

**THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING**

555 Main Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06103
Wednesday, November 12, 2025

PRESENT: Chairman Donald M. Currey (Remote Attendance) and Vice Chairman William A. DiBella

**ALSO
PRESENT:** John S. Mirtle, District Clerk
Kelly Shane, Chief Administrative Officer
Jonathan Perugini, Director of Finance / Chief Financial Officer
Robert Schwarm, Director of Information Services (Remote Attendance)
Kevin Sullivan, IT Consultant (Remote Attendance)
Jacob Aviles, IT Consultant (Remote Attendance)

The public hearing was called to order by District Vice Chairman DiBella at 5:30PM

Vice Chairman DiBella read the following statement:

“This is a public hearing of The Metropolitan District. The District Board will receive public input on the proposed 2026 budget for The Metropolitan District, Water & Sewer Rates, and Revisions to Ordinances.”

“On October 31, 2025, the 2026 proposed budget was made publicly available and posted on www.themdc.org. At its October 6th 2025 meeting, the District Board referred the proposed budget to the Board of Finance. A final decision on the 2026 proposed budget, rates and ordinances has yet to be made. The District Board will consider and approve a final budget at its December 8, 2025 public meeting, and will take into account what is said at this hearing.”

John Mirtle, District Clerk, read the following into the record:

The following hearing notice was published in the Hartford Courant on October 31, 2025 and again on November 7, 2024; and the notice was filed, for public inspection, in the office of the town clerk in each municipality that is a member town of The Metropolitan District.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT
PROPOSED 2026 BUDGET, WATER & SEWER RATES AND
REVISIONS TO ORDINANCES**

**The Metropolitan District Board Room
555 Main Street, Hartford, Connecticut**

Pursuant to Special Act 01-3, as adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut, and Section 2-14 of the Compiled Charter of The Metropolitan District ("District"), the District will hold a public hearing on the proposed fiscal year 2026 budget, water and sewer rates, and revisions to the District's ordinances. The hearing will be held at The Metropolitan District Board Room, 555 Main Street, Hartford, Connecticut, on **Wednesday, November 12, 2025 at 5:30 PM.**

Members of the public that would like to participate remotely may call into the public hearing at **(415) 655-0001 Access Code: 2302 930 4888 #** or via [Meeting Video Link](#) available on the District's website. Anyone from the public wishing to submit public comment on the budget, rates or ordinances is encouraged to submit written comments to DistrictClerk@themdc.com prior to the hearing. Comments received in advance of the public hearing will be available to District Commissioners during the public hearing and incorporated into the record. Submitting written comments does not prevent any member of the public from also speaking during the hearing.

The proposed fiscal year 2026 budget, rates and ordinance revisions are available for public inspection at www.themdc.org/budget or by request to DistrictClerk@themdc.com. Proposed changes to the following sections of the ordinances will be considered:

WATER SUPPLY ORDINANCES:

- § W1b CUSTOMER SERVICE CHARGE**
- § W1c SURCHARGE OUTSIDE THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT**
- § W1f SURCHARGE OUTSIDE THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS**
- § W6f CHARGES FOR PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION**

All interested parties from The Metropolitan District's member municipalities may appear to be heard.

John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk

John Mirtle, District Clerk, read the public hearing guidelines.

1. Only one person will be allowed to speak at any given time.
2. Members of the public, when speaking, are requested to state for the record their name, address, and the name of the company they represent, if applicable.

3. There are some members of the public in person and some remote, we will begin public comment with the individuals physically present
4. Members of the public are requested to speak directly into the microphone, due to the fact that these proceedings are being recorded.
5. Statements from the public should be limited to **THREE** minutes each. The Chair reserves the right to interrupt comments that extend beyond **THREE** minutes in order to afford everyone an opportunity to express an opinion.
6. All persons present are requested to register an opinion with the Clerk, either in favor of or opposed to the proposed budget, rates and ordinance amendments, prior to leaving the hearing.
7. We will first take up public comments to anyone in attendance and then we will open it up to anyone attending remotely.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Elizabeth Tavelli, Independent Consumer Advocate spoke regarding Page 5 of the meeting documents which read “*water use, customer service charge, fixed surcharge and fire protection rates to remain unchanged*” She stated that this is an error since the Customer Service Charge is increasing. She urges Commissioners to look at the increasing Customer Service Charge which is increasing and will have a similar effect on customer budgets. Elizabeth Tavelli stated that she is curious if the increase had been structured as a water rate increase, rather than a Customer Service Charge increase, what that applicable water rate would be.

Elizabeth Tavelli also commented on an allocation of \$100,000 for Operation Fuel / Generation Power CT. Out of 629 applications between January and June 2025, they provided assistance to 283 applicants. She encourages MDC to reconsider the contribution, as there are not many other options for customers who cannot pay their water bill. MDC is in a unique position to be able to provide the assistance.

She spoke regarding the annual \$1.2 million that is spent on Riverfront Recapture. She encourages Commissioners consider increasing the allocation to Operation Fuel / Generation Power CT, which would provide a big impact to customers throughout the year.

ADJOURNMENT

The public hearing was adjourned at 5:43 PM

ATTEST:

John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk

Date of Approval