

CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-13

INTRODUCED BY:

Mayor Alan Webber

Councilor Romero-Wirth

AN ORDINANCE

UPDATING THE RATES AND FEES FOR WASTEWATER UTILITY SERVICES.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF SANTA FE:

Section 1. Chapter 22, Exhibit A, Subsections 1 and 2, SFCC 1987 (being Ordinance 1997-16) are amended as follows:

1. Introduction.

The intent of this schedule is to consolidate in one document all information regarding sanitary sewer rates, fees and penalties. In addition, when applicable, formulas and procedures used to arrive at the different dollar figures have been shown in detail.

2. Noncompliance with Notice to Connect to Sewer (Section 22-3.5, SFCC 1987).

2.1. The amount expended by the city shall bear the interest rate of six percent per year from the completion of the work until paid.

Exhibit A has been organized to present the different rates, fees and penalties, along with formulas and procedures used to arrive at them, in a more user-friendly fashion. The different rates, fees and penalties are presented in the same order as they appear in the Code.

Section 2. Chapter 22, Exhibit A, Subsection 3, SFCC 1987 (being Ordinance 1999-16) is amended to read as follows:

3. Septage (Septic Tank Waste) Discharge Fee.

Septage regulations adopted by the governing body, and made effective July 1, 2025, provide for the discharge of septage at the city-designated facility to be subject to user fees in the following table. Charges are in 2000-gallon increments, such that a load of 10 gallons and 2000 gallons have the same fee, as do loads of 2010 gallons and 4,000 gallons.

	Business Hours	After-hours Emergency
Effective Date	Charge per 2000 gallons or fraction thereof	Charge per each 2000 gallons or fraction thereof
September 14, 1992	\$41.05	\$110.82
July 1, 2025	\$42.69	\$115.25
July 1, 2026	\$44.40	\$119.86
July 1, 2027	\$46.18	\$124.66
July 1, 2028	\$48.02	\$129.64
July 1, 2029	\$49.94	\$134.83
July 1, 2030	\$51.94	\$140.22
July 1, 2031	\$54.02	\$145.83
July 1, 2032	\$56.18	\$151.66
July 1, 2033	\$58.43	\$157.73
July 1, 2034	\$60.76	\$164.04

3.1. In accordance with the Gross Receipts and Compensating Tax Act, Section 7-9-4.1 NMSA 1978, a surcharge of up to the Santa Fe county gross receipts taxation, 6.875 percent in 2025 and adjusted accordingly, shall be imposed on each billing rendered in accordance with this section.

Section 3. Chapter 22, Exhibit A, Subsections 4 and 5 (being Ordinance 2003-19 § 14 and Ordinance 1997-16, respectively), SFCC 1987 are included for reference without

1 changes:

2 **4. Penalty for Violation of this Chapter.**

3 4.1. Any person convicted of violating the provisions of this chapter shall be sentenced as
4 provided by subsection 1-3.1 SFCC 1987. Fines shall not be less than two hundred fifty dollars
5 (\$250.00) per violation. Each violation shall be a separate distinct offense.

6 **5. Private Sewer Construction Permit Fee.**

7 5.1. Fees for private sewer construction permits shall be assessed in the same manner as
8 those fees established for sanitary sewer service connections.

9 **Section 4. Chapter 22, Exhibit A, Subsection 6, SFCC 1987 (being Ordinance**
10 **2003-19, § 15) is amended to read as follows:**

11 **6. Construction Inspection Fee.**

12 6.1. For each inspection made by the planning and land use department staff, the city shall
13 assess a fee of sixty dollars (\$60.00) per service connection. For all subsequent reinspections due
14 to unacceptable construction or noncompliance with the City Code or city regulations and
15 standards, the city shall assess an additional inspection fee as described above.

16 **Section 5. Chapter 22, Exhibit A, Subsection 7, SFCC 1987 (being Ordinance**
17 **2018-4, § 11) is amended to read as follows:**

18 **7. Wastewater Utility Expansion Charge (UEC).**

19 7.1. Except as set forth in Section 7.3, the wastewater utility expansion charge (UEC)
20 applies to customers within the corporate limits of the city of Santa Fe, New Mexico and to
21 customers in those areas outside the corporate limits to which wastewater service has been
22 authorized by action of the governing body of the city of Santa Fe as follows:

23 7.1.1. New customers connecting to the city's wastewater system; and

1 7.1.2. Existing customers if there is an increase in the number of dwelling units
2 or an increase in the size of the nonresidential water meter; however, the
3 charge shall reflect only the increase in the number of dwelling units or
4 the increase in the size of the meter.

5 7.2. Waiver of UEC fees shall comply with the following provisions:

6 7.2.1 The UEC shall be waived for the following:

- 7 A. Santa Fe Homes Program for-sale or for-rent units as defined in
8 Section 26-1 SFCC 1987;
- 9 B. Housing opportunity program home or housing opportunity
10 program rental unit subject to a valid housing opportunity
11 program agreement;
- 12 C. A low-priced dwelling unit as defined in Section 26-2 SFCC 1987;
- 13 D. A qualifying project within the Midtown LINC Overlay District
14 as defined in Subsection 14-5.5(D)(4)(b) SFCC 1987.

15 7.2.2 The UEC may be waived at the discretion of the governing body for the
16 following:

- 17 A. A qualifying economic development project as defined in
18 Subsection 11-11.4 SFCC 1987.

19 7.2.3. Application for waivers of the UEC shall be made at the time of
20 application for a building permit. Applications shall be reviewed by the
21 office of affordable housing.

22 7.3 The UEC shall be as follows:

23 7.3.1. Single-Family Detached Dwelling Unit or Accessory Dwelling Unit

24 As defined in Chapter 14 SFCC 1987.

Single Family Detached Dwelling Unit or Accessory Dwelling Unit UEC Fee per year, per square feet								
	Heated Living Area in Square Feet (ft ²)							
Effective Date	0-1500 ft ²	1501 to 2000 ft ²	2001 to 2500 ft ²	2501 to 3000 ft ²	3001 to 3500 ft ²	3501 to 4000 ft ²	4001 to 4500 ft ²	4501 ft ² and up
Sept. 14,1992	\$499	\$735	\$911	\$1,052	\$1,169	\$1,269	\$1,357	\$1,435
July 1, 2025	\$519	\$764	\$947	\$1,094	\$1,216	\$1,320	\$1,411	\$1,492
July 1, 2026	\$540	\$795	\$985	\$1,138	\$1,264	\$1,373	\$1,468	\$1,552
July 1, 2027	\$561	\$827	\$1,025	\$1,183	\$1,315	\$1,427	\$1,526	\$1,614
July 1, 2028	\$584	\$860	\$1,066	\$1,231	\$1,368	\$1,485	\$1,587	\$1,679
July 1, 2029	\$607	\$894	\$1,108	\$1,280	\$1,422	\$1,544	\$1,651	\$1,746
July 1, 2030	\$631	\$930	\$1,153	\$1,331	\$1,479	\$1,606	\$1,717	\$1,816
July 1, 2031	\$657	\$967	\$1,199	\$1,384	\$1,538	\$1,670	\$1,786	\$1,888
July 1, 2032	\$683	\$1,006	\$1,247	\$1,440	\$1,600	\$1,737	\$1,857	\$1,964
July 1, 2033	\$710	\$1,046	\$1,297	\$1,497	\$1,664	\$1,806	\$1,931	\$2,042
July 1, 2034	\$739	\$1,088	\$1,349	\$1,557	\$1,730	\$1,878	\$2,009	\$2,124

[Remainder of page left intentionally blank]

7.3.2. Multi-Family Dwelling Unit.

Includes apartment, condominium, single-family, attached and residential studio units.

Multi-Family UEC Fee Schedule, per unit,	
Effective Date	Multi-Family UEC Fee
September 14, 1992	\$561 per unit
July 1, 2025	\$583 per unit
July 1, 2026	\$607 per unit
July 1, 2027	\$631 per unit
July 1, 2028	\$656 per unit
July 1, 2029	\$683 per unit
July 1, 2030	\$710 per unit
July 1, 2031	\$738 per unit
July 1, 2032	\$768 per unit
July 1, 2033	\$798 per unit
July 1, 2034	\$830 per unit

7.3.3. Mobile Home Stand.

Mobile Home Park Stand UEC Fee Schedule, Per Unit	
Effective Date	Mobile Home Park Pad UEC Fee
September 14, 1992	\$902 per unit
July 1, 2025	\$938 per unit
July 1, 2026	\$976 per unit
July 1, 2027	\$1015 per unit
July 1, 2028	\$1055 per unit
July 1, 2029	\$1097 per unit
July 1, 2030	\$1141 per unit
July 1, 2031	\$1187 per unit
July 1, 2032	\$1234 per unit
July 1, 2033	\$1284 per unit
July 1, 2034	\$1335 per unit

7.3.4. Nonresidential (meter size) - Charge per meter.

	Nonresidential Fee Schedule, per Meter, Based on Meter Size								
Effective Date/ Meter Size	$\frac{5}{8}$ " × $\frac{3}{4}$ "	1"	1½"	2"	3"	4"	6"	8"	10"
Sept. 14, 1992	\$876	\$2,190	\$4,380	\$7,008	\$14,016	\$21,900	\$43,800	\$70,080	\$127,020
July 1, 2025	\$911	\$2,278	\$4,555	\$7,288	\$14,577	\$22,776	\$45,552	\$72,883	\$132,101
July 1, 2026	\$947	\$2,369	\$4,737	\$7,580	\$15,160	\$23,687	\$47,374	\$75,799	\$137,385
July 1, 2027	\$985	\$2,463	\$4,927	\$7,883	\$15,766	\$24,635	\$49,269	\$78,830	\$142,880
July 1, 2028	\$1,025	\$2,562	\$5,124	\$8,198	\$16,397	\$25,620	\$51,240	\$81,984	\$148,595
July 1, 2029	\$1,066	\$2,664	\$5,329	\$8,526	\$17,053	\$26,645	\$53,289	\$85,263	\$154,539
July 1, 2030	\$1,108	\$2,771	\$5,542	\$8,867	\$17,735	\$27,710	\$55,421	\$88,674	\$160,721
July 1, 2031	\$1,153	\$2,882	\$5,764	\$9,222	\$18,444	\$28,819	\$57,638	\$92,220	\$167,150
July 1, 2032	\$1,199	\$2,997	\$5,994	\$9,591	\$19,182	\$29,972	\$59,943	\$95,909	\$173,836
July 1, 2033	\$1,247	\$3,117	\$6,234	\$9,975	\$19,949	\$31,171	\$62,341	\$99,746	\$180,789
July 1, 2034	\$1,297	\$3,242	\$6,483	\$10,374	\$20,747	\$32,417	\$64,835	\$103,736	\$188,021

7.3.5. Any separate water meter installed for irrigation purposes only shall not be included in the calculation of the charge.

7.3.6. In the event that the development does not have a water meter, or the wastewater division director or developer believes the size of the water meter does not accurately reflect wastewater generation, the developer may submit or the director may require the submission of a study, prepared by a professional engineer, to determine the charge listed in the above table for the water meter that most closely matches the cost of capital facilities to treat the biochemical oxygen demand that will be generated by the proposed development.

1 7.4. The UEC shall be due prior to issuance of a building permit if the property is located
2 in the city limits and prior to obtaining a permit to connect to the sewer if the
3 property is located outside the city limits

4 7.5. Payments of wastewater utility expansion charges shall be deposited in an account
5 separate from other funds of the city.

6 **Section 6. Chapter 22, Exhibit A, Subsection 8 of SFCC 1987 (being Ordinance**
7 **2019-29) is amended to read as follows:**

8 **8. Sewer Service Charges.**

9 A. Connected to City Sewer

10 Sewer Service Fees and Usage Fees are determined by location and connection to
11 city or county utility water. If not served by city or county utility water, sewer
12 service fees and usage fees shall apply based on the unit* served by the sewer
13 connection.

14
15
16
17
18 *[Remainder of page left intentionally blank]*
19
20
21
22
23
24

1

a. In city limits and presumptive city limits and connected to city water:

Effective Date	Monthly Service Fee	Monthly Usage Fee
January 1, 2019	\$7.53/unit*	\$4.64 per 1,000 gallons water**
July 1, 2025	\$7.83/unit*	\$4.83 per 1,000 gallons water**
July 1, 2026	\$8.14/unit*	\$5.02 per 1,000 gallons water**
July 1, 2027	\$8.47/unit*	\$5.22 per 1,000 gallons water**
July 1, 2028	\$8.81/unit*	\$5.43 per 1,000 gallons water**
July 1, 2029	\$9.16/unit*	\$5.65 per 1,000 gallons water**
July 1, 2030	\$9.53/unit*	\$5.88 per 1,000 gallons water**
July 1, 2031	\$9.91/unit*	\$6.12 per 1,000 gallons water**
July 1, 2032	\$10.31/unit*	\$6.36 per 1,000 gallons water**
July 1, 2033	\$10.72/unit*	\$6.61 per 1,000 gallons water**
July 1, 2034	\$11.15/unit*	\$6.87 per 1,000 gallons water**

2

3

4

5

6

[Remainder of page left intentionally blank]

7

8

9

b. In city limits and presumptive city limits and not connected to city water:

Effective Date	Monthly Service Fee	Monthly Usage Fee
January 1, 2019	\$7.53/unit*	\$16.70/unit*
July 1, 2025	\$7.83/unit*	\$17.37/unit*
July 1, 2026	\$8.14/unit*	\$18.06/unit*
July 1, 2027	\$8.47/unit*	\$18.78/unit*
July 1, 2028	\$8.81/unit*	\$19.53/unit*
July 1, 2029	\$9.16/unit*	\$20.31/unit*
July 1, 2030	\$9.53/unit*	\$21.12/unit*
July 1, 2031	\$9.91/unit*	\$21.96/unit*
July 1, 2032	\$10.31/unit*	\$22.84/unit*
July 1, 2033	\$10.72/unit*	\$23.75/unit*
July 1, 2034	\$11.15/unit*	\$24.70/unit*

In the event that a proposed or existing commercial development does not have a water meter, or the wastewater division director, developer, or customer believes the water meter does not accurately reflect wastewater discharge, the developer or customer may submit, or the director may require the submission of, a study, prepared by a professional engineer, to determine whether installation of a wastewater discharge flow meter would more accurately measure wastewater by the development. Either the developer or customer shall pay for the installation of the wastewater discharge flow meter. Once the developer or customer dedicates the meter to the city, the city shall maintain the wastewater discharge flow meter.

B. Not Connected to City Sewer.

1. Accessible to city sewer system. (As defined in subsection 22-2.1 SFCC

1987.)

Effective Date	Cost per unit*/lot
January 1, 2019	\$7.53 per unit* or if no unit* \$5.85 per lot
July 1, 2025	\$7.83 per unit* or if no unit* \$6.08 per lot
July 1, 2026	\$8.14 per unit* or if no unit* \$6.32 per lot
July 1, 2027	\$8.47 per unit* or if no unit* \$6.57 per lot
July 1, 2028	\$8.81 per unit* or if no unit* \$6.83 per lot
July 1, 2029	\$9.16 per unit* or if no unit* \$7.10 per lot
July 1, 2030	\$9.53 per unit* or if no unit* \$7.38 per lot
July 1, 2031	\$9.91 per unit* or if no unit* \$7.68 per lot
July 1, 2032	\$10.31 per unit* or if no unit* \$7.99 per lot
July 1, 2033	\$10.72 per unit* or if no unit* \$8.31 per lot
July 1, 2034	\$11.15 per unit* or if no unit* \$8.64 per lot

2. Not accessible to city sewer system: No charge.

C. Taxes.

Billings under this schedule may be increased by an amount equal to the sum of taxes payable under the Gross Receipts and Compensating Tax Act and of all other taxes, fees, or charges payable by the city and levied or assessed by any governmental authority on the public utility service rendered, or on the right or privilege of rendering the service, or on any object or event incidental to the rendition of the service.

Notes:

* For each of the customer types described below, “unit” means the following:

- *For residential customers*, i.e. customers that meet either the single-family or multi-family service classifications for water, as set forth in Chapter 25 SFCC 1987: one room,

1 or rooms connected together, constituting a separate, independent housekeeping
2 establishment for owner occupancy, or rental or lease and physically separated from any
3 other rooms or residential units that may be in the same structure and containing
4 independent plumbing facilities. A residential unit may include, but is not limited to, a
5 single-family house, an apartment unit, condominium unit, mobile home, or a guest
6 house.

- 7 • *For commercial customers*, i.e. customers that do not meet either the single-family or
8 multi-family service classifications for water as set forth in Chapter 25 SFCC 1987: an
9 area constituting a separate, independent enterprise establishment for owner occupancy,
10 or rental or lease and physically separated from any other commercial units that may be
11 in the same structure and containing independent plumbing facilities.
- 12 • *For both residential and commercial purposes*, the term unit does not include a motel or
13 hotel unit or similar transient lodging or rest homes, nursing homes or similar
14 institutional facilities.

15 ** Shown on the water meter readings averaged for the months of December, January, and
16 February of the preceding year. If any of those three (3) months were a zero reading, the water
17 consumption for that month will not be used in the average. For example, if one month has a zero
18 read then the two months consumption will be added and then divided by two. In the case where
19 three zero reads were recorded for December, January, and February, then the previous year
20 water usage will be used. In the event that the previous year also had three zero reads, then the
21 wastewater management division director will estimate the average based on water usage history
22 for that particular customer's residence or business. If any of those three months were a reading
23 less than 1,000 gallons, the water consumption for that month shall be assumed to be 1,000. For
24 example:

December		5,000g water consumption
January	0g water consumption, so	0 gallons assumed
February	900g water consumption, so	1,000 gallons assumed
Total (for the 3 months)		6,000 gallons water consumption
Average (Divide by two since one zero read)		3,000 gallons

*** Shown on the water meter reading for that utility billing cycle.

Section 7. Chapter 22, Exhibit A, Subsection 12 of SFCC 1987 (being Ordinance 2014-34, § 3) is amended to read as follows:

12. Extra-Strength Surcharge. See the definition of COD in subsection 22-2.1 and Section 22-10 for information related to the extra-strength surcharge.

12.1. The Surcharge fee shall be equal to:

$0.9 \times (C-D) \times F \times cf \times L$, for users whose discharge has been tested, and

$0.9 \times (M-D) \times F \times cf \times L$, for users whose discharge has not been tested.

Where:

C = COD concentration in the user's discharge stream in milligrams per liter (mg/l).

D = Average domestic sewage COD concentration, established at 550 milligrams per liter (mg/l).

F = Average water use in million gallons per month as shown in the water division records.

cf = 8.34. A factor to convert the units of milligrams to pounds per million gallons.

L = The mass based cost of providing air to remove the COD in wastewater. The cost has been established at the following costs:

Effective Date	Cost per pound
January 1, 2010	\$0.51
January 1, 2015	\$0.54
January 1, 2016	\$0.56
January 1, 2017	\$0.59
January 1, 2018	\$0.62
January 1, 2019	\$0.65
July 1, 2025	\$0.68
July 1, 2026	\$0.71
July 1, 2027	\$0.74
July 1, 2028	\$0.77
July 1, 2029	\$0.80
July 1, 2030	\$0.83
July 1, 2031	\$0.86
July 1, 2032	\$0.89
July 1, 2033	\$0.93
July 1, 2034	\$0.97

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

M = Mean COD concentration in the user's sewage disposal as tested.

0.9 = Represents ninety percent of the water used through a water meter as being discharged into the sanitary sewer.

Or:

Monthly water usage x 0.00337*L = Amount of monthly surcharge fee.


12.2 The resampling fee shall be equal to: \$100 and shall not be sampled more than once per calendar year.

Section 8. Chapter 22, Exhibit A, Subsection 13 of SFCC 1987 (being Ordinance 2007-18, § 4) is amended as follows:


1 **13. Treated Effluent Rates.**

2 The rate for treated effluent shall be two dollars and five cents (\$2.05) per one thousand
3 (1,000) gallons of treated effluent or fifty percent (50%) of the potable water as set forth in Chapter
4 25 SFCC 1987, whichever is more, plus administrative costs and applicable taxes. However,
5 contract users of treated effluent who enter a recreational access agreement with the city that allows
6 for recreational access to their facilities for conduct of city parks or recreation division authorized
7 programs may be granted a discount of no more than seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) per parks or
8 recreation division maximum planned or actual authorized use for programs that will be conducted
9 at their facility at regular times and a credit of no more than seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) per parks
10 or recreation maximum planned or actual authorized use for programs that will be conducted at
11 regular intervals. The terms of such discounts or credits will be determined on a case-by-case basis,
12 and included in any such recreational access agreement. Any discount or credit may only apply
13 against total charges incurred during the same annual effluent delivery period as the authorized
14 program and shall never result in the contractor being credited more than fifty percent (50%) of the
15 total amount charged for treated effluent delivered during such period.


16 PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 11th day of June, 2025.

17
18
19 
20 Alan Webber (Jun 18, 2025 13:00 MDT)
21 ALAN WEBBER, MAYOR

22 ATTEST:

23
24 
25 ANDREA SALAZAR (Jun 19, 2025 13:01 MDT)
ANDREA SALAZAR, CITY CLERK

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Erin McSherry (Jun 18, 2025 12:30 MDT)
ERIN K. McSHERRY, CITY ATTORNEY