a month, this calculates as a 42% increase from our current fee of \$6.00. This is a lot to ask our residents to shoulder and a more incremental approach would soften the impact. The proposed rate is projected to generate \$1.7 million dollars in revenue annually. Over a 10-year period that amounts to 17 million dollars in our Storm Water Fund. My proposal contains two options with lower rates that would generate that same 17 million dollars, just over a longer period. For your consideration I have rates that would generate the same amount of revenue, just over a period of 15 years or 20 years rather than 10. These are shown in the table below:

	Proposed	Alternative (15 Year)	Alternative (20 Year)
Rate	\$ 8.50	\$ 7.67	\$ 7.25
Rate Dollar Increase	\$ 2.50	\$ 1.67	\$ 1.25
Percentage Increase	42%	28%	21%
Revenue Generated Annually	\$ 1,754,940	\$ 1,172,300	\$ 877,470
Years	10	15	20
Total Generated	\$ 17,549,400	\$ 17,584,499	\$ 17,549,400



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If there is support for either of my alternative rates, it is my recommendation that our Public Utilities staff examine the reduction in revenue and make adjustments to their expenditures accordingly.

Justification:

Over the past few years this Council has been asked to increase the cost of being a Sandy resident through tax increases, water rate increases, bulk waste fee increases, etc. Those increases were difficult and necessary, but they were also prudent and measured. Each time we have been asked to pass costs on to our residents we have found a way to lower the impact by adopting a more incremental approach. Once more I am proposing that we continue that approach. What I have proposed allows our Storm Water Fund to begin needed work on critical capital projects while we smooth out the impact of rate increases by a much lower percentage.

Storm Water Rate Comparison

Comparative Monthly Storm Water Rates

