



The Metropolitan District  
water supply · environmental services · geographic information

**DISTRICT BOARD  
555 MAIN STREET, HARTFORD, CT  
REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2021 5:30 PM**

*The general public is welcome to call into the meeting. Everyone on the call will need to mute their phone to limit background noise disrupting the meeting.*

Dial in #: (415)-655-0001; Access Code: 43808661#  
[Meeting Video Link](#)

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 4, 2021
5. PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATIVE TO AGENDA ITEMS
6. REPORT FROM DISTRICT CHAIRMAN
7. REPORT FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
8. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNSEL
9. REFERRAL TO BUREAU OF PUBLIC WORKS RE: LETTER TO CT DEEP REGARDING MS4
10. BOARD OF FINANCE - CONSIDERATION AND POTENTIAL ACTION RE:
  - A. DPH PRIMACY FEE (October 27, 2021)
11. COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION - CONSIDERATION AND POTENTIAL ACTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF:
  - A. DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES (November 3, 2021)
  - B. DISTRICT CLERK (November 3, 2021)
12. DISCUSSION RE: 2022 BUDGET
13. OPPORTUNITY FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS
14. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS & QUESTIONS
15. OTHER BUSINESS
16. ADJOURNMENT

**BOARD OF FINANCE  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH PRIMACY FEE**

To: District Board

November 3, 2021

From: Board of Finance

At a Board of Finance meeting held on October 27, 2021, it was:

VOTED: That the Board of Finance recommends to the District Board passage of the following resolution from Bond Counsel

RESOLVED: District staff is hereby directed to apply the excess Department of Public Health Primacy Fee previously collected from customers by the District to the 2022 water budget to effectuate a reduction in the water rate.

Respectfully submitted,



John S. Mirtle, Esq.  
District Clerk

**COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION  
APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES**

**To:** District Board

November 3, 2021

**From:** Committee on Organization

Pursuant to Section B3b of the District By-Laws, it is the recommendation of the staff of The Metropolitan District and approved by the Committee on Organization to appoint Jamie Harlow as Director of Human Resources for The Metropolitan District.

At a Committee on Organization meeting held on November 3, 2021, it was:

**Voted:** That the Committee on Organization recommends to the District Board passage of the following resolution:

**Resolved:** That the District Board, in accordance with Section B3b of the District By-Laws, hereby appoints Jamie Harlow as Director of Human Resources for The Metropolitan District effective November 3, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,



John S. Mirtle, Esq.  
District Clerk

**COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION  
APPOINTMENT OF DISTRICT CLERK**

**To:** District Board

November 3, 2021

**From:** Committee on Organization

On August 5, 2013, the District Board appointed John S. Mirtle as Temporary District Clerk. On October 7, 2013, the District Board amended the job classification system to create an Assistant District Counsel/ District Clerk position. Attorney Mirtle has served as the District Clerk since that time and it is recommended to remove the 'temporary' designation. Pursuant to Section B3b of the District By-Laws, it is the recommendation to appoint John S. Mirtle as Assistant District Counsel/ District Clerk for The Metropolitan District.

At a Committee on Organization meeting held on November 3, 2021, it was:

**Voted:** That the Committee on Organization recommends to the District Board passage of the following resolution:

**Resolved:** That the District Board, in accordance with Section B3b of the District By-Laws, hereby appoints John S. Mirtle as Assistant District Counsel/ District Clerk for The Metropolitan District.

Respectfully submitted,



John S. Mirtle, Esq.  
District Clerk

# The Metropolitan District **FISCAL YEAR 2022 BUDGET**

11/3/2021 District Board Update





# AD VALOREM & WATER RATE IMPACT

## (9/28/21 Board of Finance recommendation)

### ➤ The recommended 2022 District's budget:

- Sewer **\$98.2 opex** - \$45.1 orev = \$53.1 million to be collected from member towns
  - This represents a \$1.6 million or **3.1%** Ad Valorem increase over 2021's \$51.5 million
- Water **\$111.7 opex** - \$12.3 orev = \$99.4 to be collected from Water Sales
  - Water rate of **\$4.24 per CCF** x 17.7 million CCF Consumption = \$75.0 million (4.7% increase over 2021's \$4.05 rate)
  - Water service charges (domestic, commercial, industrial, other) = \$24.4 million
- Total **\$209.9 opex** representing an overall operating expenditure increase of \$4.4 million or **2.1%** increase over 2021's \$205.5 million

(millions)	2021	2022	\$ Var	% Var
<b>Sewer</b> (page 22 of 9/28 presentation)				
1) Opex	\$ 97.0	\$ 98.2	\$ 1.2	1.2%
2) Orev (subtract)	\$ 45.5	\$ 45.1	\$ (0.4)	-0.9%
3) Ad Valorem	\$ 51.5	\$ 53.1	\$ 1.6	<b>3.1%</b>
Sewer Customer Service charge	\$ 7.0	\$ 9.0	\$ 2.0	28.6%
<b>Water</b> (page 17 of 9/28 presentation)				
1) Opex	\$ 108.5	\$ 111.7	\$ 3.2	2.9%
2) Orev (subtract)	\$ 11.7	\$ 12.3	\$ 0.6	5.1%
3) Water rates & Service charges	\$ 96.8	\$ 99.4	\$ 2.6	2.7%
Consumption	17.7	17.7	\$ -	0.0%
Rate	\$ 4.05	\$ 4.24	\$ 0.19	4.7%
Sale of Water	\$ 71.6	\$ 75.0	\$ 3.4	4.7%
Service Charges	\$ 25.2	\$ 24.4	\$ (0.8)	-3.2%
Water rates and Service charges	\$ 96.8	\$ 99.4	\$ 2.6	2.7%
<b>Total</b>				
1) Opex	\$ 205.5	\$ 209.9	\$ 4.4	<b>2.1%</b>
2) Orev (subtract)	\$ 57.2	\$ 57.4	\$ 0.2	0.3%
3) Ad Valorem/Water rates & Service charges	\$ 148.3	\$ 152.5	\$ 4.2	2.8%



# OPPORTUNITIES/CHALLENGES

- Sewer opportunities **included** in 9/28/21 recommended 3.1% ad valorem increase:
  - Decrease 2022 General Fund (Sewer) **Debt Service** budget by \$2.5 million (2021 surplus)
  - Used the entire \$2.7 million of the 2020 **General Fund surplus** (3.2% greater than 35.0% maximum)
  - Reduced the PMU revenue reduction by \$1.0 million. PMU 2020 revenue of \$8.3 million to 2021 revenue of \$6.3 million (\$2.0 million decrease) to 2022 of \$5.3 million (\$1.0 million decrease)
- Other opportunities **not included** in 9/28/21 recommended
  - Decrease 2022 Enterprise Fund (Water) Debt Service budget by \$2.7 million (2021 possible surplus)
  - Revisit Employee Benefits Retirement Payouts \$2.4 million
    - Average of \$39.0K for each of 55 employees
    - Life Insurance buy-out of \$6.0K for 47 eligible employees
  - Review of budgeted self-insurance fund with USI (employee benefits consultant)
- Challenges
  - Large increases in Electricity, Gas, and purchase of Polymers (incineration)



# AD VALOREM & WATER RATE IMPACT

(10/27/21 Board of Finance recommendation)

## ➤ Other opportunities

- Decrease 2022 Enterprise Fund (Water) Debt Service budget by \$2.2 million (reduced by 2021 credits)
- Decrease contribution to Self-Insurance fund by \$1.0 million (confirmed with USI employee benefits consultant)
- Decrease Employee Benefits Retirement Payouts by \$0.5 million (44 instead of 55 employees)
- Decreased Nitrogen Credits purchases by \$0.3 million

## ➤ Challenges

- Large increases in Electricity of \$1.3 million or 20%
- Large increase in Gas of \$1.4 million or 100% (price and volume increases)
- Large increase in Polymers of \$0.3 million or 33%

## ➤ Net impact

- Able to maintain the 3.1% Ad Valorem increase
- Able to reduce the Water rate to \$4.09, a \$0.04 or 1% increase





# AD VALOREM & WATER RATE IMPACT

## (10/27/21 Board of Finance recommendation)

### ➤ The recommended 2022 District's budget:

- Sewer **\$100.2 opex** - \$47.1 orev = \$53.1 million to be collected from member towns
  - This represents a \$1.6 million or **3.1%** Ad Valorem increase over 2021's \$51.5 million
- Water **\$108.8 opex** - \$12.3 orev = \$99.6 to be collected from Water Sales
  - Water rate of **\$4.09 per CCF** x 17.7 million CCF Consumption = \$72.4 million (1.0% increase over 2021's \$4.05 rate)
  - Water service charges (domestic, commercial, industrial, other) = \$24.2 million
- Total **\$209.0 opex** representing an overall operating expenditure increase of \$3.5 million or **1.7%** increase over 2021's \$205.5 million

(millions)	2021	2022	\$ Var	% Var
<b>Sewer</b> (page 22 of 9/28 presentation)				
1) Opex	\$ 97.0	\$ 100.2	\$ 3.2	3.3%
2) Orev (subtract)	\$ 45.5	\$ 47.1	\$ 1.6	3.6%
3) Ad Valorem	\$ 51.5	\$ 53.1	\$ 1.6	<b>3.1%</b>
Sewer Customer Service charge	\$ 7.0	\$ 9.0	\$ 2.0	28.6%
<b>Water</b> (page 17 of 9/28 presentation)				
1) Opex	\$ 108.5	\$ 108.8	\$ 0.3	0.3%
2) Orev (subtract)	\$ 11.7	\$ 12.3	\$ 0.6	5.1%
3) Water rates & Service charges	\$ 96.8	\$ 96.6	\$ (0.2)	-0.3%
Consumption	17.7	17.7	\$ -	0.0%
Rate	\$ 4.05	\$ <b>4.09</b>	\$ 0.04	1.0%
Sale of Water	\$ 71.6	\$ 72.4	\$ 0.7	1.0%
Service Charges	\$ 25.2	\$ 24.2	\$ (1.0)	-4.0%
Water rates and Service charges	\$ 96.8	\$ 96.6	\$ (0.3)	-0.3%
<b>Total</b>				
1) Opex	\$ 205.5	\$ 209.0	\$ 3.5	<b>1.7%</b>
2) Orev (subtract)	\$ 57.2	\$ 59.4	\$ 2.2	3.9%
3) Ad Valorem/Water rates & Service charges	\$ 148.3	\$ 149.6	\$ 1.3	0.9%