



WASHINGTON WATER SERVICE

P.O. Box 336
Gig Harbor, WA 98335 Tel: (877) 408-4060

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR STROH’S WATER SYSTEM CUSTOMERS

Washington Water Service (Washington Water) charges customers for the true costs to provide safe, clean, and reliable water utility service; as such, we have filed an application with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) to increase revenues needed to continue providing a reliable, high-quality water supply. The filing requests an increase of \$205,772 in annual authorized revenue from 2024. To meet this amount, we propose to only increase rates by \$88,923 in 2025 and \$116,848 in 2026 in order to smooth out the impact on customers. If approved as filed, the new rates would become effective in two phases, with Phase I becoming effective May 1, 2025, and the Phase II rates becoming effective May 1, 2026.

Although acquired by Washington Water in 2022, the Stroh’s water system has not had an update to its rates since 2007. Since the acquisition, we have made numerous water system upgrades and investments, and have experienced inflationary cost increases to routine maintenance and operations.

The filing also reflects cost increases in materials, equipment, depreciation expenses due to the addition of new facilities, and increases in personnel costs.

Separately, we have been tracking expenses incurred for the testing and mitigation of per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). We will not be requesting recovery of those costs in this regulatory filing but instead will seek recovery in a later filing.

In the face of rising costs, we continue to work diligently to control expenses wherever possible and help keep water rates affordable. Another way we are working to keep your rates affordable is by seeking to place only a portion of the required increase into rates in each year, 2025 and 2026, rather than seeking to recover the entire revenue at this time. If rates sufficient to recover the total revenue requirement for the utility were put in place without this approach, rates would need to increase, on average, over 200 percent. Under the proposed rate increases the median customer using 540 cubic feet of water per month would see a bill increase of 29 percent in the first phase and 26 percent in the second phase.

The tables below show the present and proposed rate structure.

Residential Service - Existing Rates

Meter size	Base Rate	Allowance	1st Block (cubic feet)	1st Usage Rate (PER 100 CU FT.)
5/8 - inch	\$ 17.75	0-500	Over 500	\$ 0.65
3/4 - inch	\$ 17.75	0-500	Over 500	\$ 0.65
1 - inch	\$ 27.00	0-750	Over 750	\$ 0.65
1 1/2 - inch	\$ 53.25	0-1,500	Over 1,500	\$ 0.65
2 - inch	\$ 93.19	0-2,625	Over 2,625	\$ 0.65
3 - inch	\$ 204.13	0-5,750	Over 5,750	\$ 0.65
4 - inch	\$ 355.00	0-10,000	Over 10,000	\$ 0.65
6 - inch				

Residential Service - Proposed Rates Phase 1

Meter Size	Base Rate	1st Block (cubic feet)	1st Usage Rate (per 100 Cu Ft.)	2nd Block (cubic feet)	2nd Usage Rate (per 100 Cu Ft.)	3rd Block (cubic feet)	3rd Usage Rate (per 100 Cu Ft.)
5/8 - inch	\$ 20.54	0-1,200	\$ 0.50	1,201 - 4,400	\$ 1.00	Over 4,400	\$ 1.50
3/4 - inch	\$ 20.54	0-1,200	\$ 0.50	1,201 - 4,400	\$ 1.00	Over 4,400	\$ 1.50
1 - inch	\$ 34.91	0-2,336	\$ 0.50	2,337 - 8,898	\$ 1.00	Over 8,898	\$ 1.50
1 1/2 - inch	\$ 67.78	0-4,670	\$ 0.50	4,671 - 17,794	\$ 1.00	Over 17,794	\$ 1.50
2 - inch	\$ 108.85	0-7,472	\$ 0.50	7,473 - 28,470	\$ 1.00	Over 28,470	\$ 1.50
3 - inch	\$ 205.38	0-14,010	\$ 0.50	14,011 - 53,380	\$ 1.00	Over 53,380	\$ 1.50
4 - inch	\$ 342.98	0-23,350	\$ 0.50	23,351 - 88,968	\$ 1.00	Over 88,968	\$ 1.50
6 - inch	\$ 683.92	0-46,700	\$ 0.50	46,701 - 177,934	\$ 1.00	Over 177,934	\$ 1.50

Residential Service – Proposed Rates Phase 2

Meter Size	Base Rate	1st Block (cubic feet)	1st Usage Rate (per 100 Cu Ft.)	2nd Block (cubic feet)	2nd Usage Rate (per 100 Cu Ft.)	3rd Block (cubic feet)	3rd Usage Rate (per 100 Cu Ft.)
5/8 - inch	\$ 23.88	0-900	\$ 1.00	901 - 3,300	\$ 1.50	Over 3,300	\$ 2.00
3/4 - inch	\$ 23.88	0-900	\$ 1.00	901 - 3,300	\$ 1.50	Over 3,300	\$ 2.00
1 - inch	\$ 34.91	0-1,752	\$ 1.00	1,753 - 6,674	\$ 1.50	Over 6,674	\$ 2.00
1 1/2 - inch	\$ 67.78	0-3,503	\$ 1.00	3,504 - 13,346	\$ 1.50	Over 13,346	\$ 2.00
2 - inch	\$ 108.85	0-5,604	\$ 1.00	5,605 - 21,353	\$ 1.50	Over 21,353	\$ 2.00
3 - inch	\$ 205.38	0-10,508	\$ 1.00	10,509 - 40,035	\$ 1.50	Over 40,035	\$ 2.00
4 - inch	\$ 342.98	0-17,513	\$ 1.00	17,514 - 66,726	\$ 1.50	Over 66,726	\$ 2.00
6 - inch	\$ 683.92	0-35,025	\$ 1.00	35,026 - 133,451	\$ 1.50	Over 133,451	\$ 2.00

The Commission has the authority to set final rates that may be either lower or higher than our request, depending on the results of its analysis. You can comment on the case by using the “Submit a Comment” feature at the Commission’s website at www.utc.wa.gov or by using the contact information below. The docket number for this filing is UW-_____. Please be sure to provide the docket number in your comments.

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250
E-mail: comments@utc.wa.gov
Telephone: 888-333-WUTC (9882)

Commission staff will make a recommendation to the Commissioners at an open meeting, which is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on April 24. You will have an opportunity to provide your comments at this meeting either in person or remotely. If you intend to listen or participate remotely, call 360-664-1234 at least a day before the open meeting for instructions and to sign in. You should also call this number if you plan to attend in person to verify that the case has not been rescheduled to a later open meeting date. The Commission’s street address is 621 Woodland Square Loop SE, Lacey, WA, 98503.

The Commission is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for participants with disabilities. If you need reasonable accommodations to participate in this open meeting, please contact the Commission at 888-333-9882 or email consumer@utc.wa.gov.

If you have any questions about the proposed filing and how it will affect you, please contact our Customer Service Department toll-free at 877-408-4060 or via email at customerservice@wawater.com.

Sincerely,

Washington Water Service Company
P.O. Box 336
Gig Harbor, WA 98335