

Stormwater/Wastewater Project Advisory Committee (PAC)

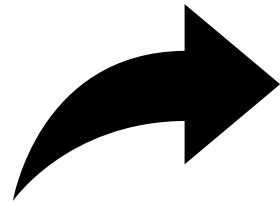
October 16, 2023



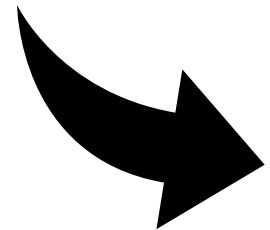
Agenda

- ▶ **Introductions/Orientation**
- ▶ **City Council Environmental and Infrastructure Goals**
- ▶ **Project Advisory Committee's (PAC) Composition and Role**
- ▶ **Overview of Urban Stormwater Management**
- ▶ **McMinnville's Stormwater System**
- ▶ **Regulatory Requirements**
- ▶ **Stormwater Utility Concept**
- ▶ **Work Done to Date**
- ▶ **Next Steps**

**Two Studies
Underway**

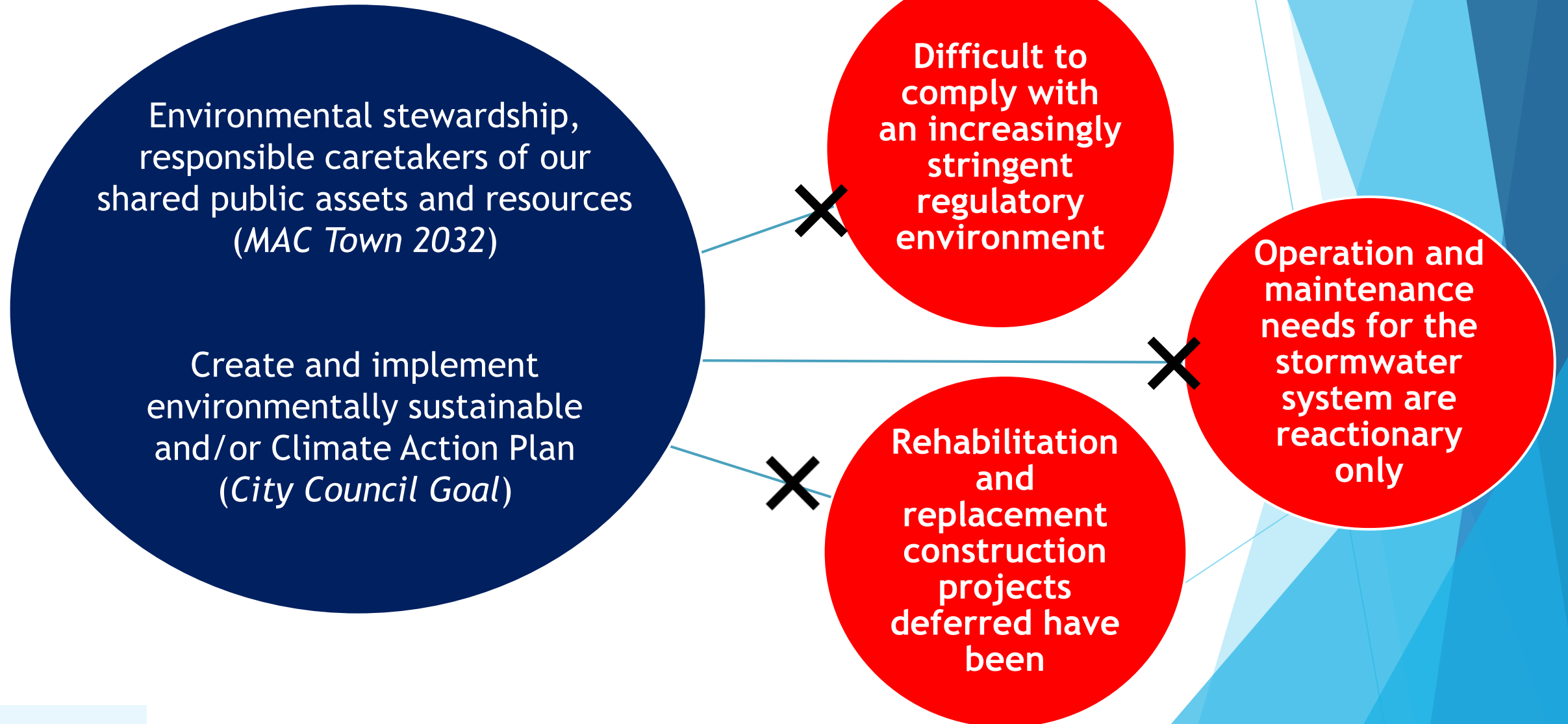


**Stormwater Utility
Analysis
~ 6 months**



**Wastewater Master
Plan Update
~6 months**

City Council Environmental and Infrastructure Goals



Project Advisory Committee

12 member Project Advisory Committee (PAC)

Residential
(5)

Commercial
(2)

Industrial
(1)

Institutional
(3)

Development
Community
(1)

- ▶ Mayor appointed Councilor Zack Geary to serve as the Council liaison with the Committee

Project Advisory Committee Roles



Provide a forum for representative customer classes to consider formation of a Stormwater Utility and update wastewater user fees and SDCs.



Develop recommendations to the City Council as you consider:

- + Adopting a Stormwater Utility,
- + Updating wastewater rates and SDCs, and
- + Providing equity among rate payers.



Share information within your organization and with other customers in your customer classification.

Staff/Consultant Roles



Provide the Committee with timely and accurate information.



Prepare for Committee meetings and answer questions as the process progresses.



Provide support as needed in sharing information with customer classes in addition to Committee meetings.

Additional Public Engagement/Outreach Efforts

Media

- Included this project on the City and iheartmac websites
- To be included in the City's Newsletter
- Community wide public meeting

Community Groups

- Organizational/Professional groups
- Other City committees

City Council

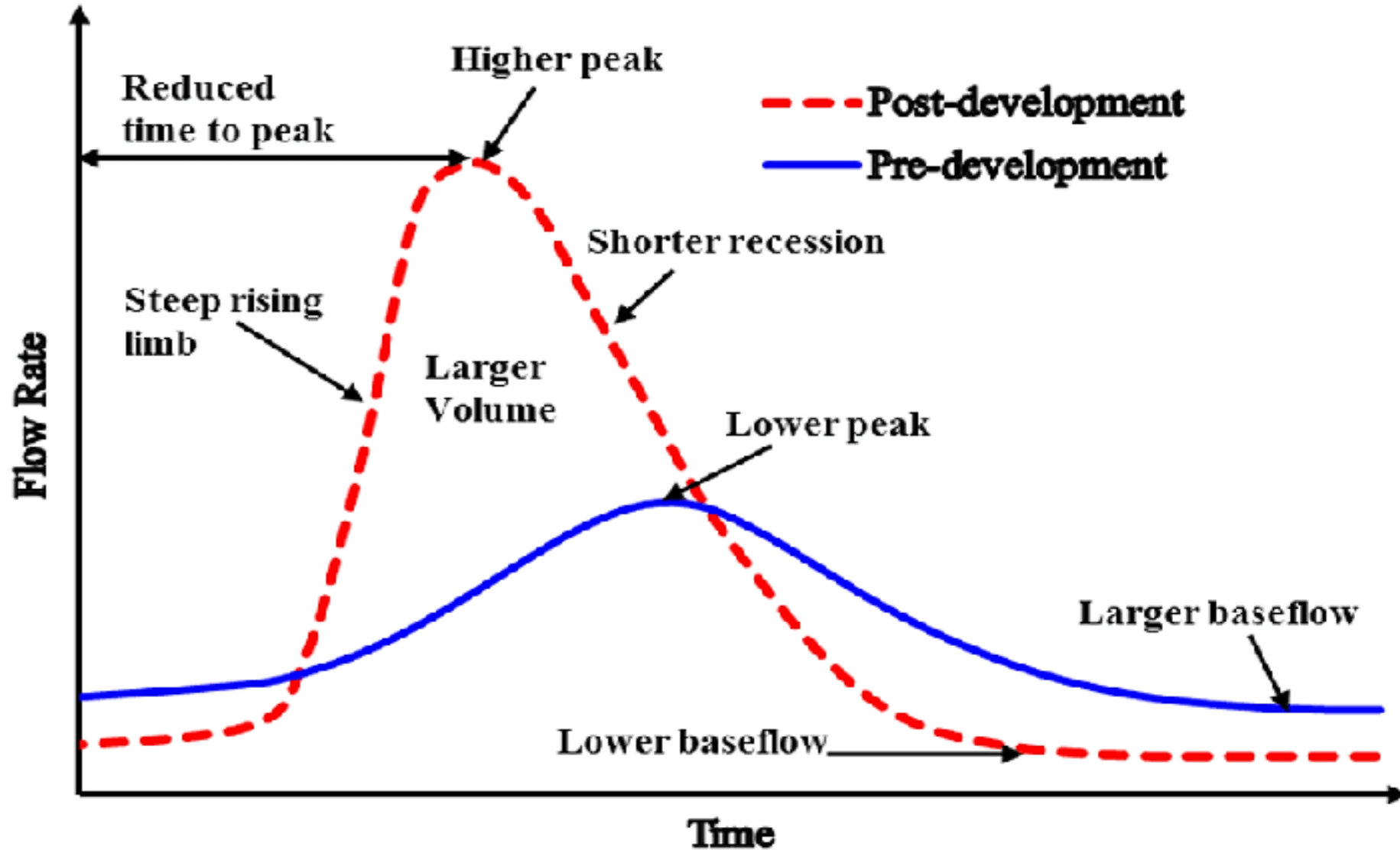
- Stormwater Work Session
- Wastewater Work Session

Urban Stormwater Overview



- ▶ As the City grows, development increases impervious areas (buildings, parking lots, driveways, streets).
- ▶ Runoff from these surfaces flows faster and in greater amounts than before development.
- ▶ Unmanaged, increased flows can result in localized flooding or “flashy” flooding of larger areas and property damage.
- ▶ Flows over impervious areas accumulate pollutants that are transported to the stormwater system and eventually drainageways, creeks, rivers.

Urban Stormwater Overview, Stormwater Flow



What's in Urban Stormwater?



- ▶ Solids (organic and inorganic)
 - ▶ Litter, sediment, roadside trash
- ▶ Nutrients
 - ▶ Nitrogen and Phosphorus
- ▶ Metals
 - ▶ Mercury, lead, copper, cadmium...
- ▶ Hydrocarbons
 - ▶ Gasoline, oil, vehicle emissions
- ▶ Deicing agents
 - ▶ Sodium and calcium chloride
- ▶ Bacteria and pathogens
 - ▶ Fecal coliforms and Escherichia coli (E. coli)

Impact of urbanization on our watershed

DEQ identifies the South Yamhill River as Water Quality Impaired for:

- ▶ Temperature (too hot)
- ▶ E. coli (bacterial contamination)
- ▶ Heavy metals, Mercury (toxics)
- ▶ Nitrogen and phosphorus (nutrients that reduce dissolved oxygen)



Urban Stormwater Management

- ▶ What regulatory requirements must the City meet?
- ▶ What level of stormwater service does the community want? (minimum required vs. programmed operation, management and capital improvements)
- ▶ What is the fairest, most practical way to pay for stormwater management?



McMinnville's Stormwater System



Existing conveyance system

- ▶ Watershed (10,700 acres, 8,400 acres in UGB)
- ▶ 114 miles of stormwater pipelines
- ▶ 3,365 catch basins
- ▶ 45 miles of open channels
- ▶ 17 public and private detention basins



Reactive vs. Planned Operation and Maintenance

- ▶ Emergency response costly
- ▶ Deferred capital improvements to known failures
- ▶ Greater likelihood of property damage
- ▶ Greater potential for long term damage to other infrastructure (streets, culverts, creeks)

Conveyance System Condition

- ▶ photos/video of collection system

▶ **Mercury Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL):**

- ▶ **TMDL Plan approved by DEQ in 2022**
- ▶ **5-years to implement**
 - ▶ Public Outreach
 - ▶ New Ordinances
 - ▶ Staff Training
 - ▶ Additional inspections and tracking
 - ▶ Guidance Document
 - ▶ Local Erosion Control Permitting Program and Enforcement

▶ **Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit:**

- ▶ Authorized by the Federal Clean Water Act
- ▶ Required for Cities over 100k population, or at the discretion of DEQ
- ▶ McMinnville largest city in Oregon without a MS4 permit
- ▶ Permit requirement expected in the next 2-5 years
- ▶ Requirements similar to TMDL, and:
 - ▶ Stormwater Management Plan (detention/water quality)
 - ▶ Spill prevention and response program
 - ▶ Ongoing water quality monitoring
 - ▶ Development of construction standards and enforcement

Why form a Stormwater Utility?

Financial adequacy and stability

- ➔ Establishes a dedicated funding source for stormwater management.
 - ➔ Allows for a rate phase-in strategy to address regulatory, capital and environmental requirements.
-

Aligns costs with benefits

- ➔ Establishes rates based on stormwater system-specific demands and benefits.
 - ➔ Provides an equitable distribution of costs.
 - ➔ Reduces demands on Wastewater and Street Funds.
-

Stormwater Utility Analysis Framework

Legal

- Local code changes

Financial Planning

- Identify revenue requirements and funding level

Rate Setting

- Select rate structure & calculate rates

Administration

- Develop support systems (billing, accounting, customer service)



Legal Framework

- Dozens of Oregon cities have implemented stormwater fees

General Authority

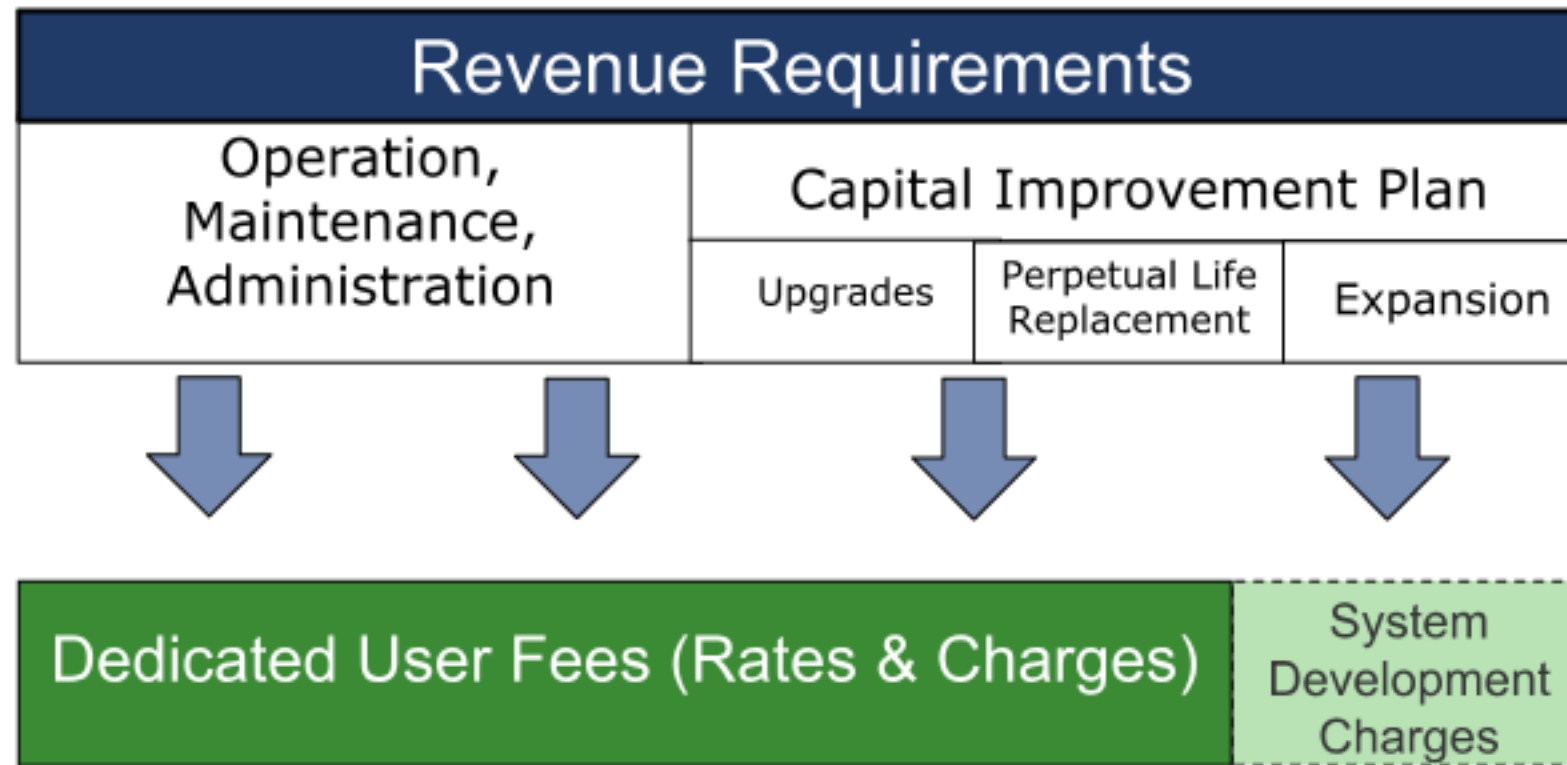
- Municipal powers provision
- Case law

Local Authority

- Municipal Code
- Fee resolution

1993 Roseburg Decision: Stormwater rates was a fee, not a tax because it was controllable and avoidable AND was not imposed upon the owner of real property as a direct consequence of ownership.

§ Utility enterprises have dedicated funding sources



Typical Funding Progression

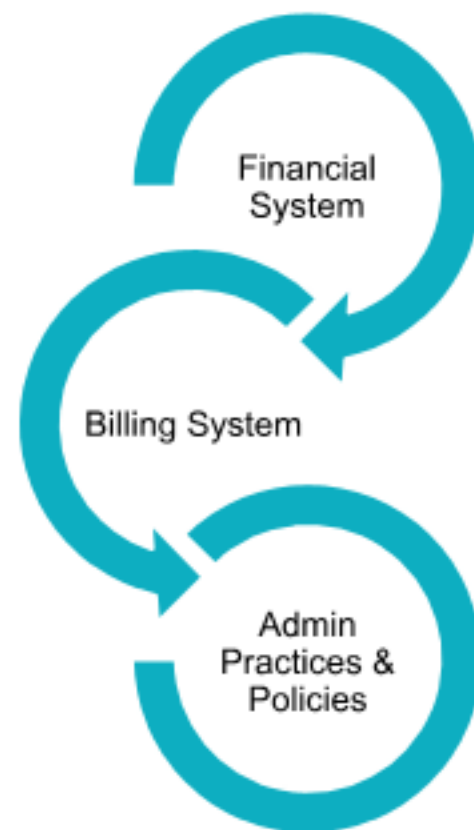


- § Balance equity/fairness with simplicity to keep program administration costs low

Rate Theory	Practice
Charge proportionate to use	Individual property use is not 'metered'
System use = Stormwater runoff generated from private properties & public rights-of-way	Estimate use based on Impervious area* Account-based charges used for administration costs

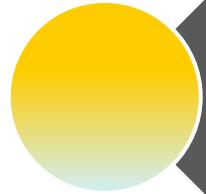
* Hard surfaces that don't allow infiltration of stormwater into the ground.

- § Administrative framework
 - § Financial system (enterprise fund)
 - § Billing system
 - § Customer service
- § Public education
- § Rate policies
 - § Exemptions/discounts
 - § Rate modifiers (credits)
- § Appeals procedures



Work done to date

- ▶ **Impervious area measured by GIS consultant (Raftelis), topic for next meeting.**



Representative sample, Single Family Dwelling



Single Family Attached properties



Commercial/Industrial/Institutional properties

Wastewater Master Plan Update

Technical Analysis underway

(current)

- **Identifying and prioritizing conveyance system and treatment facility improvements**

Financial Policy Decisions

(future)

- **Update wastewater rate structure and fees**
- **Update Sewer Systems Development Charges**

Next Steps

Schedule December PAC Meeting

- **Estimated annual revenue needs**
- **Rate structure options and sample customer bills/impacts**
- **Rate modifiers (credits and discounts)**

Wastewater Master Plan

- **Brief status update**