
Council Bill Number: 115043

Ordinance Number: 121639

AN ORDINANCE relating to drainage services of Seattle Public Utilities; amending Seattle Municipal Code Section 21.33.030 to adjust drainage rates; and amending Seattle Municipal Code Section 21.76.040 to adjust credits to low-income drainage customers.

Status: Passed

Note: Rabanco and Cedar Grove Composting contracts for commercial compostable waste services (yard waste and food waste)

Vote: 9-0

Date filed with the City Clerk: 2004/11/30

Date of Mayor's signature: 2004/11/22 ([about the signature date](#))

Date introduced/referred to committee: 2004/09/27

Committee: Utilities and Technology: Re-referred to Budget Committee on 11/08/04

Sponsor: COMPTON

Committee Recommendation: Pass

Index Terms: UTILITY-RATES, SEATTLE-PUBLIC-UTILITIES, LOW-INCOME, DRAINAGE

Fiscal Note: [Fiscal Note to Council Bill No. 115043](#)

Electronic Copy: [PDF scan of Ordinance No. 121639](#)

Reference: Amending: Ord 116368, 118934, 108312; Related: Ord 94289,

Text:

AN ORDINANCE relating to drainage services of Seattle Public Utilities; amending Seattle Municipal Code Section 21.33.030 to adjust drainage rates; and amending Seattle Municipal Code Section 21.76.040 to adjust credits to low-income drainage customers.

WHEREAS, the rates for drainage services were last increased on January 1, 2004; and

WHEREAS, Seattle Public Utilities ("SPU") has developed a Comprehensive Drainage Plan ("CDP") which recommends operating programs and capital projects to reduce flooding, improve water quality, improve drainage along many major arterials, and restore creek habitat; and

WHEREAS, the cost to implement CDP-recommended programs and projects in 2005 and 2006 will result in increased annual expenses for debt service, capital cash financing and operations; and

WHEREAS, the City has approved a significant bond issuance for 2004 to finance a portion of the drainage Capital Improvement Program ("CIP"), and this issuance will increase annual drainage expenses for debt service beginning in 2005; and

WHEREAS, SPU anticipates, and the Council recognizes, that a significant bond issuance will be needed during 2005 to finance a portion of the drainage CIP and that this issuance will further increase annual drainage expenses for debt service beginning in 2006; and

WHEREAS, SPU has completed a rate study showing that existing rates will not provide sufficient revenues to pay the costs of providing drainage services and that rate increases therefore are required; and

WHEREAS, credits for qualified low-income customers need to be revised to reflect an increase in drainage rates;
NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Subsection D of Seattle Municipal Code Section 21.33.030 is amended as follows:

SMC 21.33.030 Drainage service charges -- Schedule -- Exemptions.

* * *

D. The rate categories and the corresponding annual drainage service charges are as follows:

~~Effective~~ ~~Effective~~ Effective Effective

~~Jan. 1, 2003~~ Jan. 1, 2004 Jan. 1, 2005 Jan. 1, 2006

Single-family ~~\$104.94 per parcel~~ \$110.36 per parcel \$121.64 per parcel \$136.10 per parcel Residential

Open Space (0 -- 2%) ~~98.26 per acre~~ 111.33 per acre 139.88 per acre 173.77 per acre

All Other Properties Classification:

1. (0 -- 15%) ~~\$167.51 per acre~~ \$194.54 per acre 243.48 per acre 302.19 per acre

2. (16 -- 35%) ~~282.97 per acre~~ 322.60 per acre 404.02 per acre 501.84 per acre

3. (36 -- 65%) ~~513.88 per acre~~ 581.47 per acre 730.89 per acre 908.01 per acre

4. (66 -- 85%) ~~667.81 per acre~~ 758.95 per acre 953.02 per acre 1,183.79 per acre

5. (86 -- 100%) ~~821.74 per acre~~ 944.43 per acre 1,182.89 per acre 1,468.73 per acre

SPU shall provide a 10% reduction in drainage rates for properties containing new or remodeled commercial buildings that, after July 27, 2003, install and utilize rainwater harvesting systems that are sized to use or infiltrate the amount of rain that falls on the roofs of such buildings during a one year, 24 hour storm event. A system that involves indoor uses of rainwater must be permitted by Seattle-King

County Department of Health in order to qualify for the rate reduction. A system that relies solely on the capture and indoor use of rainwater shall qualify for the drainage rate reduction only if the system is sized to meet the performance requirement. Qualifying for the drainage rate reduction does not relieve the property owner from the obligation to comply with applicable stormwater and drainage code

requirements for the buildings and site.

* * *

Section 2. Paragraph 2 of Subsection A of Seattle Municipal Code 21.76.040 is amended as follows:

21.76.040 Utility low income rate assistance.

* * *

2. Drainage. Eligible recipients residing inside The City of Seattle shall receive the following credits for drainage services based on dwelling type:

~~Effective~~ ~~Effective~~ Effective Effective ~~January 1, 2003~~ January 1, 2004 January 1, 2005 January 1, 2006

Single-family ~~4.38 per month~~ \$4.60 per month \$5.07 per month \$5.67 per month Duplex ~~2.18 per month~~ 2.30 per month
2.54 per month 2.84 per month Multifamily ~~0.47 per month~~ 0.49 per month 0.54 per month 0.61 per month * * *

Section 3. The provisions of this ordinance are declared to be separate and severable. If a court of competent jurisdiction, all appeals having been exhausted or all appeal periods having run, finds any provision of this ordinance to be invalid or unenforceable as to any person or circumstance, then such provision or provisions shall be null and severed from the rest of this ordinance with respect to the particular person or circumstance. The offending provision with respect to all other persons and all other circumstances, as well as all other provisions of this ordinance, shall remain valid and enforceable.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force thirty (30) days from and after its approval by the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten (10) days after presentation, it shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

Passed by the City Council the ____ day of _____, 2004, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this ____ day of _____, 2004. _____ President _____ of the City Council

Approved by me this ____ day of _____, 2004. _____ Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor

Filed by me this ____ day of _____, 2004. _____ City Clerk

November 1, 2004 (Ver.#3b) t