CURE COMMISSION REPORT

FY 2025 WASTEWATER SYSTEM

RATE STUDY

AUGUST 2025

The Alexandria City Council is required by law to review and balance its utility rates, energy cost adjustment, and capital needs in regular intervals to ensure the viability of its enterprise operating as the Alexandria Utility Systems (AUS). The Alexandria City Council is Alexandria's Rate Making Authority for the utility departments, including electric, water, gas and wastewater. The rate making function includes immediate, intermediate and long-term resource planning using various outside subject matter experts.

Periodic evaluation of the adequacy of the City's existing rate charges for utility service and adjustments—including revenue requirements (the overall adjustment in rates needed to forecast the cash requirements of each utility, reduce inter-utility subsidies, and maintain appropriate cash reserves), cost of services (determining each class's equitable share of the utility revenue requirements), and rate design (the adjustment needed to reflect cost of services and remain sensitive to customer rate impacts). For this purpose, the City of Alexandria created the Commission on Utility Reform and Equity. Of the several purposes of the Commission, one is to evaluate the adequacy of the City's rate schedules for the existing utility services and recommend changes as needed.

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WASTEWATER SYSTEM RATE STUDY

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SECTION 1: DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ATV: Affordability Threshold Values. The percentage of median household income that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reports that being the amount of price burden that approaches unaffordability for basic wastewater service. The percentage reported is 1.5% for wastewater.

AUS: Alexandria Utility System.

BOD: Biological Oxygen Demand

CCF: A unit of water measurement that means 100 cubic feet of water; which equates to 748 gallons.

CIP: Capital Improvement Program.

CPI-U: Consumer Price Index for all Urban consumers – the measure of changes in U.S. consumer prices as issued by the U.S. Department of Labor – Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Collection & Treatment: Service lines, collection mains, force mains, pump stations, manholes, wastewater treatment plant, etc. for collection and treatment of wastewater from customers.

EPA: Environmental Protection Agency.

FY: Fiscal Year.

GPM: Gallon Per Minute.

LDH: Louisiana Department of Health.

LDEQ: Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality.

LPDES: Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

MGD: Million Gallons Per Day.

mg/L: milligrams per liter

MHI: Median Household Income. The midpoint of the distribution of community income or the 50th percentile. Half of the households in the community earn more than the median income, and half of the households earn less than the median income. The latest reporting by the U.S. Census Bureau for Alexandria totals $47,357.

O&M: Operations and Maintenance.

SCADA: Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition. Is a system that combines hardware and software to monitor and control mechanical processes remotely. It allows operators to collect, analyze, and manage real-time data, and control systems from a central location.

TSS: Total Suspended Solids

SECTION 2: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The City of Alexandria Utility System (AUS) provides the following services to the residents of the City as authorized by its charter: Electricity, Gas, Water, Wastewater, and Waste Disposal.

The City of Alexandria's Wastewater Department collects and treats wastewater from approximately 17,350 accounts for residential, industrial, and commercial use. The Wastewater Department maintains approximately 325 miles of wastewater gravity mains that range in size from 6" to 54" pipe diameter.

The Wastewater Department operates and maintains seven (7) major pump stations, 112 lift stations. All of the City's sewerage flow are pumped through various combinations of the seven (7) major pump stations: Upper 3rd, Casson St; Jones St; Hudson Blvd.; Samtown Woodside; Masonic Dr.; and Atwood. The numerous smaller lift stations feed into the major pump stations.

The Wastewater Department also maintains and operates a Wastewater Treatment Plant located on Hudson Blvd (see schematic Appendix "B"). The Plant has a design capacity of 17 MGD; with a max flow of 24 MGD and a peak wet weather flow of 52 MGD. The plant is designed to provide secondary treatment, with an effluent BOD/TSS concentrations of 30/30 mg/l. The plant's sludge treatment produces Class B sludge for disposal.

The plant is a two-stage facultative lagoon system consisting of grit and grease removal, two-stage facultative lagoons, wet weather storage lagoons, clarification, chlorination, and sludge handling processes. Sludge is dewatered via a belt press and disposed in a landfill.

To assist in insuring the proper and safe operation of the City's wastewater system, the Wastewater Department utilizes SCADA that monitors pump stations and lift stations 24 hours a day/365 days a year for power outages, high levels, pump failures, etc.

This document presents an analysis of the current financial operations of the Wastewater Department and provides recommendations to increase revenues to cover the costs of operating and maintaining the City's Wastewater Collection and Treatment System, as well as to provide financial resources for Capital Improvements.

Although the average revenues received covered average operational expenses over the past three (3) fiscal years, sufficient revenue was not generated to cover the combined expenses of principal and interest related to the wastewater system, the contribution of allocated costs to Fund 401, contributions to the General Fund, and funding of Capital Improvements sufficient to maintain the long-term viability of the Wastewater System. We estimate additional revenue totaling approximately $10 million is needed to meet the projected needs of the System.

The proposed rate structure included herein, based on broad assumptions of usages and customer classifications is estimated to generate $5.9 million of additional revenue. This additional revenue is short of the estimated $10 million of additional revenue needed to address system operating costs and needed capital improvements.

If the proposed rates are implemented, the City Finance Department should monitor revenues generated. If actual revenues generated approach the $10 million additional revenue goal, then future rates modifications in the near term would be avoided. Assuming additional revenues generated will not meet the $10 million additional projected revenue needs, the City Council would need to consider another round of rate adjustments in the future to mate capital improvement needs with revenues.

We recommend the following modifications to the current rate structure for the Wastewater System.

1. Modify the Wastewater System billings from per 100 cubic feet (Ccf) of sewer to per 1,000 gallons of sewer. This change would allow for better customer understanding of related billings and is the billing unit used more commonly by municipal systems within the state; and

2. Increase the monthly Customer Service Charge and the monthly Commodity Charge to cover projected expenses and transfers, as outlined in Section 3B: Current and Proposed Rates; and

3. Include in upcoming Capital Improvement budget line items a total of $8 million per year, annually increased by 5% per year, to offset depreciation and age of the existing wastewater system; and

4. To address deflationary or inflationary pressure on the Wastewater System, the monthly Customer Service Charge and the monthly Commodity Charge are to be adjusted annually in February of each year by the percentage amount reported by the Consumer Price Index – Urban (CPI-U) as issued by the U.S. Department of Labor for the previous calendar year, being either a decrease or an increase; and

5. Eliminate the Infrastructure Renewal Assessment in that the proposed monthly Customer Service Charge and monthly Commodity Charges are developed to include funding of the above noted Capital Improvements budget.

SECTION 2A: OVERVIEW OF WASTEWATER SYSTEM RATE STRUCTURE

The City's current Wastewater Service Rates were last updated by Ordinance No. 203-2015 in December of 2015, over 9 years ago.

All customers pay a **Customer Service Charge** and a **Commodity Charge**.

Table 1 - Current Residential Monthly Customer Service Charge

Residential Monthly Customer Service Charge		
Monthly Rate	Current Rate	
Customer Service Charge:		
	Inside City Limits	Outside City Limits
1" and smaller meter	$6.62	$14.45
1.5" meter	$12.05	$16.88
2" meter	$16.88	$24.11

Table 2 - Current Residential Monthly Commodity Charge

Residential Monthly Commodity Charge				
Monthly Rate	Current Rates			
Commodity charge:	Inside City Limits		Outside City Limits	
	Per Ccf	Per 1,000 Gallons	Per Ccf	Per 1,000 Gallons
All cubic feet, per Ccf (All gallons, per 1,000 gallons)	2.18	$2.91	$2.69	$3.60

Table 3 - Current Commercial Monthly Customer Service Charge

Commercial Monthly Service Charge		
Monthly Rate	Current Rate	
Customer Service Charge:		
	Inside City Limits	Outside City Limits
1" and smaller meter	$6.62	$14.45
1.5" meter	$12.05	$16.88
2" meter	$16.88	$24.11
3" meter	$42.13	$57.85
4" meter	$72.32	$96.43
6" meter	$144.62	$192.82
8" meter	$216.93	$289.25
12" meter	$316.00	$389.00

Table 4 - Current Commercial Monthly Commodity Charge

Commercial Monthly Commodity Charge				
Monthly Rate	Current Rates			
Commodity charge:	Inside City Limits		Outside City Limits	
	Per Ccf	Per 1,000 Gallons	Per Ccf	Per 1,000 Gallons
All cubic feet, per Ccf (All gallons, per 1,000 gallons)	$2.18	$2.91	$2.69	$3.60

In addition to the monthly Customer Service Charge and the Commodity Charge, customers are subject to these additional charges.

1. **Infrastructure Renewal Assessment:** There is imposed for wastewater use to all consumers located inside the city limits and to customers located adjacent to existing wastewater mains outside the city limits, a monthly wastewater service infrastructure renewal assessment

Table 5 - Infrastructure Renewal Assessment

Infrastructure Renewal Assessment		
Inside City Limits	$0.082621/Ccf	$0.110/1,000gals
Outside City Limits	$0.10163/Ccf	$0.1359/1,000 gals

SECTION 2B: OVERVIEW OF WASTEWATER SYSTEM FINANCIAL CONDITION

As shown in the tables below, for the prior 3 fiscal years the Wastewater System Revenue has averaged $6,483,429 annually, while Wastewater System Expenses have averaged $6,003,936. This results in an average annual surplus of $479,493.

Note that this surplus does not include the expenses related to the financial support for meter readings, billings, financial management, principal and interest for existing debt, etc.; nor does it include transfers to the General Fund (5% of revenue). It should also be noted that the surplus does not account for the need to significantly increase the Capital Improvements budget. To maintain system integrity, approximately $8 million per year should be budgeted for a Capital Improvement Plan, and the amount budgeted increased at a rate of 5% per year. It is estimated that additional revenue totaling approximately $10 million annually would be needed to cover the above noted costs.

WASTEWATER SYSTEM REVENUE FY 2022-2024[1]

Table 6 – Wastewater System Revenue

Revenue Type	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	TOTAL
Residential	$4,583,978	$4,372,540	$5,559,923	$14,516,441
Commercial	$1,484,411	$1,552,922	$1,645,019	$4,682,352
Tap Fees	$5,481	$7,984	$7,385	$20,850
Other	$64,290	$94,070	$72,285	$230,645
Total Revenue	**$6,138,160**	**$6,027,516**	**$7,284,612**	**$19,450,288**
Average Annual Revenue				**$6,483,429**

[1] Based on reports provided by the City of Alexandria Utility Department

WASTEWATER SYSTEM EXPENSES FY 2022-2024[1]

Table 7 – Wastewater System Expenses

Expense Type	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	TOTAL
Total Operating Expenses	$5,650,552	$5,925,476	$6,435,781	$18,011,809
Average Annual Expenses				**$6,003,936**

[1] Based on reports provided by the City of Alexandria Utility Department.

[2] The reported Operating Costs do not include scheduled transfers to Fund 401 for billings, meter readings, administrative management, etc. which has historically calculated based on percentage of revenue of the Wastewater Utility in proportion to the revenues of the entire Utility System, typically 12% The reported Operating Costs also do not include the scheduled General Fund transfers of 5%, the transfers being similar to that typical of a franchise fee. The Operating costs also do not include principal and interest for existing long-term debt.

[3] The Operating Costs reported includes depreciation expenses as follows:

2021-2022: $1,666,024

2022-2023: $1,656,002

2023-2024: $1,592,375

SECTION 2C: WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND TREATMENT, TREATMENT OPERATIONAL AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS HISTORICAL COST AND PROJECTIONS

Wastewater collection and treatment operational costs are expected to increase on average about 3% per year, primarily due to salary and benefit increases.

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) costs are projected to increase on average about 5% per year, due to increasing construction costs.

SECTION 2D: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The City's CIP is recommended to budget approximately $8 million per year for needed sewer main replacements, lift station upgrades, and other general improvements to continue the program of modernization of the wastewater system (refer to Section 6B: Capital Improvement Program (CIP)). The $8 million recommended budget figure is significantly more than historically budgeted (approximately $388,000 per year) due to the acknowledgment of the age of the City's wastewater system and the costs attendant thereto. Due to projected inflationary pressure, the $8 million annual recommended budgeted amount should be increased by 5% annually. The expenditure annually of this amount indicates that at the end of a 50 year evaluation that the system's current value is maintained and not significantly depreciated.

(However, considering the current financial revenue position of the Wastewater System and the proposed increases in revenues coming from the proposed rate increases, it is projected that the proposed rate increases would only provide approximately $4 million per year for capital improvements, as opposed to the goal of $8 million per year.)

SECTION 2E: GENERAL FUND ADMINISTRATIVE TRANSFER

The Wastewater System rate structure should be developed to accommodate a transfer of funds to the City's General Fund totaling 5% of all revenues annually received. This transfer is similar to a typical franchise fee for operations of utility systems within public roads rights-of-way that are charged to other utility systems that may operate in the City. (It is typical that franchise fees range from 4% to 6% for other similar utility operations.)

SECTION 2F: UTILITY SYSTEM FUND TRANSFER

The operating expenses reported for the Wastewater System do not include expenses related to general system management, billings, and capital improvements related to these operations. The City has a Utilities System Fund (Fund 401) that is supported by transfers proportionally from each of the City's utilities, i.e. water, wastewater, electric, and natural gas. The cost burden of Fund 401 related to the general operations of the overall Utility System totals approximately $10 million per year.

The Wastewater System historically generates approximately 6% of the total revenues for the Utility System. Anticipating the requirements of increasing the system revenues for needed capital improvements and transfer, the future Wastewater System revenues are projected to total approximately 12% of the overall Utility System portfolio. Therefore, a transfer of funds to cover the Wastewater System's proportional cost for general system management etc. totaling 12% of annual revenues is projected.

SECTION 2G: SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDED PROPOSED ACTIONS

The following actions are recommended to be considered by the City Council for the prudent operation of the Wastewater System:

1. Modify the Wastewater System billings from per 100 cubic feet (Ccf) of sewer to per 1,000 gallons of sewer. This change would allow for better customer understanding and related billings and is the billing unit used more commonly by municipal systems within the state; and

2. Increase the monthly Customer Service Charge and the monthly Commodity Charge to cover projected expenses and transfers, as outlined in Section 3B: Current and Proposed Rates; and

3. Include in upcoming Capital Improvement budget line items a total of $8 million per year, annually increased by 5% per year, to offset depreciation and age of the existing wastewater system; and

4. To address deflationary or inflationary pressure on the Wastewater System, the monthly Customer Service Charge and the monthly Commodity Charge are to be adjusted annually in February of each year by the percentage amount reported by the Consumer Price Index – Urban (CPI-U) as issued by the U.S. Department of Labor for the previous calendar year, being either a decrease or an increase; and

5. Eliminate the Infrastructure Renewal Assessment in that the proposed monthly Customer Service Charge and monthly Commodity Charges are developed to include funding of the above noted Capital Improvements budget.

SECTION 3: DETAIL OF FY 2025 RATE PROPOSALS

SECTION 3A: RATE DESIGN

The Wastewater System rates are evaluated based on:

1. An analysis of the Wastewater Department's historical revenue and expenses.
2. Acknowledgement of the cost associated with general system management (Fund 401) with a cost allocation of approximately 12% of Wastewater System revenues.
3. Acknowledgement of the requirements for support of General Fund cost with a 5% transfer of Wastewater System revenues.
4. Acknowledgement of the need for the funding of Capital Improvements with an annual budget totaling $8 million, annually increased by 5% to maintain system integrity.
5. A comparison of existing and proposed City wastewater rates to other municipal and industry averages.
6. Utilizing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Affordable Threshold Value (ATV) for a wastewater usage totaling 3,750 gallons to compare to any proposed rate for that volume with goal to ensure any proposed rate does not exceed the ATV.

The City's current wastewater rates are based on Ordinance No. 203-2015. Since 2015 Wastewater Department Expenses have increased by approximately 20%.

Table 8 - Wastewater System Expenditure Increases

Category	2015-2016 Actual Expenditures	Actual Expenditure Averages FY 22,23,24	% Change since 2015
Salaries and Fringes (Distribution and Production)	$2,232,427	$2,654,515	19%
General Operating Costs (General Fund transfers and Utility Fund transfers)	$1,355,045	$1,793,950	32%
Capital Outlays (vehicles, equipment, meters, building improvements, etc.)	$486,241	$387,412	-20%
Totals	**$4,073,713**	**$4,835,877**	**19%**
Revenue	**$4,448,956**	**$6,483,429**	**46%**

It is of interest to note that the expenses for the Wastewater System increased approximately 20% over the past 9 years; since FY 15/16. However, the revenues increased approximately 45% over that same period. The increase in revenues for the Wastewater System were at rate greater than that of the revenues for the Water System. (This is an anomaly that has not yet been rationally explained in that wastewater billings for the most part are directly tied to water billings. The water revenues increased 10% for that same period.)

The following table presents a comparison of the monthly Residential Customer Service Charges between the City, two (2) wastewater systems regulated by the Louisiana Public Service Commission, and seven (7) municipal operated wastewater systems.

The average base monthly Residential Customer Service charge for the other wastewater systems totals $26.61 per month compared to the City's $6.62 charge for inside customers and $14.45 per month for outside customers. The average monthly charge by other wastewater systems is approximately 4.0 times the City's current inside residential charge.

Table 9 - Comparison of Monthly Residential Customer Charges

Residential Customer Service Charge	
City of Alexandria – Existing Inside	$6.62
City of Alexandria – Existing Outside	$14.45
Baton Rouge [2]	$31.36
Greater Ouachita [1]	$55.00
Lafayette [2]	$11.29
Lake Charles [2]	$15.45
New Orleans [2]	$24.87
Pineville [2]	$22.13
Shreveport [2]	$0.00
Slidell [2]	$22.72
Utilities Inc. of Louisiana (Ascension & Assumption St. Tammany, EBR & WBR) [1]	$56.67
Average Residential Customer Service Charge Excluding Alexandria	**$26.61**

[1] Public Service Commission

[2] Municipal

Note No. 1: The residential rates, both inside and outside are based on 1" or smaller meter sizes.

The following tables present a comparison of the monthly Residential Commodity Charges between the City, two (2) wastewater systems regulated by the Louisiana Public Service Commission, and seven (7) municipal operated wastewater systems for a usage of 5,000 gallons per month and 9,000 per month.

For the 5,000 gallons per month analysis, similar to the monthly Customer Service Charge, the City's Commodity Charge is significantly less than the average of other wastewater systems (i.e. $21.74- City; $45.91-Other). For the basis of comparison, the table below utilizes a volume of 5,000 gallons of metered usage. The average monthly effective Residential Commodity Charge for the comparison volume with other wastewater systems is $9.18 per 1,000 gallons; compared to the City's effective Commodity Charge which totals $4.35 per 1,000 gallons. The average monthly effective Commodity Charge by other wastewater systems is approximately 2.1 times the City's current effective Commodity Charge.

Table 10 - Comparison of Residential Commodity Charges

Residential Bill Comparison	5,000 gallons	Effective Rate/1,000 gallons
City of Alexandria – Existing Inside	$21.74	$4.35
City of Alexandria – Existing Outside	$33.11	$6.62
Baton Rouge [2]	$44.59	$8.92
Greater Ouachita [1]	$55.00	$11.00
Lafayette [2]	$48.64	$9.73
Lake Charles [2]	$25.80	$5.16
New Orleans [2]	$68.17	$13.63
Pineville [2]	$32.65	$6.53
Shreveport [2]	$54.65	$10.93
Slidell [2]	$27.00	$5.40
Utilities Inc. of Louisiana (Ascension & Assumption St. Tammany, EBR & WBR) [1]	$56.67	$11.33
Average 5k Bill & Average Commodity Charge Per 1,000 Gallons Excluding Alexandria	**$45.91**	**$9.18**

[1] Public Service Commission

[2] Municipal

Note No. 1: The residential rates, both inside and outside are based on 1" or smaller meter sizes.

For the 9,000 gallons per month analysis, similar to the monthly Customer Service Charge, the City's Commodity Charge is also significantly less than the average of other wastewater systems(i.e. $33.84-City; $66.64-Other). For the basis of comparison, the table below utilizes a volume of 9,000 gallons of metered usage. The average monthly effective Residential Commodity Charge for the comparison volume with other wastewater systems is $7.40 per 1,000 gallons; compared to the City's effective Commodity Charge which totals $3.76 per 1,000 gallons. The average monthly effective Commodity Charge by other wastewater systems is approximately 2.0 times the City's current Commodity Charge.

Table 11 - Comparison of Residential Commodity Charges

Residential Bill Comparison	9,000 gallons	Effective Rate/1,000 gallons
City of Alexandria – Existing Inside	$33.84	$3.76
City of Alexandria – Existing Outside	$48.04	$5.34
Baton Rouge [2]	$70.96	$7.88
Greater Ouachita [1]	$55.00	$6.11
Lafayette [2]	$78.52	$8.72
Lake Charles [2]	$39.60	$4.40
New Orleans [2]	$102.81	$11.42
Pineville [2]	$53.69	$5.97
Shreveport [2]	$98.37	$10.93
Slidell [2]	$44.12	$4.90
Utilities Inc. of Louisiana (Ascension & Assumption St. Tammany, EBR & WBR) [1]	$56.67	$6.30
Average 9k Bill & Average Commodity Charge Per 1,000 Gallons Excluding Alexandria	**$66.64**	**$7.40**

[1] Public Service Commission

[2] Municipal

Note No. 1: The residential rates, both inside and outside are based on 1" or smaller meter sizes.

The following table shows a comparison of monthly bills for residential users, including both Customer Service Charge and Commodity Charges. This comparison, depending on the volume treated, shows that the average residential bill for other wastewater systems is approximately 2.2 times greater than the City's respective residential wastewater bill.

Table 12 - Residential Bill Comparison

Residential Bill Comparison	Minimum Bill	2,000 gallons	Effective Rate/1,000 gallons	3,000 gallons	Effective Rate/1,000 gallons	3,750 gallons	Effective Rate/1,000 gallons	5,000 gallons	Effective Rate/1,000 gallons	9,000 gallons	Effective Rate/1,000 gallons	15,000 gallons	Effective Rate/1,000 gallons
Testing - Inside	**$24.00**	**$33.00**	**$4.50**	**$37.50**	**$12.50**	**$40.88**	**$10.90**	**$46.50**	**$9.30**	**$64.50**	**$7.17**	**$91.50**	**$6.10**
Testing - Outside	**$34.00**	**$45.00**	**$5.50**	**$50.50**	**$16.83**	**$54.63**	**$14.57**	**$61.50**	**$12.30**	**$83.50**	**$9.28**	**$116.50**	**$7.77**
		$23.09	**105%**	**$24.85**	**97%**	**$26.18**	**92%**	**$28.39**	**86%**	**$35.46**	**74%**	**$46.07**	**65%**
City of Alexandria – Existing Inside	$6.62	$12.67	$6.34	$15.69	$5.23	$17.96	$4.79	$21.74	$4.35	$33.84	$3.76	$51.99	$3.47
City of Alexandria – Existing Outside	$14.45	$21.91	$10.96	$25.65	$8.55	$28.45	$7.59	$33.11	$6.62	$48.04	$5.34	$70.43	$4.70
Baton Rouge	$31.36	$31.36	$15.68	$31.41	$10.47	$36.36	$9.70	$44.59	$8.92	$70.96	$7.88	$110.50	$7.37
Greater Ouachita	$55.00	$55.00	$27.50	$55.00	$18.33	$55.00	$14.67	$55.00	$11.00	$55.00	$6.11	$55.00	$3.67
Lafayette	$11.29	$26.23	$13.12	$33.70	$11.23	$39.30	$10.48	$48.64	$9.73	$78.52	$8.72	$123.34	$8.22
Lake Charles	$15.45	$15.45	$7.73	$18.90	$6.30	$21.49	$5.73	$25.80	$5.16	$39.60	$4.40	$60.30	$4.02
New Orleans	$24.87	$42.19	$21.10	$50.85	$16.95	$57.35	$15.29	$68.17	$13.63	$102.81	$11.42	$154.77	$10.32
Pineville	$22.13	$22.13	$11.07	$22.13	$7.38	$26.08	$6.95	$32.65	$6.53	$53.69	$5.97	$85.25	$5.68
Shreveport	$0.00	$21.86	$10.93	$32.79	$10.93	$40.99	$10.93	$54.65	$10.93	$98.37	$10.93	$163.95	$10.93
Slidell	$22.72	$22.72	$11.36	$22.72	$7.57	$22.72	$6.06	$27.00	$5.40	$44.12	$4.90	$69.80	$4.65
Utilities Inc. of Louisiana (Ascension & Assumption St. Tammany, EBR & WBR)	$56.67	$56.67	$28.34	$56.67	$18.89	$56.67	$15.11	$56.67	$11.33	$56.67	$6.30	$56.67	$3.78
Average Excluding Alexandria	**$26.61**	**$32.62**	**$16.31**	**$36.02**	**$12.01**	**$39.55**	**$10.55**	**$45.91**	**$9.18**	**$66.64**	**$7.40**	**$97.73**	**$6.52**
Average Effective Rate Per 1,000 Gallons Excluding Alexandria	**$8.44**												

Note No. 1: The residential rates, both inside and outside are based on 1" or smaller meter sizes.

Note No. 2: The dollar figures reported for the City's existing inside and outside rates include the Infrastructure Renewal Assessment charge.

SECTION 3B: CURRENT AND PROPOSED RATES

Wastewater rates have several drivers:

1. Treatment Costs – these are cost related to the construction and operation of wastewater Treatment facilities; and

2. Collection Costs – these are costs related to day-to-day operations of the wastewater collection system, including pump stations, gravity mains, manholes, force mains, etc.; and

3. Capital Improvement Costs – these are costs related to improvements to the Wastewater System to maintain longevity of the system over a projected 50 year lifespan; and

4. Management Costs – these are costs related to executive management, billings, meter readings, insurance related to Capital Improvements for support facilities, computers, etc. (for the COA – Utilities System Fund 401); and

5. General Fund Cost – these are costs related to the utilization of the City's public road rights-of-way and operations of indirect costs related to the Wastewater System (this is equivalent to a typical utility operations franchise fee); and

6. State Sales and Use Tax (Commercial/Industrial Accounts) – these costs are related to a 2% sales tax on non-residential use of utilities, including natural gas, electricity, and wastewater per Louisiana Revised Statutes 47:302.

Customers are subject to one (1) additional charge.

1. All other customers are currently subject to **Infrastructure Renewal Assessment** charge. This charge is imposed for wastewater service to all consumers located inside the city limits and to customers located adjacent to existing wastewater mains outside the city limits a monthly wastewater service Infrastructure Renewal Assessment. **This Rate Study recommends elimination of the Infrastructure Renewal Assessment in that the proposed monthly Customer Service Charge and Commodity Charges include projected revenues totaling $8 million per year for infrastructure improvements (i.e. Capital Improvements).**

The following tables show the current and proposed rates for the Monthly Customer Service Charge for both Commercial and Residential accounts.

Table 13 - Current and Proposed Residential Monthly Service Charge

Current and Proposed Residential Monthly Service Charge				
Monthly Rate	Current Rate		Proposed Rate	
Customer Service Charge:				
	Inside City Limits	Outside City Limits	Inside City Limits[1]	Outside City Limits[1]
1" and smaller meter	$6.62	$14.45	$24.00	$34.00
1.5" meter	$12.05	$16.88	$36.00	$45.00
2" meter	$16.88	$24.11	$50.00	$65.00

[1] The proposed rate shall be adjusted in February of each year based on the Consumer Price Index – Urban (CPI-U) for the previous calendar year.

Table 14 - Current and Proposed Commercial Monthly Service Charge

Current and Proposed Commercial Monthly Service Charge				
Monthly Rate	Current Rate		Proposed Rate	
Customer Service Charge:				
	Inside City Limits	Outside City Limits	Inside City Limits[1]	Outside City Limits[1]
1" and smaller meter	$6.62	$14.45	$30.00	$40.00
1.5" meter	$12.05	$16.88	$40.00	$50.00
2" meter	$16.88	$24.11	$60.00	$70.00
3" meter	$42.13	$57.85	$80.00	$120.00
4" meter	$72.32	$96.43	$120.00	$180.00
6" meter	$144.62	$192.82	$225.00	$375.00
8" meter	$216.93	$289.25	$375.00	$575.00
12" meter	$316.00	$389.00	$570.00	$750.00

[1] The proposed rate shall be adjusted in February of each year based on the Consumer Price Index – Urban (CPI-U) for the previous calendar year.

Table 15 shows the Current and Proposed Monthly Commodity Charge for Residential accounts.

Table 15 - Current and Proposed Residential Commodity Charge

Current and Proposed Residential Monthly Commodity Charge								
Monthly Rate	Current Rates				Proposed Rates[1]			
Commodity charge:	Inside City Limits		Outside City Limits		Inside City Limits		Outside City Limits	
	Per Ccf	Per 1,000 Gallons	Per Ccf	Per 1,000 Gallons	Per Ccf	Per 1,000 Gallons	Per Ccf	Per 1,000 Gallons
All cubic feet, per Ccf (All gallons, per 1,000 gallons)	$2.18	$2.91	$2.69	$3.60	$3.37	$4.50	$4.11	$5.50

[1] The proposed rate shall be adjusted in February of each year based on the Consumer Price Index – Urban (CPI-U) for the previous calendar year.

Table 16 shows the Current and Proposed Commodity Charges for Commercial accounts.

Table 16 – Current and Proposed Commercial Commodity Charge

Current and Proposed Commercial Monthly Commodity Charge								
Monthly Rate	Current Rates				Proposed Rates[1]			
Commodity charge:	Inside City Limits		Outside City Limits		Inside City Limits		Outside City Limits	
	Per Ccf	Per 1,000 Gallons	Per Ccf	Per 1,000 Gallons	Per Ccf	Per 1,000 Gallons	Per Ccf	Per 1,000 Gallons
All cubic feet, per Ccf (All gallons, per 1,000 gallons)	$2.18	$2.91	$2.69	$3.60	$4.11	$5.50	$4.86	$6.50

[1] The proposed rate shall be adjusted in February of each year based on the Consumer Price Index – Urban (CPI-U) for the previous calendar year.

SECTION 3C: BILL IMPACT OF PROPOSED RATE CHANGES

The following table shows the impact of the proposed rate changes on the average monthly residential bill.

Table 17 - Impact of Proposed Rate Changes Residential Customer

Usage Gallons/month	Bill Amount Current Rates[5,6]	Statewide Comparison Average[5]	Bill Amount Proposed Rates[5,7]	Change	
				$/mo.	%
Inside					
Minimum	$6.62	**$26.61**	**$24.00**	$17.38	263%
2,000	$12.67	**$32.62**	**$33.00**	$20.33	160%
3,000	$15.69	**$36.02**	**$37.50**	$21.81	139%
3,750	$17.96	**$39.55**	**$40.88**	$22.92	128%
5,000	$21.74	**$45.91**	**$46.50**	$24.76	114%
9,000	$33.84	**$66.64**	**$64.50**	$30.66	91%
15,000	$51.99	**$97.73**	**$91.50**	$39.51	76%
Outside					
Minimum	$14.45	**N/A**	**$40.00**	$25.55	177%
2,000	$21.91	**N/A**	**$53.00**	$31.09	142%
3,000	$25.65	**N/A**	**$59.50**	$33.85	132%
3,750	$28.45	**N/A**	**$64.38**	$35.93	126%
5,000	$33.13	**N/A**	**$72.50**	$39.37	119%
9,000	$48.04	**N/A**	**$98.50**	$50.46	105%
15,000	$70.43	**N/A**	**$137.50**	$67.07	95%

[6] Including current Infrastructure Renewal Assessment
[7] Not including an Infrastructure Renewal Assessment

The following table shows the impact of the proposed rate changes on the average monthly commercial bill.

Table 18 - Impact of Proposed Rate Changes Commercial Customer

Meter Size	Usage (gallons/month)	Bill Amount Current Rates[6]	Bill Amount Proposed Rates[7]	Change	
				$/mo.	%
Inside					
1”	30,000	$97.37	$195.00	$97.63	100%
2”	100,000	$319.37	$610.00	$290.63	91%
4”	300,000	$979.79	$1,770.00	$790.21	81%
6”	1,000,000	$3,169.51	$5,725.00	$2,555.49	81%
Outside					
1”	30,000	$126.41	$235.00	$108.59	86%
2”	100,000	$397.32	$720.00	$322.68	81%
4”	300,000	$1,216.07	$2,130.00	$913.93	75%
6”	1,000,000	$3,924.95	$6,875.00	$2,950.05	75%

[6] Including current Infrastructure Renewal Assessment
[7] Not including an Infrastructure Renewal Assessment

SECTION 4: UTILITY OVERVIEW

This section provides an overview of the utility and its operations. It is intended as general background information.

SECTION 4A: WASTEWATER UTILITY HISTORY

The wastewater system is comprised of:

- 320 miles of gravity sewer mains; ranging from 6” diameter to 54” diameter
- 17,350 active meters
- 15,270 residential accounts (88%);
- 2,080 commercial and industrial (12%);
- 3,100 manholes
- 25 miles of sewer force mains; ranging from 2” diameter to 36” diameter
- 7 major pump stations
- 112 lift stations
- 24 MGD wastewater treatment plant

A map indicating the general limits of the City’s wastewater system is included as Appendix “A”.

SECTION 4B: CUSTOMER BASE

The City of Alexandria, Wastewater Department services approximately 17,350 customers for residential, industrial, and commercial use.

Number of residential customers –15,270. Percentage of residential customers – 88%.

Number of commercial and industrial – 2,080 commercial/industrial. Commercial and industrial– 12%.

SECTION 4C: AFFORDABILITY

Wastewater affordability is always a driving concern regarding the impact to households within a community. Affordability is challenged by rising costs for operations and maintenance, rising costs for upgrades to aging infrastructure, and deferred maintenance and improvements.

Although there is no single approach to define household affordability, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has conducted numerous studies comparing the cost for collection and treatment of wastewater and how the cost for delivery of that service impacts the disposable income of lower income households.

The EPA has established an affordability threshold for drinking water and wastewater bills combined at 3% of the Median Household Income (MHI). For purposes of analysis, 1.5% of the Median Household Income has been allocated to drinking water and the remaining 1.5% allocated to wastewater.

Another test for affordability is utilizing the analysis of the income resulting from eight (8) hours of work at the local minimum hourly wage as being the threshold for financial burden for low-income households.

The analysis for water and wastewater bills typically utilizes a sustainability volume of eighty (80) gallons per day and a typical household size of 2.5 residents. This results in an average monthly volume for comparison and affordability analysis of 3,750 gallons for a thirty (30) day month.

For the City of Alexandria, the Median Household Income totals $47,357.

For wastewater costs affordability calculations, using the MHI of $47,357 times 1.5% results in an annual cost $710 for wastewater service; or $59 per month.

The proposed cost of wastewater service as noted herein (See Section 3B: Current and Proposed Rates) for 3,750 gallons totals $40.88; which amount is well below the EPA affordability threshold value of $59.

The minimum hourly rate in Louisiana is $7.25 per hour. Using an eight (8) hour work day, the income totals $58. Assuming half of this cost is allocated to a wastewater bill, this results in a total $29 allocated for wastewater billings in a low-income household. The proposed rate for 3,750 gallons totaling $40.88 is $11.88 above the threshold established using the minimum wage calculation for affordability. This $11.88 above the threshold equates to an additional 1.6 hours of minimum wage.

For general information, the following Median Household Incomes are reported:

United States:	$78,538
Louisiana:	$60,023
Rapides Parish:	$55,946
Alexandria:	$47,357

SECTION 4D: WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND TREATMENT SYSTEM

To collect and treat wastewater from it's customers, the City operates 320 miles of wastewater gravity mains (which conveys the wastewater to various pump stations in the City) and approximately 17,350 active wastewater services (which connects the wastewater collection mains to the customers' service lines). These gravity mains, pump stations, lift stations, services and treatment plant represent the vast majority of the infrastructure used to collect and treat wastewater in the City.

The City has an ongoing Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to repair and replace the Wastewater System over time; however, of recent years approximately $388,000 per year has been budgeted for Capital Improvements, which amount is significantly below that required to maintain the longevity of the system. Costs for main replacements, treatment plant rehabilitation, manhole rehabilitations, pump and control replacements have been going up in recent years.

The CIP is recommended to be significantly increased to deal with continuation of replacement of aged wastewater mains, renovations to pump stations and lift stations, treatment plant renovations, and sludge removal and disposal. The expenditure annually of approximately $8 million per year, for capital improvements is recommended. The $8 million annual expenditure for Capital Improvements figure is based on the estimated replacement value of the system totaling $400 million and assuming a 50-year straight line depreciation.

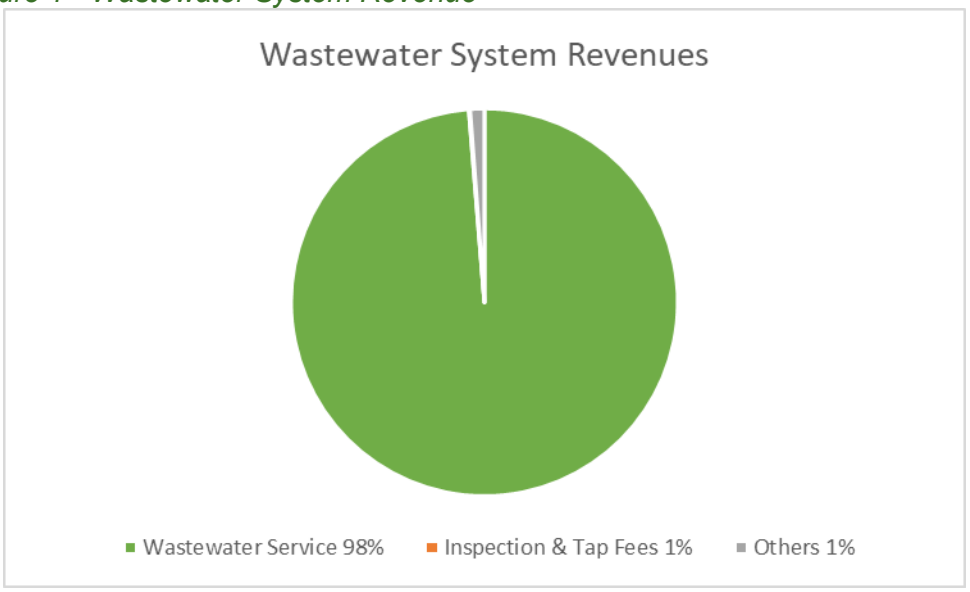
In addition to the CIP, the Wastewater Department performs a variety of maintenance activities related to the system, such as monitoring the system for leaks, monitoring the condition of wastewater mains, and building and replacing wastewater services for buildings being built or redeveloped throughout the City.

The Wastewater Department has a financial responsibility to share in the costs of other system-wide operational activities (such as customer service, billing, meter reading, supply planning, energy efficiency, equipment maintenance, and street restoration) with the City's other utilities, through funding of Fund 401. The Wastewater Department further needs to budget for a transfer to the General Fund of 5% of revenues (being equivalent to a franchise fee on other utilities within a municipality.

SECTION 4E: COST STRUCTURE AND REVENUE SOURCES

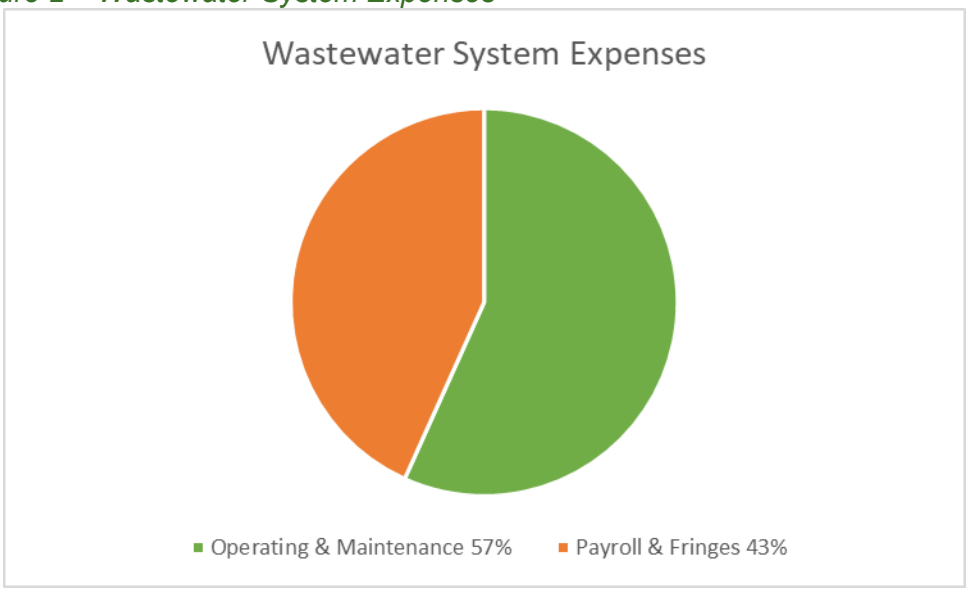
As shown in the figures below, the Wastewater Department receives about 98% of its revenue from collection and treatment fees and the remainder from connection fees, and other sources.

Figure 1 - Wastewater System Revenue



As shown in the figure below, operating and maintenance costs accounted for about 57% of the Wastewater Department's costs. Payroll cost and payroll fringes account for 43% of the Wastewater Department's costs.

Figure 2 – Wastewater System Expenses



These expenses do not include the expenses of Fund 401 for meter reading, billings, management, etc. (estimated at 12% of Wastewater System Revenues), General Fund transfers (5% of Wastewater System Revenues), or Capital Improvements.

SECTION 4F: FUTURE USAGE FORECAST

The City's existing Wastewater Treatment Plant has the capacity to treat approximately 24 MGD of municipal wastewater.

The current wastewater flow directed to the treatment plant ranges from a low of 7 MGD to an average of 15 MGD. This range of flow indicates that the wastewater treatment plant has excess capacity (9MGD to 17MGD) that can be utilized to offer large volumes of wastewater treatment capacity for allocation to conventional residential and commercial community growth or industrial expansions.

SECTION 5: DETAILS AND ASSUMPTIONS

SECTION 5A: OPERATIONS

Operations costs include Customer Service, Operations and Maintenance, and Administration. Operations costs are generally projected to increase by 5% per year on average.

SECTION 5B: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP)

The City's Wastewater System CIP consists of the following programs:

- Aged Gravity Sewer Main Replacement Program, under which the Wastewater Department replaces aging sewer mains that are exhibiting high rates of infiltration/inflow and contribute to collection line surcharging. The program also replaces sewer services lines, up to the public road right-of-way at the same time new sewer mains are installed.

- Pump Station and Lift Station Renovation Program, which program covers the cost to upgrade and replace pumping equipment, controls, SCADA, etc. related to aged and outdated equipment.

- Sewer Manhole Renovation and Replacement Program, which program undertakes routine evaluation of sewer manholes. The program includes installation of new manholes to replace severely deteriorated manholes.

- Wastewater Treatment Plant Renovations and Upgrades Program, which program undertakes rehabilitation of sewer treatment components at the plant at Hudson Blvd.

- Sludge Removal Program, which program includes periodic removal and disposal of accumulated sludge from the treatment plant lagoons.

- Ongoing Projects, which cover the cost of routine leak repairs, small line replacements, minor projects to improve operations of the collection system.

- Tools and Equipment, which cover the cost of capitalized equipment, such as pressure sewer cleaning equipment, sewer main maintenance, and emergency equipment.

- One-time Projects, which represent occasional large projects that do not fall into any other category.

The Wastewater Utility has noticed that construction costs for infrastructure improvements have been increasing over the past 3-5 years at a rate faster than historically observed. Several factors are contributing to the increase in construction costs in the Central Louisiana area, such as a greater focus on infrastructure improvement by many municipal agencies and the higher demand for utility contractors within these fields.

The estimated replacement value of the Wastewater System, $400 million is based on the estimated cost of constructing a new 24 MGD wastewater treatment plant, major pump stations, lift stations, manholes, sewer mains, and services.

Much of the system's infrastructure was installed 40 to 90 years ago, with some segments of the system being reported to be over 100 years of age. The age of a large portion of the system places it near or beyond the typical expected service life for sewer mains and manholes. The operation of a wastewater collection system, overtime, by its very nature of collecting and transporting waste in an underground system, places intense stress on the infrastructure. Wastewater systems face depreciation cost at an accelerated rate more than other utilities such as gas systems, water systems, or electric systems.

Despite the clear need for reinvestment, current annual capital spending is approximately $388,000. This figure represents just 0.01% of the system's replacement value and is well below industry standards for utility reinvestment.

Best practices in utility asset management suggest that infrastructure systems require annual reinvestment of between 1.5% and 4% of their replacement value to maintain long-term performance. For the Alexandria Wastewater System, a 2.0% reinvestment rate based on replacement value, translates to an annual capital improvement target of $8 million.

The reinvestment target, based on replacement value, is supported by a straight-line depreciation model over a 50-year asset life, where:

Annual Capital Need = Total Asset Value / Useful Life = $400,000,000 / 50 = $8,000,000 per year.

This approach provides a planning-level estimate for long-term capital investment and is widely used by public utilities to maintain fiscal discipline and system resilience.

Over the next 50 years, continuing to invest at the current level of $388,000 annually will result in a cumulative replacement shortfall of approximately $1.68 Billion (See Calculation 1 and Chart 1 below) compared to the recommended reinvestment level. This shortfall will create a growing backlog of necessary improvements and increase the likelihood of costly, unplanned emergency repairs and system failures.
Deferred investment can ultimately lead to rate shocks, public safety concerns, and the need for emergency bond-funded projects to restore basic service levels. This approach is financially inefficient and places an undue burden on future ratepayers.

Adopting the $8 million per year reinvestment strategy positions the City to:

- Extend the service life of existing infrastructure.
- Reduce lifecycle costs through proactive maintenance.
- Improve system reliability and safety.
- Distribute costs equitably across current and future ratepayers.
- Avoid large-scale capital crises that require emergency funding.

These outcomes align with the principals of intergenerational equity, where today's system users contribute proportionally to the maintenance and renewal of the infrastructure they rely on.

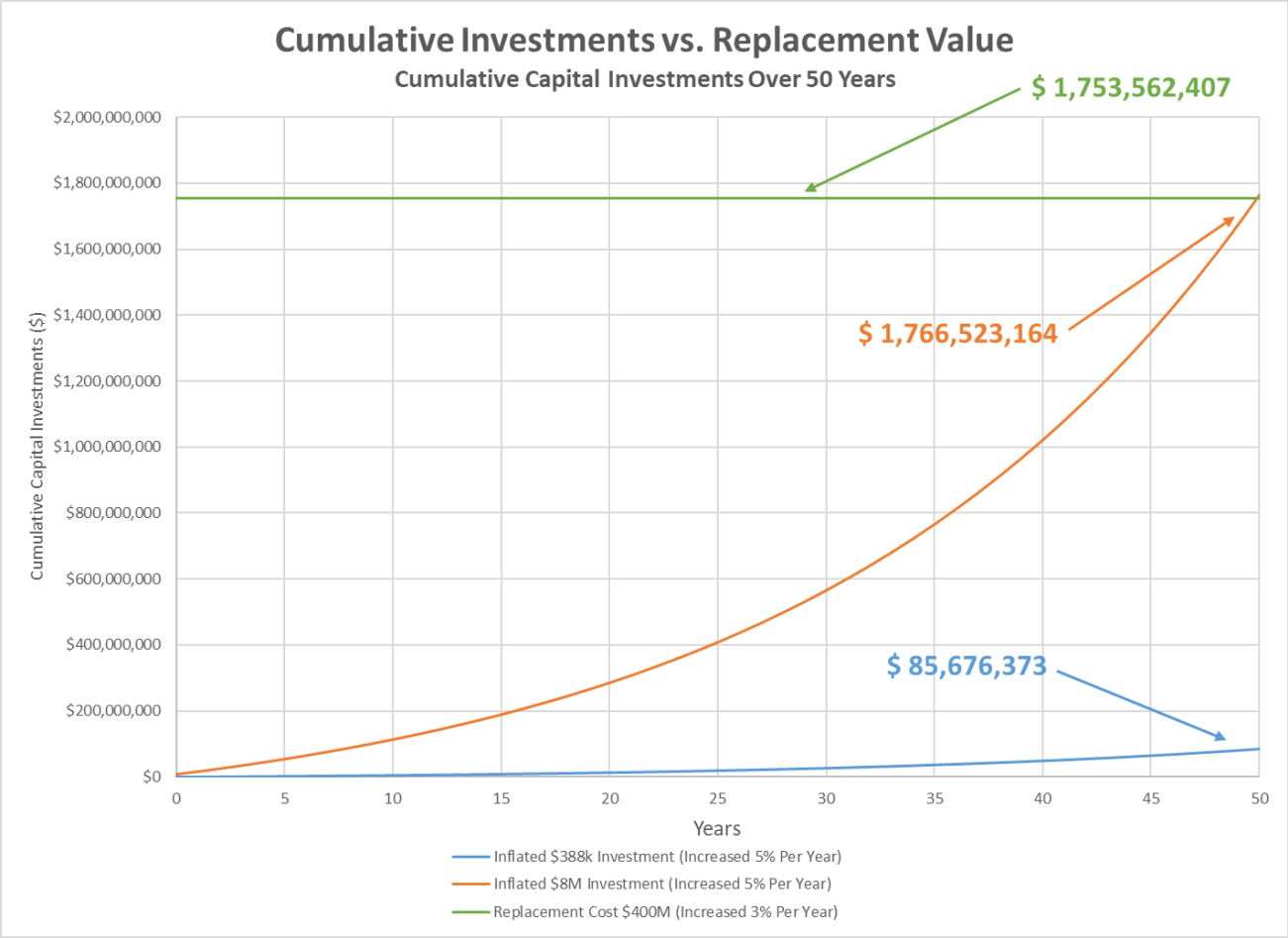
The following table presents a detailed 50-year schedule comparing two capital improvement investment strategies: $388,000 per year and $8,000,000 per year, both adjusted annually for inflation at 5%. Each year's investment is discounted to present-day value using a 5% discount rate. All figures are rounded to the nearest dollar and formatted for clarity.

Table 19 – Capital Improvements Budget Annually & Replacement Costs

Year	Inflated $388k Investment (Increased 5% Per Year)	Inflated $8M Investment (Increased 5% Per Year)	Replacement Cost $400M (Increased 3% Per Year)
0	$388,000	$8,000,000	$400,000,000
1	$407,400	$8,400,000	$412,000,000
2	$427,770	$8,820,000	$424,360,000
3	$449,159	$9,261,000	$437,090,800
4	$471,616	$9,724,050	$450,203,524
5	$495,197	$10,210,253	$463,709,630
6	$519,957	$10,720,765	$477,620,919
7	$545,955	$11,256,803	$491,949,546
8	$573,253	$11,819,644	$506,708,033
9	$601,915	$12,410,626	$521,909,274
10	$632,011	$13,031,157	$537,566,552
11	$663,612	$13,682,715	$553,693,548
12	$696,792	$14,366,851	$570,304,355
13	$731,632	$15,085,193	$587,413,485
14	$768,213	$15,839,453	$605,035,890
15	$806,624	$16,631,425	$623,186,967
16	$846,955	$17,462,997	$641,882,576
17	$889,303	$18,336,147	$661,139,053
18	$933,768	$19,252,954	$680,973,224
19	$980,457	$20,215,602	$701,402,421
20	$1,029,480	$21,226,382	$722,444,494
21	$1,080,953	$22,287,701	$744,117,829
22	$1,135,001	$23,402,086	$766,441,364
23	$1,191,751	$24,572,190	$789,434,604
24	$1,251,339	$25,800,800	$813,117,643
25	$1,313,906	$27,090,840	$837,511,172
26	$1,379,601	$28,445,382	$862,636,507
27	$1,448,581	$29,867,651	$888,515,602
28	$1,521,010	$31,361,033	$915,171,070
29	$1,597,061	$32,929,085	$942,626,202

30	$1,676,914	$34,575,539	$970,904,988
31	$1,760,759	$36,304,316	$1,000,032,138
32	$1,848,797	$38,119,532	$1,030,033,102
33	$1,941,237	$40,025,508	$1,060,934,095
34	$2,038,299	$42,026,784	$1,092,762,118
35	$2,140,214	$44,128,123	$1,125,544,982
36	$2,247,225	$46,334,529	$1,159,311,331
37	$2,359,586	$48,651,256	$1,194,090,671
38	$2,477,565	$51,083,818	$1,229,913,391
39	$2,601,443	$53,638,009	$1,266,810,793
40	$2,731,516	$56,319,910	$1,304,815,117
41	$2,868,091	$59,135,905	$1,343,959,570
42	$3,011,496	$62,092,700	$1,384,278,357
43	$3,162,071	$65,197,335	$1,425,806,708
44	$3,320,174	$68,457,202	$1,468,580,909
45	$3,486,183	$71,880,062	$1,512,638,337
46	$3,660,492	$75,474,065	$1,558,017,487
47	$3,843,517	$79,247,769	$1,604,758,011
48	$4,035,693	$83,210,157	$1,652,900,752
49	$4,237,477	$87,370,665	$1,702,487,774
50	$4,449,351	$91,739,198	$1,753,562,407
Total Present Value	**$85,676,373**	**$1,766,523,164**	

Chart 1 – Replacement Value vs. Annual Capital Improvement Investments



The proposed Capital Improvement Plan is a necessary, data-driven strategy to protect the City's $400 million public asset and to ensure the long-term sustainability of the City's Wastewater System. A commitment to an annual reinvestment at the $8 million level reflects a responsible stewardship of public resources and aligns with modern utility asset management practices.

The $8 million per year capital improvement investment should be the target goal.

However, considering the current financial revenue position of the Wastewater System and the proposed increases in revenues coming from the proposed rate increases, it is projected that the proposed rate increases would only provide approximately $4 million per year for capital improvements, as opposed to the goal of $8 million per year.

The City should acknowledge this short fall and consider stepped or phased rate increases in the future to hopefully ensure sufficient funding is realized to implement critical and costly wastewater system improvements. Depreciation in a wastewater system is a fact and not a theory. The fact remains that is very costly to operate and maintain such a system. Putting off needed improvements and renovations never gets less expensive.

In theory, in order to generate the additional funds to cover the short-fall of the projected capital improvement needs, the current rates would need to be raised to such a degree that they would place a heavy burden on the customers. The average additional cost to cover the projected $4 million dollar short-fall, out of the $8 million capital improvement goal, would increase the average customer bill by approximately $20 per month on top of already proposed rate increases. Such an additional burden does not seem reasonable to be recommended at this time.

SECTION 5C: DEBT SERVICE

The Wastewater System currently has long-term debt associated with a Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) Revolving Loan, which carries a 0.95% interest rate with principal payments occurring in May and November of each fiscal year.

The annual principal and interest payment for the LDEQ Revolving Loan totals approximately $302,000 per year.

SECTION 5 D : REVENUES

Wastewater system revenue for the most recent three (3) fiscal years is shown in the attached table.

WASTEWATER SYSTEM REVENUE FY 2022-2024[1]

Table 20 – Wastewater System Revenue FY 2022-2024

Revenue Type	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	TOTAL
Residential	$4,583,978	$4,372,540	$5,559,923	$14,516,441
Commercial	$1,484,411	$1,552,922	$1,645,019	$4,682,352
Tap Fees	$5,481	$7,984	$7,385	$20,850
Other	$64,290	$94,070	$72,285	$230,645
Total Revenue	**$6,138,160**	**$6,027,516**	**$7,284,612**	**$19,450,288**
Average Annual Revenue				**$6,483,429**

[1] Based on reports provided by the City of Alexandria Utility Department

As shown in the tables above, for the prior 3 fiscal years the Wastewater System Revenue has averaged $6,483,429 annually, while Wastewater System Expenses (See Table 7) have averaged $6,003,936. This results in an average annual surplus of $479,493.

Note that this surplus does not include the expenses related to the financial support for meter readings, billings, financial management, principal and interest for existing debt, etc.; nor does it include transfers to the General Fund (5% of revenue). It should also be noted that the surplus does not account for the need to significantly increase the Capital Improvements budget. To maintain system integrity, approximately $8 million per year should be budgeted to a Capital Improvement Plan, and increased at a rate of 5% per year. (The $8 million per year is a goal that will be challenging to achieve due to the financial constraints of the current rate structure and proposed rate structure.)

Table 21 – Monthly Service and Volume Charges FY 2022-2024

Monthly Service and Volume Charges	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	Total	%
Residential	$4,583,978	$4,372,540	$5,559,923	$14,516,441	76%
Commercial	$1,484,411	$1,552,922	$1,645,019	$4,682,352	24%

SECTION 5E: ENVIRONMENTAL AND REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

The City has a Louisiana Pollution Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) permit for the wastewater treatment plant at Hudson Blvd. as issued by LDEQ.

The City is required to file an Annual Municipal Water Pollution Prevention audit report each year with LDEQ, see Appendix E.

The City operates a wastewater pretreatment program that is applicable to certain customers discharging wastewater to the collection system, with particular emphasis on industrial users.

SECTION 5F: GIS MAPPING

The City Wastewater Department maintains hundreds of drawings of the wastewater system; indicating locations of gravity sewer mains and services, major pump stations, lift stations, sewer force mains, manholes, and wastewater treatment plant. These drawings are not available in digital format.

The City has initiated an effort to digitalize the mapping records.

The ultimate goal would be for all sewer mains, manholes, force mains, etc. to be located on a georeferenced mapping system in a geographic information system (GIS) format. This type of mapping system requires several years of scanning and digitizing of the mapping data. Further enhancements would include actual field survey locations of all sewer manholes, along with depth and condition of the manholes.

A GIS mapping system requires on-going maintenance and upgrades as well as significant investment in software and hardware.

The Capital improvement budget should include funding for implementation of a GIS mapping system of the wastewater system to ensure long term operational efficiencies of the system.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Drawings Indicated General Limits of Wastewater Collection and Treatment System

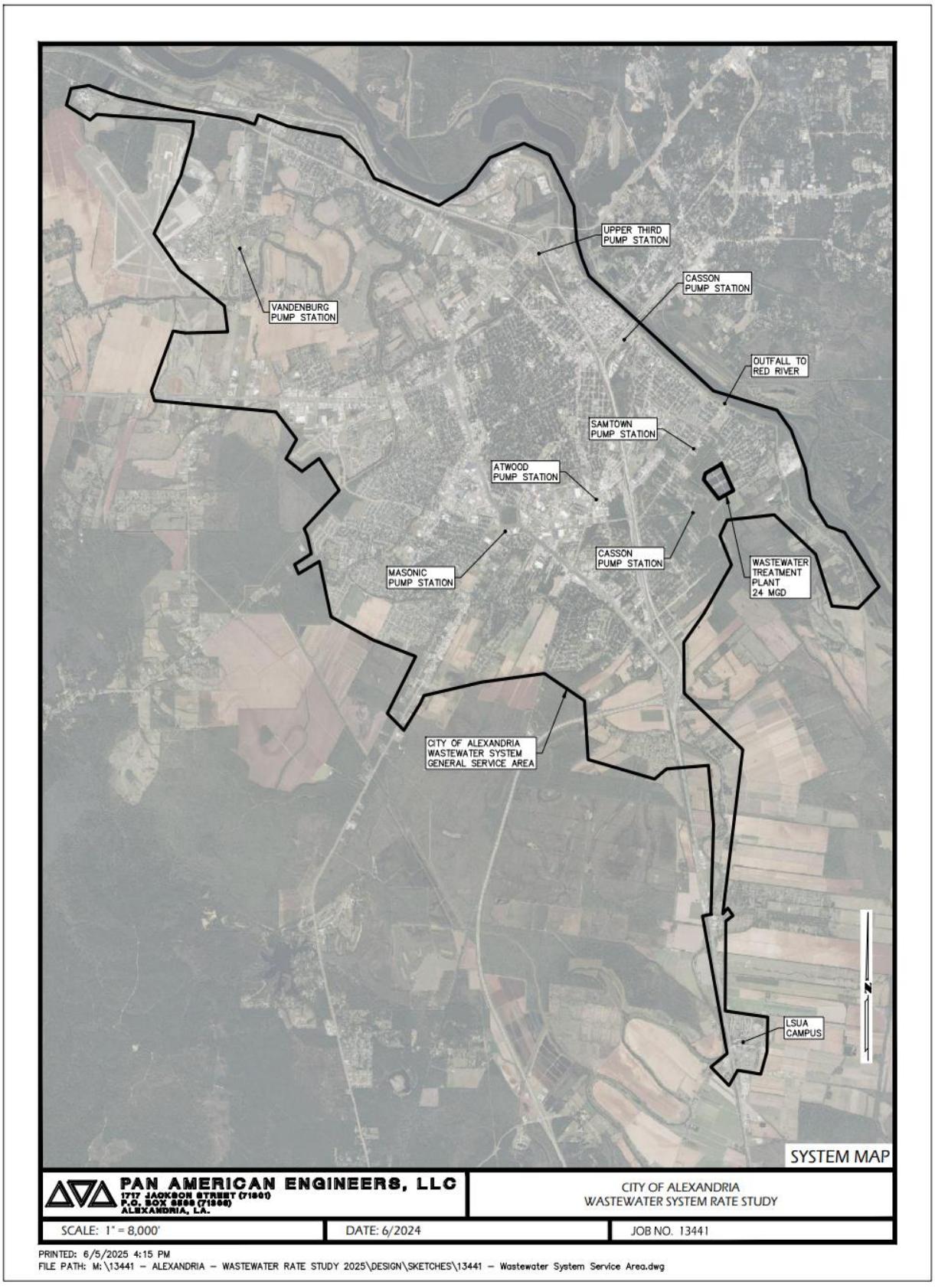
Appendix B: Schematic Drawing of Wastewater Treatment Plant

Appendix C: Current Wastewater Rate Ordinance

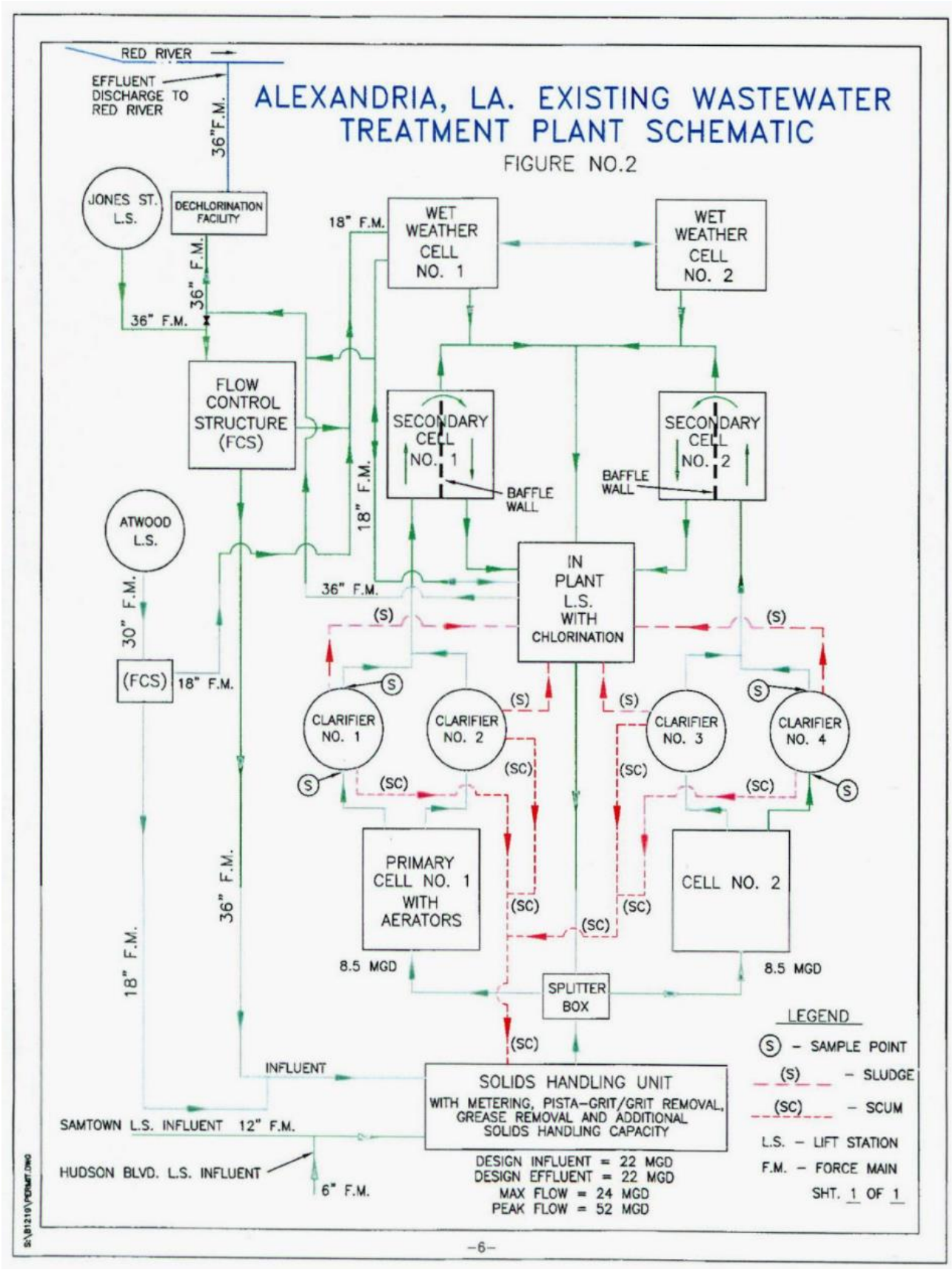
Appendix D: Proposed Wastewater Rate Amendment Ordinance

Appendix E: LDEQ Annual Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Audit Report – 2024

APPENDIX A: DRAWINGS INDICATED GENERAL LIMITS OF WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND TREATMENT SYSTEM


UPPER THIRD PUMP STATION
CASSON PUMP STATION
VANDENBURG PUMP STATION
OUTFALL TO RED RIVER
SAMTOWN PUMP STATION
ATWOOD PUMP STATION
CASSON PUMP STATION
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT 24 MGD
MASONIC PUMP STATION
CITY OF ALEXANDRIA WASTEWATER SYSTEM GENERAL SERVICE AREA
LSUA CAMPUS
N
SYSTEM MAP
PAN AMERICAN ENGINEERS, LLC
1717 JACKSON STREET (71301)
P.O. BOX 8868 (71306)
ALEXANDRIA, LA.
CITY OF ALEXANDRIA
WASTEWATER SYSTEM RATE STUDY
SCALE: 1" = 8,000'
DATE: 6/2024
JOB NO. 13441
PRINTED: 6/5/2025 4:15 PM
FILE PATH: M:\13441 - ALEXANDRIA - WASTEWATER RATE STUDY 2025\DESIGN\SKETCHES\13441 - Wastewater System Service Area.dwg

APPENDIX B: SCHEMATIC DRAWING OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT


ALEXANDRIA, LA. EXISTING WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT SCHEMATIC
FIGURE NO.2
RED RIVER
EFFLUENT DISCHARGE TO RED RIVER
36"F.M.
JONES ST. L.S.
DECHLORINATION FACILITY
36" F.M.
36" F.M.
18" F.M.
WET WEATHER CELL NO. 1
WET WEATHER CELL NO. 2
FLOW CONTROL STRUCTURE (FCS)
SECONDARY CELL NO. 1
SECONDARY CELL NO. 2
BAFFLE WALL
BAFFLE WALL
18" F.M.
ATWOOD L.S.
30" F.M.
(FCS)
18" F.M.
36" F.M.
IN PLANT L.S. WITH CHLORINATION
(S)
(S)
CLARIFIER NO. 1
CLARIFIER NO. 2
CLARIFIER NO. 3
CLARIFIER NO. 4
(SC)
(SC)
(SC)
(SC)
PRIMARY CELL NO. 1 WITH AERATORS
CELL NO. 2
8.5 MGD
8.5 MGD
36" F.M.
18" F.M.
SPLITTER BOX
(SC)
INFLUENT
SOLIDS HANDLING UNIT
WITH METERING, PISTA-GRIT/GRIT REMOVAL, GREASE REMOVAL AND ADDITIONAL SOLIDS HANDLING CAPACITY
SAMTOWN L.S. INFLUENT 12" F.M.
HUDSON BLVD. L.S. INFLUENT
6" F.M.
DESIGN INFLUENT = 22 MGD
DESIGN EFFLUENT = 22 MGD
MAX FLOW = 24 MGD
PEAK FLOW = 52 MGD
LEGEND
(S) – SAMPLE POINT
(S) – SLUDGE
(SC) – SCUM
L.S. – LIFT STATION
F.M. – FORCE MAIN
SHT. 1 OF 1
S:\81219\PERMIT.DWG
-6-

APPENDIX C: CURRENT WASTEWATER RATE ORDINANCE

Chapter 27.5 WASTE WATER COLLECTION AND TREATMENT[1]

ARTICLE I. DISCHARGE OF WASTES INTO SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM

Sec. 27.5-5. Rates for wastewater (sewer) service; availability.

Service under this schedule is available for wastewater use to all consumers located inside the city limits and to customers located adjacent to existing wastewater mains outside the city limits. The owner, occupant, or tenant of each lot or parcel that is connected with the wastewater system shall pay for the use thereof and for the services and facilities furnished by the system. The rates, fees and charges for wastewater service furnished by the city's wastewater system shall be based upon the quantity of water, determined by metering, furnished to each customer's premises each month.

(1) Service will be furnished in accordance with the following stipulations and in accordance with the city's general rules, terms and conditions.

a. The computation of monthly residential and commercial charges for wastewater service shall be according to the formula:

RC = M plus (K times V)

Where,

RC = the residential and commercial charge applicable to all customers receiving service

M = the fixed monthly service charge based on water meter size

K = the volume charge in dollars per hundred cubic feet (Ccf)

V = the hundred cubic feet (Ccf) of water used during the billing month by the wastewater customer

b. Reserved.

c. Residential, inside city limits:

Monthly rate	Beginning March 1, 2016	Beginning March 1, 2017	Beginning March 1, 2018
Customer service charge:			
1" and smaller meter	$4.45	$5.54	$6.62
1½" meter	8.09	10.07	12.05
2" meter	11.33	14.10	16.88
Commodity charge:			
All cubic feet, per Ccf	1.59	1.89	2.18
Ccf = 100 cubic feet			

d. Residential, outside city limits:

[1]Editor's note(s)—Section 2 of Ord. No. 9-1980, enacted Jan. 8, 1980, amended the City Code by adding thereto provisions designated as Ch. 30, §§ 30-1—30-14. In order to maintain the alphabetical sequence of chapter titles in this codification, said provisions are included herein as Ch. 27.5, §§ 27.5-1—27.5-14, at the discretion of the editor.

Cross reference(s)—Health and sanitation, Ch. 13; state sanitary code adopted, § 13-2; utilities and services, Ch. 26; garbage, trash, etc., disposal, § 26-90 et seq.

Monthly rate	Beginning March 1, 2016	Beginning March 1, 2017	Beginning March 1, 2018
Customer service charge:			
1" and smaller meter	$9.70	$12.07	$14.45
1½" meter	11.33	14.10	16.88
2" meter	16.19	20.15	24.11
Commodity charge:			
All cubic feet, per Ccf	1.96	2.33	2.69
Ccf = 100 cubic feet			

e. Commercial, inside city limits:

Monthly rate	Beginning March 1, 2016	Beginning March 1, 2017	Beginning March 1, 2018
Customer service charge:			
1" and smaller meter	$4.45	$5.54	$6.62
1½" meter	8.09	10.07	12.05
2" meter	11.33	14.10	16.88
3" meter	28.29	35.21	42.13
4" meter	48.56	60.44	72.32
6" meter	97.11	120.87	144.62
8" meter	145.66	181.29	216.93
12" meter	245.00	281.00	316.00
Commodity charge:			
All cubic feet, per Ccf	1.59	1.89	2.18
Ccf = 100 cubic feet			

f. Commercial, outside city limits:

Monthly rate	Beginning March 1, 2016	Beginning March 1, 2017	Beginning March 1, 2018
Customer service charge:			
1" and smaller meter	$9.70	$12.07	$14.45
1½" meter	11.33	14.10	16.88
2" meter	16.19	20.15	24.11
3" meter	38.84	48.34	57.85
4" meter	64.75	80.59	96.43
6" meter	129.47	161.14	192.82
8" meter	194.22	241.73	289.25
12" meter	294.00	341.00	389.00
Commodity charge:			
All cubic feet, per Ccf	1.96	2.33	2.69
Ccf = 100 cubic feet			

g. An additional charge of fifteen dollars ($15.00) per month shall be imposed as a wastewater service charge on all consumers that are served by the sanitary wastewater system of the city but are not serviced by the city's water distribution system.

(2) Use of service. Service under this schedule is available for all consumers. Each dwelling unit shall, under ordinary conditions, be metered for water consumption and billed separately; however, the city reserves the right, where more than one (1) family or dwelling unit receives service through a single water meter, to multiply the customer service charge by the number of families or dwelling units served through a single meter.

(3) Minimum monthly charge. The minimum monthly charge shall be the customer service charge. The monthly service charge is applicable whether or not any water is used by the customer.

(4) Delayed payment. The total NET amount based upon the NET rates specified herein is due when the bill is received. After fifteen (15) days from the date of the bill, the GROSS amount is due. The GROSS amount of the bill will be determined by adding ten (10) per cent of the NET amount.

(5) Infrastructure renewal assessment. There is imposed for wastewater use to all consumers located inside the city limits and to customers located adjacent to existing wastewater mains outside the city limits a monthly wastewater service infrastructure renewal assessment:

Inside city limits	Outside city limits
$0.082621/Ccf	$0.10163/Ccf

Ccf = 100 cubic feet

(Ord. No. 9-1980, § 2, 1-8-80; Ord. No. 177-1981, § 1, 10-13-81; Ord. No. 165-1980, 10-11-83; Ord. No. 58-1986, § 5, 4-8-86; Ord. No. 206-1987, § 2, 10-6-87; Ord. No. 194-2003, § I, 6-24-2003; Ord. No. 59-2012, § X, 4-3-2012; Ord. No. 202-2013, §§ I, II, 11-12-2013; Ord. No. 203-2015, § II, 12-15-20

APPENDIX D: PROPOSED WASTEWATER RATE AMENDMENT ORDINANCE

A draft Ordinance for the proposed wastewater rates is shown below.

City of Alexandria Wastewater Rate Ordinance

This document serves as an amendment to the City of Alexandria Code of Ordinances regarding wastewater utility rates. It reflects changes to the customer charge, removes the infrastructure renewal assessment. It also establishes a provision for annual rate adjustments based on the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U).

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND RE-ENACTING THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES: CHAPTER 27.5 ,WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND TREATMENT: ARTICLE 1 – DISCHARGE OF WASTES INTO SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM: SECTION 25.5-5 – RATES FOR WASTEWATER (SEWER) SERVICE; AVAILABILITY; AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING FOR ALL MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

WHEREAS, A comprehensive study of all aspects of the City of Alexandria's Wastewater Utility System, has been performed and includes recommendations for rate reform;

NOW THEREFORE:

Section I.

Be it ordained that the Alexandria City Council hereby determines to enact rate reform effective _____, 2025, and as provided herein, in part for the reasons provided by the recitals herein and as more fully stated in the reports related to rate reform, including but not limited to the FY 2025 Wastewater System Rate Study dated June 2025.

Section II.

Be it further ordained that the Alexandria City Council hereby amends, reenacts, modifies and implements its new utility services rate structures and the following sections of the Code of Ordinances Chapter 27.5 Wastewater Collection and Treatment: Article 1 – Discharge Of Wastes Into Sanitary Sewer System.

Section 27.5-5. Rates for Wastewater (Sewer) Service: Availability.

Service under this schedule is available for wastewater use to all consumers located inside the city limits and to customers located adjacent to existing wastewater mains outside the city limits. The owner, occupant, or tenant of each lot or parcel that is connected with the wastewater system shall pay for the use thereof and for the services and facilities furnished by the system. The rates, fees and charges for wastewater service furnished by the city's wastewater system shall be based upon the quantity of water, determined by metering, furnished to each customer's premises each month.

(1) Service will be furnished in accordance with the following stipulations and in accordance with the city's general rules, terms and conditions.

a. The computation of monthly residential and commercial charges for wastewater service shall be according to the formula:

RC = M plus (K times V)

Where,

RC = the residential and commercial charge applicable to all customers receiving service

M = the fixed monthly service charge based on water meter size

K = the volume charge in dollars per hundred cubic feet (Ccf) or per 1,000 gallons

V = the hundred cubic feet (Ccf) of water or 1,000 gallons of water used during the billing month by the wastewater customer, or part thereof.

b. Reserved.

c. Residential, inside city limits:

Monthly rate		
Customer service charge:		
1" and smaller meter	$24.00	
1½" meter	$36.00	
2" meter	$50.00	
Commodity charge:	Ccf	1,000 gallons
All cubic feet, per Ccf; All gallons, per 1,000 gallons	$3.37	$4.50

d. Residential, outside city limits:

Monthly rate		
Customer service charge:		
1" and smaller meter	$34.00	
1½" meter	$45.00	
2" meter	$65.00	
Commodity charge:	Ccf	1,000 gallons
All cubic feet, per Ccf; All gallons, per 1,000 gallons	$4.41	$5.50

e. Commercial, inside city limits:

Monthly rate		
Customer service charge:		
1" and smaller meter	$30.00	
1½" meter	$40.00	
2" meter	$60.00	
3" meter	$80.00	
4" meter	$120.00	
6" meter	$225.00	
8" meter	$375.00	
12" meter	$570.00	
Commodity charge:	Ccf	1,000 gallons
All cubic feet, per Ccf; All gallons, per 1,000 gallons	$4.11	$5.50

f. Commercial, outside city limits:

Monthly rate		
Customer service charge:		
1" and smaller meter	$40.00	
1½" meter	$50.00	
2" meter	$70.00	
3" meter	$120.00	
4" meter	$180.00	
6" meter	$375.00	
8" meter	$575.00	
12" meter	$750.00	
Commodity charge:	Ccf	1,000 gallons
All cubic feet, per Ccf; All gallons, per 1,000 gallons	$4.86	$6.50

g. An additional charge of twenty-five dollars ($25.00) per month shall be imposed as a wastewater service charge on all consumers that are served by the sanitary wastewater system of the city but are not serviced by the city's water distribution system.

(2) Use of service. Service under this schedule is available for all consumers. Each dwelling unit shall, under ordinary conditions, be metered for water consumption and billed separately; however, the city reserves the right, where more than one (1) family or dwelling unit receives service through a single water meter, to multiply the customer service charge by the number of families or dwelling units served through a single meter.

(3) Minimum monthly charge. The minimum monthly charge shall be the customer service charge. The monthly service charge is applicable whether or not any water is used by the customer.

(4) Delayed payment. The total NET amount based upon the NET rates specified herein is due when the bill is received. After fifteen (15) days from the date of the bill, the GROSS amount is due. The GROSS amount of the bill will be determined by adding ten (10) per cent of the NET amount.

(5) Infrastructure renewal assessment. *This assessment is hereby repealed in its entirety.*

(6) Automatic Adjustment Based on CPI-U. Beginning in February 2026 and each February thereafter, the Customer Service Charge and Commodity Charges established in this ordinance shall be automatically adjusted by the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), published by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

a. The adjustment shall reflect the 12-month percentage change in the CPI-U for the calendar year ending the previous December.

b. If the CPI-U increases, the charges shall be increased by the same percentage, rounded to the nearest cent.

c. If the CPI-U decreases, the charges shall be reduced accordingly.

d. The Director of Utilities shall publish the adjusted rates annually no later than February 15.

e. The Director of Utilities shall issue a memorandum to the City Council stating the adjusted rates and the applicable CPI-U data supporting the adjustment, no later than February 15th of each year.

APPENDIX E: LDEQ ANNUAL MUNICIPAL WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION AUDIT REPORT – 2024

LOUISIANA

MUNICIPAL WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION

MWPP

DEQ LOUISIANA

Facility Name:	City of Alexandria Wastewater Treatment Plant
LPDES Permit Number:	LA 0041009
Agency Interest (AI) Number:	2925
Address:	1212 Hudson Blvd Alexandria, LA 71302
Parish:	Rapides
(Person Completing Form) Name:	Donald A. Daigle
Title:	Superintendent
Date Completed:	MWPP Period Jan 2024-Dec 2024 January 31, 2025

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Complete only the sections of the Environmental Audit which apply to your wastewater treatment system. Leave sections that do not apply blank and enter a "0" for the point value.

2. Parts 1 through 7 contain questions for which points may be generated. These points are intended to communicate to the department and the governing body or owner what actions will be necessary to prevent effluent violations. Place the point totals from parts 1 through 7 on the Point Calculation page.

3. Add up the point totals.

4. Submit the Environmental Audit to the governing body or owner for review and approval.

5. The governing body must pass a resolution which contains the following items:

   a. The resolution or letter must acknowledge the governing body or owner has reviewed the Environmental Audit.

   b. This resolution must indicate specific actions, if any, will be taken to maintain compliance and prevent effluent violations. Proposed actions should address the parts where maximum or close to maximum points were generated in the Environmental Audit.

   c. The resolution should provide any other information the governing body deems appropriate.

Permit #: LA0041009

PART 1: INFLUENT FLOW/LOADINGS (all plants)

A. List the average monthly volumetric flows and BOD loadings received at your facility during the last reporting year.

Column 1 Average Monthly Flow (million gallons per day, MGD)		**Column 2** Average Monthly BOD5 Concentration (mg/l)		**Column 3** Average Monthly BOD5 Loading (pounds per day, lb/day)
9.212	x	90	x 8.34 =	6,915
9.436	x	80	x 8.34 =	6,296
7.871	x	117	x 8.34 =	7,680
10.968	x	99	x 8.34 =	9,056
14.166	x	81	x 8.34 =	9,570
12.269	x	70	x 8.34 =	7,163
9.658	x	99	x 8.34 =	7,974
6.781	x	90	x 8.34 =	5,090
10.891	x	83	x 8.34 =	7,539
6.011	x	86	x 8.34 =	4,311
12.986	x	74	x 8.34 =	8,014
12.840	x	92	x 8.34 =	9,852

BOD loading = Average Monthly Flow (in MGD) x Average Monthly BOD concentration (in mg/l) x 8.34

B. List the design flow and design BOD loading for your facility in the blanks below. If you are not aware of these design quantities, refer to your Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Manual or contact your consulting engineer.

Design Flow, MGD:	22	x 0.90 =	19.8
Design BOD, lb/day:	27,522	x 0.90 =	24,770

Permit #: LA0041009

C. How many months did the monthly flow (Column 1) to the wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) exceed 90% of design flow? Circle the number of months and the correspoding point total. Write the point total in the box below at the right.

months	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
points	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

Write 0 or 5 in the C point total box [0] C Point Total

D. How many months did the monthly flow (Column 1) to the WWTF exceed the design flow? Circle the number of months and corresponding point total. Write the point total in the box below at the right.

months	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
points	0	5	5	10	10	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15

Write 0, 5, 10 or 15 in the D point total box [0] D Point Total

E. How many months did the monthly BOD loading (Column 3) to the WWTF exceed 90% of the design loading? Circle the number of months and corresponding point total. Write the point total in the box below at the right.

months	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
points	0	0	5	5	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10

Write 0, 5,or 10 in the E point total box [0] E Point Total

F. How many months did the monthly BOD loading (Column 3) to the WWTF exceed the design loading? Circle the number of months and corresponding point total. Write the point total in the box below at the right.

months	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
points	0	10	20	30	40	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50

Write 0, 10, 20, 30, 40 or 50 in the F point total box [0] F Point Total

G. Add together each point total for C through F and place this sum in the box below at the right.

TOTAL POINT VALUE FOR PART 1: [0] (max = 80)

Also enter this value or 80, whichever is less, on the point calculation table on page 16.

3

Permit #: LA0041009

PART 2: EFFLUENT QUALITY / PLANT PERFORMANCE

A. List the monthly average effluent BOD and TSS concentrations produced by your facility during the last reporting year.

Month	Column 1 Average Monthly BOD (mg/l)	Column 2 Average Monthly TSS (mg/l)
January	14	8
February	12	10
March	14	11
April	10	11
May	11	12
June	9	12
July	7	15
August	9	21
September	6	10
October	8	10
November	10	8
December	12	7

B. List the monthly average permit limits for your facility in the blanks below.

	Permit Limit		90% of Permit Limit
BOD, mg/l	30	x 0.90 =	27
TSS, mg/l	30	x 0.90 =	27

4

Permit #: LA0041009

C. Continuous Discharge to Surface Water.

i. How many months did the effluent BOD (Column 1) exceed 90% of the permit limits? Circle the number of months and the correspoding point total. Write the point total in the box below at the right.

months	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
points	0	0	10	20	30	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40

Write 0, 10, 20, 30 or 40 in the i point total box [0] i Point Total

ii. How many months did the effluent BOD (Column 1) exceed permit limits? Circle the number of months and corresponding point total. Write the point total in the box below at the right.

months	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
points	0	5	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10

Write 0, 5, or 10 in the ii point total box [0] ii Point Total

iii. How many months did the effluent TSS (Column 2) exceed 90% of the permit limits? Circle the number of months and the correspoding point total. Write the point total in the box below at the right.

months	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
points	0	0	10	20	30	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40

Write 0, 10, 20, 30 or 40 in the iii point total box [0] iii Point Total

iv. How many months did the effluent TSS (Column 2) exceed permit limits? Circle the number of months and corresponding point total. Write the point total in the box below at the right.

months	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
points	0	5	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10

Write 0, 5, or 10 in the iv point total box [0] iv Point Total

v. Add together each point total for i through iv and place this sum in the box below at the right.

TOTAL POINT VALUE FOR PART 2: [0] (max = 100)

Also enter this value or 100, whichever is less, on the point calculation table on page 16.

5

Permit #: LA0041009

D. Other Monitoring and Limitations

i. At any time in the past year was there and exceedance of a permit limit for other pollutants such as: ammonia-nitrogen, phosphorus, pH, total residual chlorine, or fecal coliform?

√ Check one box. ☐ Yes ■ No *If Yes, Please describe:*

ii. At any time in the past year was there a "failure" of a Biomonitoring (Whole Effluent Toxicity) test of the effluent?

√ Check one box. ☐ Yes ■ No *If Yes, Please describe:*

iii. At any time in the past year was there an exceedance of a permit limit for a toxic substance?

√ Check one box. ☐ Yes ■ No *If Yes, Please describe:*

6

Permit #: LA0041009

PART 3: AGE OF THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY

A. What year was the wastewater treatment facility constructed or last major expansion/ improvements completed? 1975

Current Year	-	*Answer to A*	=	*Age in years*
2024		1975		49

Enter Age in Part C below.

B. √ Check the type of treatment facility that is employed.

		FACTOR:
____	Mechanical Treatment Plant (trickling filter, activated sludge, etc…) Specify Type: ____	2.5
X	Aerated Lagoon	2.0
____	Stabilization Pond	1.5
____	Other Specify Type: ____	1.0

C. Multiply the factor listed next to the type of facility your community employs by the age of your facility to determint the total point value for Part 3.

TOTAL POINT VALUE FOR PART 3 =

2.0 (*Factor*) x 49 (*Age*) = 50 (max = 50)

Also enter this value or 50, whichever is less, on the point calculation table on page 16.

D. Please attach a schematic of the treatment plant.

7

Permit #: LA0041009

PART 4: OVERFLOWS AND BYPASSES

A.

i. List the number of times in the last year there was an overflow, bypass or unpermitted discharge of untreated or incompletely treated wastewater due to heavy rain:

47 √ Check one box.

- ☐ 0 = 0 points
- ☐ 1 = 5 points
- ☐ 2 = 10 points
- ☐ 3 = 15 points
- ☐ 4 = 30 points
- ■ 5 or more = 50 points

ii. List the number of bypasses, overflows or unpermitted discharges shown in A (i) that were withing the collection system and the number at the treatement plant

Collection System: 47 Treatment Plant: 0

B.

i. List the number of times in the last year there was an overflow, bypass or unpermitted discharge of untreated or incompletely treated wastewater due to equipment failure, either at the treatment plant or due to pumping problems in the collection system:

1 √ Check one box.

- ☐ 0 = 0 points
- ■ 1 = 5 points
- ☐ 2 = 10 points
- ☐ 3 = 15 points
- ☐ 4 = 30 points
- ☐ 5 or more = 50 points

ii. List the number of bypasses, overflows or unpermitted discharges shown in B (i) that were withing the collection system and the number at the treatement plant

Collection System: 1 Treatment Plant: 0

C. Specify whether the bypasses came from the city/village/town sewer system or from contract or tributary communities/sanitary districts, etc…

City Of Alexandria Sewer System

D. Add the point values checked for A and B and place the total in the box below.

TOTAL POINT VALUE FOR PART 4: 55 (max = 100)

Also enter this value or 100, whichever is less, on the point calculation table on page 16.

E. List the person responsible (name and title) for reporting overflows, bypasses or unpermitted discharges to State and Federal authorities:

Donald A. Daigle, Wastewater Superintendent

Describe the procedure for gathering, compiling and reporting:

Collection personnel report overflows to Superintendent. Information is summarized in a report and sent to DEQ. Also forwarded to Superintendent of Environmental Services & summarized on monthly DMR Reports.

8

Permit #: LA0041009

PART 5: SLUDGE STORAGE AND DISPOSAL SITES

A. Sludge Storgage

How many months of sludge storage capacity does your facility have available, either on-site or off-site?

Circle the number of months and the corresponding point total. Write the point total in the box below at the right.

months	<2	2	3	4-5	>6
points	50	30	20	10	0

Write 0, 10, 20, 30 or 40 in the A point total box [0] A Point Total

B. For how many months does your facility have access to (and approval for) sufficient land disposal sites to provide proper land disposal?

Circle the number of months and the corresponding point total. Write the point total in the box below at the right.

months	<2	6-11	12-23	24-35	>36
points	50	30	20	10	0

Write 0, 10, 20, 30 or 40 in the B point total box [0] B Point Total

C. Add together the A and B point values and place the sum in the box below at the right:

TOTAL POINT VALUE FOR PART 5: [0] (max = 100)

Also enter this value or 100, whichever is less, on the point calculation table on page 16.

Permit #: LA0041009

PART 6: NEW DEVELOPMENT

A. Please provide the following information for the total of all sewer line extensions which were installed during the last year.

Design Population: 50

Design Flow: .01 MGD

Design BOD: 1.0 mg/l

B. Has an industry (or other development) moved into the community or expanded production in the past year, such that either flow or pollutant loadings to the sewerage system were significantly increased (5% or greater)?

√ Check one box. ☐ Yes = 15 points ■ No = 0 points

If Yes, Please describe:

List any new pollutants:

C. Is there any development (industrial, commercial or residential) anticipated in the next 2-3 years, such that either flow or pollutant loadings to the sewerage system could significantly increase?

√ Check one box. ☐ Yes = 15 points ■ No = 0 points

If Yes, Please describe:

List any new pollutants you anticipate:

D. Add together the point value checked in B and C and place the sum in the box below.

TOTAL POINT VALUE FOR PART 6: 0 (max = 30)

Also enter this value or 30, whichever is less, on the point calculation table on page 16.

10

Permit #: LA0041009

PART 7: OPERATOR CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION

A. What was the name of the operator-in-charge for the reporting year?

Name: Grant Magnon

B. What is his or her certification number:

Cert.#: 14-212

C. What level of certification is the operator-in-charge required to have to operate the wastewater treatment facility?

Level Required: WWT IV

D. What is the level of certification of the operator-in-charge?

Level Certified: WWT IV

E. Was the operator-in-charge of the report year certified at least at the grade level required in order to operate this plant?

√ Check one box. ■ Yes = 0 points ☐ No = 50 points

Write 0 or 50 in the E point total box [0] E Point Total

F. Has the operator-in-charge maintained recertification requirements during the reporting year?

√ Check one box. ■ Yes ☐ No

G. How many hours of continuing education has the operator-in-charge completed over the last two calendar years?

√ Check one box. ■ > 12 hours = 0 points ☐ < 12 hours = 50 points

Write 0 or 50 in the G point total box [0] G Point Total

H. Is there a written policy regarding continuing education an training for wastewater treatment plant employees?

√ Check one box. ■ Yes ☐ No

Explain: Training and education requirements found in job descriptions. Operators maintain certification as outlined in DHH.

I. What percentage of the continuing education expenses of the operator-in-charge were paid for:

By the permittee? 100% *By the operator?* _____

J. Add together the E and G point vaules and place the sum in the box below at the right.

TOTAL POINT VALUE FOR PART 7: [0] (max = 100)

Also enter this value or 100, whichever is less, on the point calculation table on page 16.

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PART 8: FINANCIAL STATUS

A. Are User-Charge Revenues sufficient to cover operation and maitenance expenses?

√ Check one box. ■ Yes ☐ No *If No, How are O&M costs financed?*

Funds are allocated each year for operation and maintenance. Major capital projects are funded under our 5-Year Capital Improvements Program. Any shortfall is absorbed through fund balance,

B. What financial resources do you have available to pay for your wastewater improvements and reconstruction needs?

Operating budget and 5-Year Capital Improvements Program which are budgeted each fiscal year. The fiscal year is May 1, 2024 to April 30, 2025.

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PART 9: SUBJECTIVE EVALUATION

A. Collection System Maintenance

i. Describe what sewer system maintenance work has been done in the last year.

Continued sewer line rehabilitation to reduce I & I problems.
Video sewer lines to identify problem areas in the Collection System.
Inspected lines are replaced or repaired as needed.

ii. Describe what lift station work has been done in the last year.

On-going maintenance of lift stations is performed throughout the year.
On-going Annual Requirements Contract for lift station repair.

iii. What collection system improvements does the community have under construction for the next 5 years?

On-going sewer rehabilitation projects.
Lift Station Upgrades Ongoing.
Lift Station Fencing Ongoing.
Annual Foaming Root Control on mains.

B. If you have ponds please answer the following questions:

		√ Check one box.	
i.	*Do you have duckweed buildup in the ponds?*	☐ Yes	■ No
ii.	*Do you mow the dikes regularly (at least monthly), to the waters edge?*	■ Yes	☐ No
iii.	*Do you have bushes or trees growing on the dikes or in the ponds?*	☐ Yes	■ No
iv.	*Do you have excess sludge buildup (> 1foot) on the bottom of any of your ponds?*	☑ Yes	☐ No
v.	*Do you excersise all of your valves?*	☑ Yes	☐ No
vi.	*Are your control manholes in good structural shape?*	☑ Yes	☐ No
vii.	*Do you maintain at least 3 feet of freeboard in all of your ponds?*	☑ Yes	☐ No
viii.	*Do you visit your pond system at least weekly?*	☑ Yes	☐ No

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C. Treatment Plants

i. Have the influent and effluent flow meters been calibrated in the last year?

☒ Yes ☐ No (√ Check one box.)

August 1, 2024
Influent flow meter calibration date(s)

August 1, 2024
Effluent flow meter calibration date(s)

ii. What problems, if any, have been experienced over the last year that have threatened treatment?

Algae bloom has become more significant in recent years. We are currently using dye to manage the algae issue.

Sludge accumulation in all cells is at least 4-5' in depth. Primary cell No. 2 has a depth of 13-14' in a 15' deep pond. This can contribute to several different items that may lead to compliance issues with DEQ. Phase 1 Design of Sludge removal in this pond is currently underway.

iii. Is your community presently involved in formal planning for treatment facility upgrade?

√ Check one box. ☐ Yes ☒ No *If Yes, Please describe:*

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D. Preventive Maintenance

i. Does your plant have a written plan for preventive maintenance on major equipment items?

√ Check one box. ■ Yes ☐ No *If Yes, Please describe:*

Plant O&M Manuals and Manufacturer's O&M Manuals.

ii. Does this preventive maintenance program depict frequency of intervals, types of lubrication and other preventive maintenance tasks necessary for each piece of equipment?

■ Yes ☐ No

iii. Are these preventive maintenance tasks, as well as equipment problems, being recorded and filed so future maintenance problems can be assured properly?

■ Yes ☐ No

E. Sewer Use Ordinance

i. Does your community have a sewer use ordinance that limits or prohibits the discharge of excessive conventional pollutants (BOD, TSS or pH) or toxic substances to the sewer system from industries, commercial users and residences?

√ Check one box. ■ Yes ☐ No *If Yes, Please describe:*

City has an approved Pre-Treatment Program.

ii. Has it been necessary to enforce?

√ Check one box. ■ Yes ☐ No *If Yes, Please describe:*

Notice of Violations and surcharges are issued as needed.

iii. Any additional comments about your treatment plant or collection system? (Attach additional sheets if necessary.)

None

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POINT CALCULATION TABLE

	Actual Values	Maximum
Part 1: *Influent Flow/Loadings*	0	80 points
Part 2: *Effluent Quality / Plant Performance*	0	100 points
Part 3: *Age of WWTF*	50	50 points
Part 4: *Overflows and Bypasses*	55	100 points
Part 5: *Ultimate Disposition of Sludge*	0	100 points
Part 6: *New Development*	0	30 points
Part 7: *Operator Certification Training*	0	100 points

TOTAL POINTS: 105

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ATTACHMENT 3

SAMPLE MWPP RESOLUTION

Resolved that the village/town/city of _____ informs the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality that the following actions were taken by _____ (governing body).

1. Resolved the Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Environmental Audit Report which is attached to this resolution.

2. Set forth the following actions necessary to maintain permit requirements contained in the Louisiana Pollution Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) permit, number LA 0041009 .

   (Please be specific in listing the actions that will be taken to address the problems identified in the audit report.)

   a.

   b.

   c.

   d.

   etc..

Passed by a majority/unamious (circle one) vote of the _____ on _____ (date).

_____

_____
CLERK

Alexandria Louisiana

AGENDA ITEM FACT SHEET

This fact sheet is the basis for a decision by the City Council.
Please insure that the information is clear, concise and current.

Division/Department: Utilities/Wastewater

Date: February 4, 2025

Title: Resolution to adopt the 2024 Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Audit

Explanation of Proposal: *Additional Information Attached* ☑

As required by NPDES Permit No. LA0041009, the Wastewater Department must annually complete the Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Audit and retain it in their files along with a resolution acknowledging that the governing body has reviewed and approved the Audit. There are no finding's in the 2024 reporting year.

Budget: ☐ Neutral ☑ Within Existing ☐ Requires Amendment

Account Number: N/A

Expense Amount: N/A

Account Line Item: N/A

Remaining Amount: N/A

Authorization:

1. Mayor _____

2. Chief Operating Officer _____

3. City Attorney _____

4. Finance Director _____

5. Division Director _____

6. Department Head _____

7. Purchasing Agent _____

Council Staff Review: Form ☐ Content ☐

Information: Sufficient ☐ Insufficient ☐

Remarks: