

# City of Pensacola

222 West Main Street Pensacola, FL 32502

Memorandum

File #: 24-411

Agenda Conference

5/20/2024

# LEGISLATIVE ACTION ITEM

**SPONSOR:** Mayor D.C. Reeves

#### SUBJECT:

PRESENTATION FOR THE ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF STORMWATER SERVICES

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

That City Council receive a presentation on the stormwater assessment program and rates.

## **HEARING REQUIRED:**

#### SUMMARY:

The City of Pensacola created a stormwater utility fee in 2001 to provide a dedicated funding source for stormwater management costs. This funding source has generated more than \$51,000,000 for stormwater purposes over the life of this assessment. The rate is structured with 5 residential levels and 1 commercial.

The rate categories are shown below:

| Residential Tier | Assigned ESUs | Current Rate |          |
|------------------|---------------|--------------|----------|
| Small            |               | 0.44         | \$35.20  |
| Small-Medium     |               | 0.68         | \$54.40  |
| Medium           |               | 1            | \$80.00  |
| Large            |               | 1.53         | \$122.40 |
| Very Large       | Measured      |              |          |

The current rate does not support expenditures like stormwater vault maintenance and contracted pond maintenance. These costs are therefore paid from General Fund monies that would otherwise be used for stormwater capital projects. An increase in the assessment would allow these expenses to be paid from the assessment thus increasing the amount of funds available for infrastructure projects.

## PRIOR ACTION:

May 27, 2021 - City Council passed Resolution No. 2021-31 indicating the Council's intent to increase the City's stormwater assessment rate for FY 2021-22 to \$76.12 per Equivalent Stormwater Unit (ESU).

August 12, 2021 - City Council Resolution 2021-55 increasing the base ESU rate to \$76.12.

August 18, 2022 - City Council Resolution 2022-70 increasing the base ESU rate to \$80.00...

## FUNDING:

The attached spreadsheet shows the estimated expenditures of the stormwater operational program over the next 5 years. The full estimated assessment (\$136.01) supports purchases of capital equipment (highlighted in blue) as well as the stormwater vault and pond maintenance (highlighted in green) expenditures currently paid by the General Fund. The lower assessment (\$120.49) supports pond and vault maintenance but would not support the replacement of capital equipment.

#### FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The current estimate at current levels is estimated at about \$3,100,000. If the rate is increased, the estimated revenue will average about \$5,100,000 annually over a 5-year period. The stormwater assessment currently pays for the salaries and operating expenses for the street sweeping program as well as all the employees who handle all aspects of the City's stormwater maintenance programs.

# LEGAL REVIEW ONLY BY CITY ATTORNEY: No

## STAFF CONTACT:

Kerrith Fiddler, City Manager David Forte, Assistant City Manager Amy Lovoy, Finance Director Amy Tootle, Public Works Director

## ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Pensacola Stormwater Assessable Budget Overview
- 2. Pensacola Stormwater Workshop Presentation

#### **PRESENTATION: Yes**