

MDC BOARD ADOPTS 2021 BUDGET

December 15, 2020
For Immediate Release

(HARTFORD, CT) – The Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) recently voted to adopt the 2021 budget at the December 7th meeting of the District Board. The entire budget setting process included a dozen public meetings and collaboration with the town managers and finance directors of the MDC’s eight member towns. The 2021 budget includes no increase to the Ad Valorem tax, the mechanism that funds the majority of the sewer operations and a minor increase to the water bill.

In light of the difficult economic climate caused by the COVID-19 pandemic for our towns and customers, the MDC, acting on advice from its bond counsel, approved proceeds received from its 2014 Revenue Bond premium to mitigate a significant portion of the increases for both the water and sewer operational budgets for 2021.

To further lessen the impact of operational cost increases, the MDC decreased its total headcount from 479 employees in 2020 by 25, to 454 for 2021 with retirement attrition. This will produce a significant savings of about \$2.5 million and represents a 5% decrease in the MDC workforce. Since 2008, the MDC has reduced its workforce by a total of 226 positions.

For 2021, the Water Use Charge will increase from \$3.97 per ccf to \$4.05 per ccf. (A ccf is equal to about 748 gallons of water.) There are no increases to the other three water bill charges, the Clean Water Project Charge (currently still the largest portion of the water bill), the Water Customer Service Charge and the Sewer Customer Service Charge.

Under the adopted budget, a typical member town customer that uses 100 ccf per year would see an increase of less than 1% (0.75%) of their total water bill, approximately a \$0.67 cents per month increase or a total of \$8 for the entire year. For comparison, in 2020, the average total water bill increased by 5.8% and the ad valorem increased 6.9%. Even with the 2021 increase, the MDC’s water rate remains the lowest for any similar sized water provider in CT.

***About MDC:** The MDC is a nonprofit municipal corporation chartered by the Connecticut General Assembly in 1929. The MDC provides water, wastewater treatment and other services to its member towns: Bloomfield, East Hartford, Hartford, Newington, Rocky Hill, West Hartford, Wethersfield and Windsor. In addition, the District supplies treated water to portions of Glastonbury, South Windsor, Farmington and East Granby.*

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