

City releases proposed Drainage and Waste Utilities budgets

The proposed 2016-2018 budgets for the City of Edmonton's two utilities - Waste Management Services and Drainage Services - have been posted [online](#).

The Utilities Budget addresses the operational and capital costs for running the two utilities. Waste and Drainage are not subsidized by property taxes. Instead, they are funded entirely through utility rates and utility program revenues.

In the 2016-2018 budget, Waste Management Services is proposing rate increases of \$2.31 per month in 2016, \$2.16 per month in 2017, and \$2.56 per month in 2018 for a typical residential customer. Drainage Services is proposing rate increases of \$1 per month in 2016, \$1 per month in 2017, and \$1 per month in 2018 for a typical residential customer.

"This budget allows our utilities to maintain the high level of satisfaction that Edmontonians have reported for Waste Management Services and Drainage Services," said Todd Burge, the City's Chief Financial Officer. "We must continue to deliver these services in a financially responsible manner that keeps cost increases low, yet helps build the long-term sustainability of both services as fully functioning civic utilities."

The proposed Waste Management Services budget allows for the cost of maintaining services for what is still a growing population, the impact of operating new facilities such as the new Kennedale Eco Station, increase residential organics processing capacity and increase production at the Waste to Biofuels Facility. The budget allows Waste Management Services to provide residential and commercial waste collection services with its full suite of waste reduction activities, as well as continue operating the Edmonton Waste Management Centre's unique collection of advanced waste processing and research facilities.

The proposed Drainage Services budget provides for implementing the expanded Flood Mitigation program, the operations and maintenance of aging Drainage infrastructure and customer related inquiries due to weather related events, the development of sewer odour mitigation projects in neighbourhoods where sewer odours exist and the continued development of a city-wide Odour Control Strategy. The budget allows Drainage Services to continue providing sanitary and stormwater drainage services to Edmonton residents and businesses by planning, building, operating and maintaining the pipes, tunnels, pump stations and stormwater management facilities that make up the City's drainage network.

The 2016-2018 Utilities Budget will be formally presented to City Council's Utility Committee on October 29, 2015.

The city-wide 2016-2018 Operating Budget will be made public on October 30, 2015.

For more information:

edmonton.ca/budget2016.

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