



# **City of San Marcos**

## **Water-Wastewater Utility**

### **Public Hearing**

### **Fiscal Year 2025**

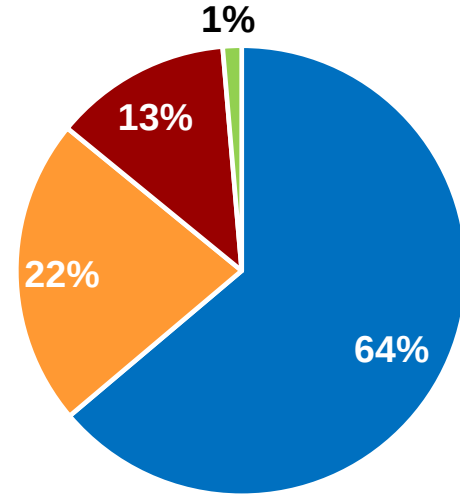
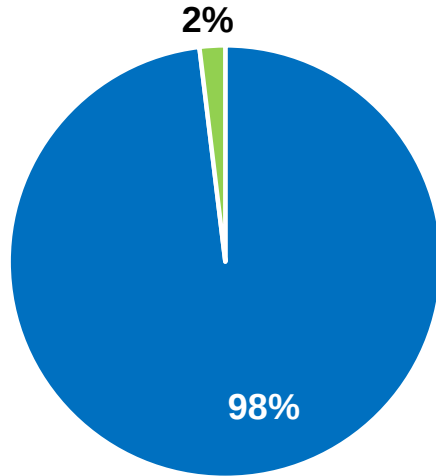
September 3, 2024

# Water-Wastewater Utility Overview



Total Revenues = \$69.4M

Total Expenses = \$67.4M



■ Water & Wastewater Utility Bills

■ Other Revenue

■ Operating

■ Debt Service

■ Personnel

■ One-time

[sanmarcostx.gov](http://sanmarcostx.gov)

# CUAB Recommendation



- Citizen Utility Advisory Board voted to recommend a 5.0% increase for water and a 5.0% increase for wastewater on July 25, 2024

# Water-Wastewater Utility Rating Reports



- July 2023:  
Upgraded from AA- to AA

Credit Rating Scales by Agency, Long-Term

| Moody's | S&P  | Fitch |                                                    |
|---------|------|-------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Aaa     | AAA  | AAA   | Prime                                              |
| Aa1     | AA+  | AA+   |                                                    |
| Aa2     | AA   | AA    | High grade                                         |
| Aa3     | AA-  | AA-   |                                                    |
| A1      | A+   | A+    |                                                    |
| A2      | A    | A     | Upper medium grade                                 |
| A3      | A-   | A-    |                                                    |
| Baa1    | BBB+ | BBB+  |                                                    |
| Baa2    | BBB  | BBB   | Lower medium grade                                 |
| Baa3    | BBB- | BBB-  |                                                    |
| Ba1     | BB+  | BB+   | Non-investment grade speculative                   |
| Ba2     | BB   | BB    |                                                    |
| Ba3     | BB-  | BB-   |                                                    |
| B1      | B+   | B+    |                                                    |
| B2      | B    | B     | Highly speculative                                 |
| B3      | B-   | B-    |                                                    |
| Caa1    | CCC+ | CCC   | Substantial risk                                   |
| Caa2    | CCC  |       | Extremely speculative                              |
| Caa3    | CCC- |       | Default imminent with little prospect for recovery |
| Ca      | CC   | CC    |                                                    |
|         | C    | C     |                                                    |
| C       |      |       |                                                    |
| /       | D    | D     | In default                                         |
| /       |      |       |                                                    |

"Junk"

# Cash Reserve & DSC Outlook w/Rate Adjustment



| UTILITIES FUND - W/WW                           | FY 2025<br>PROPOSED  | FY 2026<br>FORECAST  | FY 2027<br>FORECAST  | FY 2028<br>FORECAST  | FY 2029<br>FORECAST  |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Beginning Fund Balance</b>                   | <b>\$ 23,437,248</b> | <b>\$ 26,321,485</b> | <b>\$ 29,354,965</b> | <b>\$ 32,642,335</b> | <b>\$ 38,433,012</b> |
| <b>Revenues</b>                                 | <b>\$ 69,422,652</b> | <b>\$ 74,788,906</b> | <b>\$ 77,418,305</b> | <b>\$ 79,129,037</b> | <b>\$ 81,586,203</b> |
| Water & Wastewater Services                     | 60,118,647           | 65,484,901           | 68,114,300           | 69,825,032           | 72,282,198           |
| Other Revenue                                   | 9,304,005            | 9,304,005            | 9,304,005            | 9,304,005            | 9,304,005            |
| <b>Expenses</b>                                 | <b>\$ 66,538,415</b> | <b>\$ 71,755,426</b> | <b>\$ 74,130,934</b> | <b>\$ 73,338,361</b> | <b>\$ 75,461,914</b> |
| Personnel                                       | 8,579,954            | 8,837,353            | 9,102,473            | 9,375,547            | 9,656,814            |
| Operating                                       | 43,070,492           | 47,512,007           | 48,451,269           | 49,373,313           | 50,355,949           |
| Debt Service                                    | 14,887,969           | 15,406,066           | 16,577,192           | 14,589,500           | 15,449,151           |
| <b>Ending Fund Balance</b>                      | <b>\$ 26,321,485</b> | <b>\$ 29,354,965</b> | <b>\$ 32,642,335</b> | <b>\$ 38,433,012</b> | <b>\$ 44,557,301</b> |
| <b>Suggested Base Rate Increase</b>             | <b>5.00%</b>         | <b>7.40%</b>         | <b>2.50%</b>         | <b>1.00%</b>         | <b>2.00%</b>         |
| Days of Cash on Hand                            | 142                  | 147                  | 159                  | 189                  | 213                  |
| Debt Service Coverage (DSC) Ratio               | 1.20                 | 1.20                 | 1.20                 | 1.40                 | 1.40                 |
| <b>Fund Balance Reserve to Achieve 120 Days</b> | <b>\$ 22,179,472</b> | <b>\$ 23,918,475</b> | <b>\$ 24,710,311</b> | <b>\$ 24,446,120</b> | <b>\$ 25,153,971</b> |

\* Proposed FY25 Debt Service Coverage meets the legal minimum required of 1.20

# Rate Comparison – Residential 5,000 Gallon



| Utility                       | Water     |              | Sewer     |              | Total            |
|-------------------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|--------------|------------------|
| Crystal Clear SUD (Nov. 2023) | \$        | 119.44       | \$        | 55.86        | \$ 175.30        |
| Pflugerville (Oct. 2023)      | \$        | 71.70        | \$        | 79.50        | \$ 151.20        |
| Hutto (Jun. 2024)             | \$        | 52.88        | \$        | 68.96        | \$ 121.84        |
| Buda (Oct. 2024 Proposed)     | \$        | 49.52        | \$        | 67.88        | \$ 117.40        |
| Kyle (Oct. 2024 Proposed)     | \$        | 73.06        | \$        | 43.31        | \$ 116.37        |
| <b>San Marcos (Proposed)</b>  | <b>\$</b> | <b>54.32</b> | <b>\$</b> | <b>57.29</b> | <b>\$ 111.61</b> |
| Seguin (Jul. 2024)            | \$        | 52.25        | \$        | 57.89        | \$ 110.14        |
| <b>San Marcos (Current)</b>   | <b>\$</b> | <b>51.71</b> | <b>\$</b> | <b>54.56</b> | <b>\$ 106.27</b> |
| New Braunfels (Aug. 2024)     | \$        | 31.63        | \$        | 66.16        | \$ 97.79         |
| Georgetown (Apr. 2024)        | \$        | 38.80        | \$        | 48.85        | \$ 87.65         |
| Austin (Nov. 2023)            | \$        | 32.97        | \$        | 52.65        | \$ 85.62         |
| Round Rock (Feb. 2022)        | \$        | 29.32        | \$        | 28.72        | \$ 58.04         |

# Rate Comparison – Commercial 50,000 Gallon



| Utility                       | Water            | Sewer            | Total            |
|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>San Marcos (Proposed)</b>  | <b>\$ 524.94</b> | <b>\$ 468.47</b> | <b>\$ 993.41</b> |
| Kyle (Oct. 2024 Proposed)     | 592.36           | 400.36           | 992.72           |
| Pflugerville (Oct. 2022)      | 628.95           | 336.00           | 964.95           |
| Buda (Oct. 2023 Proposed)     | 667.26           | 290.00           | 957.26           |
| <b>San Marcos (Current)</b>   | <b>499.84</b>    | <b>446.23</b>    | <b>946.07</b>    |
| Hutto (Jan. 2022)             | 441.24           | 452.24           | 893.48           |
| Crystal Clear SUD (Nov. 2023) | 656.66           | 194.37           | 851.03           |
| New Braunfels (Aug. 2023)     | 393.75           | 451.45           | 845.20           |
| Austin (Nov. 2023)            | 326.54           | 485.85           | 812.39           |
| Seguin (Jul. 2024)            | 335.81           | 372.34           | 708.15           |
| Round Rock (Feb. 2022)        | 176.32           | 179.32           | 355.64           |
| Georgetown (Apr. 2024)        | 220.75           | 48.85            | 269.60           |

# Water-Wastewater Utility Rate History



|                                                     | FY16  | FY17  | FY18  | FY19  | FY20  | FY21  | FY22  | FY23  | FY24  | FY25<br>PROPOSED |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------------|
| <b><u>Water - 5/8" to 3/4" Water Meter</u></b>      | 5.0%  | 5.0%  | 5.0%  | 5.0%  | 5.0%  | 5.0%  | 5.0%  | 0.0%  | 5.0%  | 5.0%             |
| Minimum Charge                                      | 20.01 | 21.01 | 22.06 | 23.16 | 24.32 | 25.54 | 26.82 | 26.82 | 28.16 | 29.57            |
| 0 to 6,000                                          | 3.35  | 3.52  | 3.70  | 3.88  | 4.07  | 4.28  | 4.49  | 4.49  | 4.71  | 4.95             |
| 6,001 to 9,000                                      | 5.87  | 6.16  | 6.47  | 6.79  | 7.13  | 7.49  | 7.86  | 7.86  | 8.25  | 8.67             |
| 9,001 to 12,000                                     | 6.71  | 7.05  | 7.40  | 7.77  | 8.16  | 8.57  | 9.00  | 9.00  | 9.45  | 9.92             |
| 12,001 to 20,000                                    | 7.55  | 7.93  | 8.33  | 8.74  | 9.18  | 9.64  | 10.12 | 10.12 | 10.63 | 11.16            |
| 20,001 to 50,000                                    | 8.38  | 8.80  | 9.24  | 9.70  | 10.19 | 10.70 | 11.24 | 11.24 | 11.80 | 12.39            |
| Over 50,000                                         | 10.06 | 10.56 | 11.09 | 11.64 | 12.22 | 12.84 | 13.48 | 13.48 | 14.15 | 14.86            |
| <b><u>Wastewater - 5/8" to 3/4" Water Meter</u></b> | 1.0%  | 2.0%  | 2.0%  | 2.0%  | 3.0%  | 3.0%  | 3.0%  | 0.0%  | 5.0%  | 5.0%             |
| Minimum (up to 2,000)                               | 24.04 | 24.52 | 25.01 | 25.51 | 26.28 | 27.07 | 27.88 | 27.88 | 29.27 | 30.74            |
| over 2,000                                          | 6.93  | 7.07  | 7.21  | 7.36  | 7.58  | 7.81  | 8.03  | 8.03  | 8.43  | 8.85             |

# Water-Wastewater Utility Expense Changes



Public Safety, Core Services & Fiscal Excellence

## **Cost Drivers – Personnel**

- 3% increase in personnel costs = \$291K

## **Cost Drivers – Operating**

- Alliance Regional Water Authority contract = \$250K
- Surface water treatment plant contract = \$280K
- Wastewater treatment plant contract = \$357K

## **Cost Drivers – One-time**

- Large equipment replacement and infrastructure upgrades = \$888K

## **Cost Drivers – Debt-service**

- Debt service payment increase from FY24 CIP issuance = \$565K

# Water-Wastewater Services Rate Options



| Water-Wastewater Services                                  |         |         |          |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|----------|
| Debt Service Coverage Ratio                                | 1.20+   | 1.30    | 1.40     |
| Effective Rate Increase Needed                             | 5.0%    | 7.7%    | 10.3%    |
| Total Monthly Increase to<br>Typical Residential Ratepayer | \$ 5.20 | \$ 8.02 | \$ 10.70 |

CUAB and staff recommend a 5.0% increase for water and a 5.0% increase for wastewater to meet the legal minimum 1.20 debt service coverage ratio



**Stephanie Reyes**  
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Assistant City Manager

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Finance Director/CFO

**Trisha Patek**  
Budget Manager

**Thank You**