

Please Complete Your Ballot and Mail It Back Promptly

Ballot Instructions

To complete the enclosed ballot, mark the oval next to either "Yes" or "No." Then sign and date the ballot, place it in the provided postage-paid return envelope and mail or hand deliver it by 5:00 p.m. on June 25, 2021 to:

City Clerk's Office
City of Davis
23 Russell Blvd., Suite 1
Davis, CA 95616

Only official ballots that are signed and marked with the property owner's support or opposition, and are received by 5:00 p.m. on June 25, 2021 will be counted. Post marks do not count.

To deliver your ballot in person, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (530) 757-5648 in advance to make arrangements so someone will be available to receive it. Due to safety protocols related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City strongly encourages you to submit your ballot by mail with sufficient time to arrive at the City Clerk's Office prior to the return deadline of June 25, 2021.

The Stormwater Fee cannot be imposed if votes submitted in opposition to the fee exceed the votes submitted in favor of the fee.

If the fee is approved, the fee may be levied on monthly utility bills starting in fiscal year 2021-22 and beginning no earlier than September 2021, and will continue in future years, unless ended by the City Council.



Fee revenue would be used to reduce flooding on City streets.

Ballot Tabulation

Each parcel with a proposed fee greater than \$0.00 will get one vote. Ballots will be tabulated under the direction of the City Clerk at a location accessible to the public. The tabulation will commence the week of June 28, 2021 at the Veterans Memorial Theater, and may be performed by technological methods including but not limited to optically readable (bar-coded) ballots. Results of the tabulation are expected to be announced at the City Council meeting on July 6, 2021.

Public Accountability Safeguards

If approved by property owners, the proposed Stormwater Fee revenues will be collected and deposited into a fund that can only be used for the Stormwater Program. The funds cannot be taken by the County or the State, and cannot be used for other purposes. The City Council will designate a commission or commissions to review the expenditures of funds collected from the Stormwater Fees and the proposed expenditures for the next fiscal year. Each designated commission shall make recommendations to the City Council to be used in the City's budgeting process and to assist City staff and the City Council in proposing and approving the projects that will be funded, in whole or in part, through the Stormwater Fees.

Additional Information

For additional information or if you lose your ballot, require a replacement ballot, or want to change your vote, please call (530) 757-5686.

You can find additional information on the City's website at [Stormwater.CityofDavis.org](https://www.cityofdavis.org/Stormwater)



Official Ballot Information Guide City of Davis Stormwater Fee

Why Did You Receive This Ballot?

The City of Davis Stormwater Program manages rain water that runs off hard surfaces such as roofs, driveways and streets. The City is responsible for constructing and maintaining an integrated system of storm drainage inlets, pipes, culverts, and ditches. The City also complies with strict government clean water standards regulating the removal of pollutants from stormwater prior to it entering our local waterways.

Current funding for the Stormwater program is funded by a Storm Sewer Fee and a Storm Drainage Fee that have been in place for decades. These fees are based on the square footage of property, and together amount to about \$6 per single-family home per month.

The revenue to support the annual maintenance costs of this important program is no longer sufficient to cover the costs. As a result, no money has been put aside to pay for important capital improvement projects which are overdue.

The proposed Stormwater Fee would provide a dedicated and reliable funding source, which would replace both of the current fees for flood prevention, clean stormwater, improved maintenance, capital improvements, and enhanced services.

A public hearing notice about the proposed fee was mailed to property owners on March 15, and community meetings on this topic were held on March 24, March 30, April 8, and April 24. A public hearing on this subject was held during the regular City Council meeting on May 4, and the Council ordered the mailing of ballots at that meeting.

The enclosed ballot provides property owners in the City the opportunity to vote on whether to approve the proposed new Stormwater Fee. If approved, the proposed new fee would replace both fees you are currently paying.

What This Fee Would Provide

Operations and Maintenance

Regular operations and maintenance tasks include storm-day preparations, periodic video inspections, timely storm system repairs, as well as ensuring stormwater infrastructure facilities are working properly. All of these tasks are necessary to maximize the useful life of essential infrastructure and minimize the risk of flooding during storms. The proposed fee will allow the City to perform maintenance and inspection activities more frequently.

Safe, Clean and Healthy Water

The City's stormwater system must comply with strict State and Federal clean water standards to ensure that water discharged from the system is safe, clean and healthy in order to protect our local creeks and waterways. Trash, oil, and other pollutants accumulate on our streets and sidewalks on a daily basis. Without our pollution prevention program, these pollutants would be swept into our creeks and waterways; the program keeps our waterways clean by preventing these pollutants from entering the stormwater system. The City has a strong compliance program, but the current financial analysis indicates that additional funds will be required to continue to address increasing water quality standards.

Capital Improvements to Reduce Flooding

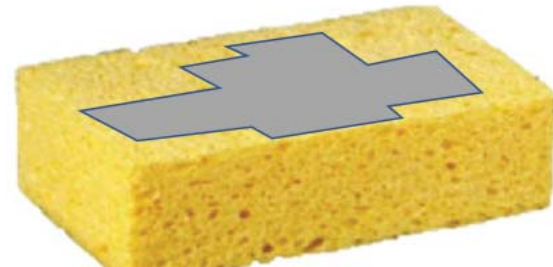
The Richards Tunnel Pump Station #6 was built in 1924 when the City was much smaller, and the amount of water runoff pumped by this station was much less. South Davis Pump Station #5 is also subject to major flooding within the station itself. Both of these pump stations are overdue for replacement with new, more energy efficient and higher capacity equipment. The proposed Stormwater fee will provide funds to pay for these and other high priority capital improvement needs.

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How Much Is the Proposed Fee?

The proposed new Stormwater Fee for your property (or properties) is printed on the Official Ballot included with this information guide. As shown below, the monthly fee for a single-family home on a medium-sized parcel between 0.14 and 0.22 acres, (the most common size of residential parcel), would be \$13.10. The total anticipated revenue to be collected by the proposed Stormwater Fee in the first year is about \$4.1 million. The entire schedule of proposed rates is shown in the Fee Report available on the City's website, and is summarized in the table below. Please refer to your ballot for the actual fee amount proposed for your property or properties.



Open space acts like a sponge, absorbing rain water. Covering land with impermeable surfaces like paving and rooftops causes water to run off of property and into the stormwater system, carrying pollutants with it as it goes.

How Was the Fee Determined?

The fee is based on the quantity of water runoff generated by each parcel or category of parcel, which is proportional to the impervious surfaces (such as pavement) found on the property or category of parcel. The rates for non-residential property categories are based on their percent of impervious surface in relation to a single family home (single family equivalent), and therefore, due to rounding, refer to the actual proposed fee amount on your ballot rather than attempting to calculate it based on the chart on the left. The Stormwater Fee Report, which includes more information about the Program's revenues and costs, as well as more details about how the proposed fees were calculated, can be found on the City's website.



City crews proactively clean clogged drains before storms

Are Any Discounts Available?

The fee amount is calculated so each property will pay its proportional share of the costs of the program. Commercial properties which have been required to meet certain strict water quality permit standards (under provision C.3 of the Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit) will receive a 25% lower rate to reflect approved engineered site design standards which treat water onsite and reduce the use of, and impact on, the stormwater system.

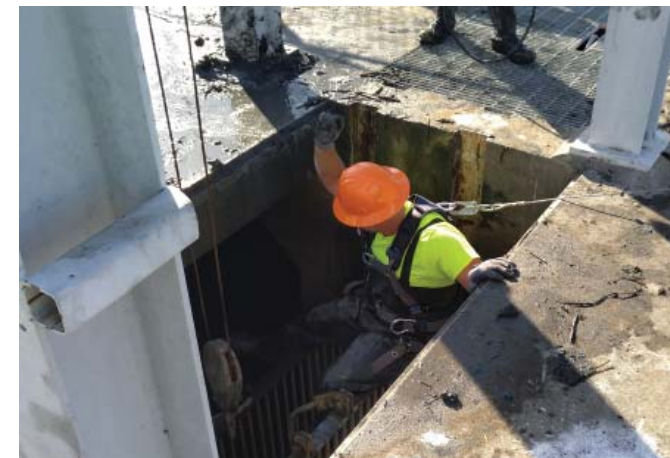
Some non-residential properties may implement these strict standards on only a portion of their acreage. Since that effort and reduction in impacts to the City's stormwater system should be recognized, those parcels will receive a parcel credit, as described in the Fee Report.



Revenue from the fee would be used to repair and replace damaged infrastructure.

Land Use Category	Proposed Monthly Rate FY 2021-22
Residential ^A	
Small Under 0.14 ac	\$ 10.23 per parcel
Medium 0.14 to 0.22 ac	\$ 13.10 per parcel
Large 0.23 to 0.27 ac	\$ 17.45 per parcel
Very Large Over 0.27 ac	\$ 19.47 per parcel
Condo - 1 Level	\$ 8.52 per parcel
Condo - 2+ Levels	\$ 3.95 per parcel
Non-Residential ^B	
Mobile Home Park	\$ 98.20 per acre
Apartment	\$ 104.08 per acre
Comm / Industrial / Retail	\$ 137.86 per acre
Office	\$ 113.63 per acre
Institutional	\$ 98.20 per acre
Institutional w/ Field	\$ 68.89 per acre
Park	\$ 8.22 per acre
Vacant (developed)	\$ 8.22 per acre
Open Space / Agricultural	not charged

A - Residential category also includes duplex, triplex and four-plex.
B - Non-Residential parcel size is calculated to the hundredth of an acre.



City workers perform regular maintenance such as clearing out dirt and other debris from the pump station wet wells in order to prevent clogs.

Will the Fee Increase in the Future?

In order to offset the effects of inflation on labor and material costs, the maximum amount that can be charged will be annually increased by 3 percent, or the increase in the San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward Consumer Price Index-U ("CPI"), whichever is lower. However, the actual fee amount may only be changed by a resolution passed by the City Council, based on the actual projected program revenues and costs. The amount of the fee can never exceed the projected cost of the services and improvements. The fee is subject to an annual review by designated City commission(s) and annual action by the City Council.

How Long Will the Fee Last?

The proposed fee, if approved by the ballot measure, may continue each year with Council approval. However, the Council must annually review actual Stormwater Program needs and costs, and may not charge more than is needed to cover the costs of the program, services and improvements.