



The Metropolitan District **FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET** Board of Finance Meeting





AGENDA

- Budget Calendar
- 2026 Budget Recommendation Highlights
- Average Customer Water Bill
- Detailed Variance of Budget Changes
- Budget Summary



BUDGET CALENDAR

- 09/29 Board of Finance Meeting to discuss 2026 Proposed Budget
- 09/30 Town Meeting #1
- 10/06 District Board refers Budget to BOF
- 10/20 Board of Finance Meeting
- 10/21 Town Meeting #2
- 11/12 Public Hearing for 2026 Budget, Rates and Ordinance Revisions
- 11/17 Water Bureau & Board of Finance to consider and approve 2026 and Water Rates and Refer to District Board
- 11/19 Bureau of Public Works to consider and approve 2026 Sewer Rates and Refer to District Board
- 12/01 MDC Government Committee – to consider and approve ordinance revisions and refer to District Board
- 12/08 MDC District Board adopts 2026 Proposed Budget
- By 12/31 Levy Tax/Publish Ordinance



2026 BUDGET RECOMMENDATION HIGHLIGHTS

- Total overall proposed budget increase of 6.4%
- Increase of new positions with minimal impact to OPEX
- No increase to Ad Valorem
- \$1M to be reserved from Fund Balance for Sewer Ad Valorem Tax Levy Stabilization Fund
- No increase to the Water Rate
- \$1M to be reserved in Water Net Position for Water Master Plan
 - (Total Reserve \$3M)
- Proposed increases to customer service charges that have remained unchanged for several years
- Modernizing our infrastructure and technology is increasing some OPEX



AVERAGE CUSTOMER WATER BILL

		2025			2026			Variance		
	CCFs / Month	Rate / CCF	Monthly	Annual	Rate / CCF	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	%
Member Town - Residential										
Water Use Charge	8.333	\$ 3.91	\$ 32.58	\$ 391.00	\$ 3.91	\$ 32.58	\$ 391.00	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Clean Water Project Charge (CWPC)	8.333	\$ 4.57	\$ 38.08	\$ 457.00	\$ 4.87	\$ 40.58	\$ 487.00	\$ 2.50	\$ 30.00	6.6%
Water Customer Service Charge			\$ 14.98	\$ 179.76		\$ 15.73	\$ 188.76	\$ 0.75	\$ 9.00	5.0%
Sewer Customer Service Charge			\$ 9.00	\$ 108.00		\$ 12.50	\$ 150.00	\$ 3.50	\$ 42.00	38.9%
Total Bill			\$ 94.65	\$ 1,135.76		\$ 101.40	\$ 1,216.76	\$ 6.75	\$ 81.00	7.1%
Non-Member - Residential										
Water Used Charge	8.333	\$ 3.91	\$ 32.58	\$ 391.00	\$ 3.91	\$ 32.58	\$ 391.00	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Customer Service Charge			\$ 14.98	\$ 179.76		\$ 15.73	\$ 188.76	\$ 0.75	\$ 9.00	5.0%
General Surcharge Outside of District			\$ 14.98	\$ 179.76		\$ 15.73	\$ 188.76	\$ 0.75	\$ 9.00	5.0%
Total Bill			\$ 62.54	\$ 750.52		\$ 64.04	\$ 768.52	\$ 1.50	\$ 18.00	2.4%



DETAILED VARIANCE OF BUDGET CHANGES

(sewer and water operations)

Expense Changes	9/29/25 2026 Proposed	10/20/25 2026 Proposed	Variance
General Insurance	\$ 2,491,341	\$ 2,976,872	\$ 485,531
Insurance Premiums			
General Insurance	\$ 359,052	\$ 349,289	\$ (9,763)
Umbrella Liability	\$ 692,679	\$ 679,684	\$ (12,995)
Liability - Claims Contribution		\$ 508,289	\$ 508,289
Other Operating Expenditures	\$ 58,730,731	\$ 58,015,955	\$ (714,776)
Sludge Removal	\$ 917,200	\$ 292,500	\$ (624,700)
Patrol	\$ 506,000	\$ 278,300	\$ (227,700)
Maintenance Various	\$ 6,600,631	\$ 6,738,255	\$ 137,624
Payroll Related	\$ 82,697,380	\$ 82,950,490	\$ 253,110
Social Security	\$ 2,821,775	\$ 2,824,000	\$ 2,225
OT & Stanby Prem. Adj	\$ 5,230,610	\$ 5,265,670	\$ 35,060
IT Payroll Amended	\$ 79,068	\$ 98,427	\$ 19,359
Maintenance Payroll and Rounding Adj	\$ 46,939,175	\$ 47,155,000	\$ 196,466
			\$ 23,865

Revenue Changes	9/29/25 2026 Proposed	10/20/25 2026 Proposed	Variance
Revenue From Other Gov't Agencies	\$ 17,196,804	\$ 17,159,327	\$ 37,477
Sludge Services	\$ 11,265,804	\$ 11,228,327	\$ (37,477)
Sewer User Charge Revenues	\$ 16,354,240	\$ 16,415,590	\$ (61,350)
High Flow	\$ 4,138,650	\$ 4,200,000	\$ (61,350)
Sale Of Water	\$ 98,265,965	\$ 98,265,957	\$ 8
Various Rounding Adj			\$ 8
			\$ (23,865)



BUDGET SUMMARY

(sewer and water operations)

➤ Sewer

\$114.5 opex - \$61.4 orev = **\$53.1**

(Collected from Member Towns)

0.0% or no increase

➤ Water

\$126.8 opex - \$28.5 orev = **\$98.3** to be collected from Water Sales

1.5% increase

- Water consumption is unchanged from 18.3 million CCFs
- Water rate of \$3.91 per CCF x 18.3 million CCF Consumption = \$71.7 million
- Water service charges (domestic, commercial, industrial, other) = \$26.6 million

➤ Operating Expenditures

\$241.3 million proposed 2026 District's operating budget represents a **6.4% increase**

(millions)

Sewer

- 1) Opex
- 2) Orev (subtract)
- 3) Ad Valorem

Sewer Customer Service Charges

Water

- 1) Opex
- 2) Orev (subtract)
- 3) Water Sales

Consumption

Rate

Consumption Charges

Service Charges

Water Sales

Total

- 1) Opex
- 2) less Orev
- 3) Ad Valorem/Water Sales

2025		2026				
Adopted		Proposed		\$ VAR	% VAR	
\$	107.0	\$	114.5	\$	7.5	7.0%
\$	53.9	\$	61.4	\$	7.5	13.9%
\$	53.1	\$	53.1		-	0.0%
\$	9.0	\$	12.5	\$	3.5	38.9%
\$	119.7	\$	126.8	\$	7.1	5.9%
\$	22.8	\$	28.5	\$	5.7	24.9%
\$	96.9	\$	98.3	\$	1.4	1.5%
	18.3		18.3		-	0.0%
\$	3.91	\$	3.91	\$	-	0.0%
\$	71.7	\$	71.7	\$	0.0	0.0%
\$	25.2	\$	26.6	\$	1.4	5.5%
\$	96.9	\$	98.3	\$	1.4	1.4%
\$	226.7	\$	241.3	\$	14.6	6.4%
\$	76.8	\$	90.0	\$	13.2	17.2%
\$	149.9	\$	151.3	\$	1.4	0.9%



SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

Water Rate Comparison (typical 5/8" residential meter)

2025	
Water Utility	Water Rate Per CCF (748 gal)
Metropolitan District (MDC)	\$3.91
Aquarion (General Service first 9 CCF)	\$4.34
Regional Water Authority (RWA)	\$5.23
CT Water	\$8.18

Trend		
Year	MDC	RWA
2025	\$3.91	\$5.23
2024	\$3.80	\$5.03
2023	\$3.80	\$4.77
2022	\$4.09	\$4.77
2021	\$4.05	\$4.40
2020	\$3.97	\$4.40
2019	\$3.50	\$4.40
2018	\$3.14	\$4.14
2017	\$2.77	\$3.95



REVENUE CHANGES

(sewer and water operations)

Major Object	2025 Adopted	9/30/25	10/20/25	\$ Change *	% Change*
		2026 Proposed	2026 Proposed		
Sale of Water	\$ 96,863,796	\$ 98,265,957	\$ 98,265,957	\$ 1,402,161	1.4%
Tax on Member Municipalities	\$ 53,076,600	\$ 53,076,600	\$ 53,076,600	\$ -	0.0%
Other Operating Revenue	\$ 54,239,140	\$ 64,376,456	\$ 64,400,321	\$ 10,161,181	18.7%
Other Non-Operating Revenue	\$ 9,050,422	\$ 8,381,972	\$ 8,381,972	\$ (668,450)	-7.4%
Contributions from Other Funds	\$ 10,716,133	\$ 15,206,540	\$ 15,206,540	\$ 4,490,407	41.9%
Contingencies	\$ 2,780,000	\$ 1,980,000	\$ 1,980,000	\$ (800,000)	-28.8%
Total	\$ 226,726,091	\$ 241,287,525	\$ 241,311,390	\$ 14,585,298	6.4%

Key

* \$ Change and % Change Columns are the difference between 2025 Adopted and 10/20/25 2026 Proposed



EXPENDITURE CHANGES

(sewer and water operations)

	2025 Adopted	9/30/25 2026 Proposed	10/20/25 2026 Proposed	\$ Change*	% Change*
Debt	\$ 87,471,810	\$ 95,388,073	\$ 95,388,073	\$ 7,916,263	9.1%
Other Operating Expenditures	\$ 53,769,839	\$ 58,730,731	\$ 58,015,955	\$ 4,246,116	7.9%
Payroll	\$ 51,227,922	\$ 52,703,290	\$ 52,954,400	\$ 1,726,478	3.4%
Employee Benefits	\$ 13,026,943	\$ 13,765,008	\$ 13,767,000	\$ 740,057	5.7%
General Insurance	\$ 2,246,193	\$ 2,491,341	\$ 2,976,872	\$ 730,679	32.5%
Pension	\$ 8,274,127	\$ 8,375,968	\$ 8,375,970	\$ 101,843	1.2%
Contingencies	\$ 2,780,000	\$ 1,980,000	\$ 1,980,000	\$ (800,000)	-28.8%
OPEB	\$ 7,929,257	\$ 7,853,114	\$ 7,853,120	\$ (76,137)	-1.0%
Total	\$ 226,726,091	\$ 241,287,525	\$ 241,311,390	\$ 14,585,299	6.4%

Key

* \$ Change and % Change Columns are the difference between 2025 Adopted and 10/20/25 2026 Proposed