

City Council

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Rate adjustments have been approved for the water, sewer and storm utilities to make the utilities sustainable, to support the operation and maintenance of the utilities, and to provide funding for capital improvements. The water and sewer rates have not been adjusted since 2001 and 2008. As the age of our systems get older, the chance of failure of these utility systems increases. This is evidenced by the sewer repair and replacement work that has been done over that last few years and that needs to continue to sustain our sewer system.

Water main breaks can be catastrophic as evidenced by the water main break on Ramsdell that occurred in July 2016 in a 70-year old pipe.



Following are a list of capital projects that will be worked on:

- Replace the Alameda and Drake Street Sewer Lift stations (these are in need of upgrading as they are now 50+ years old).
- Repayment of existing loans that were obtained to repair and replace the backyard sewer mains and 70 to 80 year old pipelines.
- Water main repair and replacement (the 70+ year old piping has reached its useful life).
- Painting and coating systems on the water tanks (water tanks need to be painted and coated to preserve them).
- Improvements to storm water outfall treatment system to help improve water quality where our storm water drains.
- The new utility rates will be implemented in 2017. The rates will go into effect on the February billing cycle, and customers will see the new rates in the bill they receive in April of 2017. The utility billing staff is working on updating the billing to reflect the changes and will be posting additional information regarding the new billing rates on the City's web site in January of 2017.

As always feel free to contact Public Works with any questions or concerns, 253-564-8900.