



Randy Lauer, *Mayor*

David Ripma

Alison Caswell

Jamie Kranz

Glenn White

Nick Moon

Sandy Glantz

## Agenda

### January 24, 2023

Regular Meeting | 7:00 p.m.

Troutdale Police Community Center – Kellogg Room  
234 SE Kendall Ct, Troutdale, OR 97060

1. **Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call, Agenda Update**
2. **Public Comment:** Public Comment on non-agenda and consent agenda items is welcome at this time. *Public comment on agenda items will be taken at the time the item is considered. Public comments should be directed to the Presiding Officer and limited to matters of community interest or related to matters which may, or could, come before Council. Each speaker shall be limited to 5 minutes for each agenda item unless a different amount of time is allowed by the Presiding Officer, with consent of the Council. The Council and Mayor should avoid immediate or protracted responses to citizen comments.*
3. **Consent Agenda:**
  - 3.1 **Resolution:** A resolution declaring a vacancy on the City Council and approving an application process to fill the vacancy.
4. **Presentation:** A student essay presentation by Dalton Roberson as part of a Restorative Justice Program. – *Theresa Huggins, Lutheran Community Services NW*
5. **Presentation:** A presentation on the impact of the previous changes to the Summer Concert Series agreement with McMenamins, Inc. – *Ray Young, City Manager & DJ Simcoe, McMenamins*
6. **Discussion:** A review of amendment to Municipal Code to add fee option to run for office. – *Ray Young, City Manager*
7. **Report:** Background report and update on Utility and System Development Charge Rate Processes. – *Travis Hultin, Interim Public Works Director*
8. **Staff Communications**
9. **Council Communications**
10. **Adjournment**

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Randy Lauer, Mayor

Dated: January 19, 2023

## Meeting Participation

The public may attend the meeting in person or via Zoom. Please email [info@troutdaleoregon.gov](mailto:info@troutdaleoregon.gov) by **5:00pm on Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>** to request Zoom meeting access credentials. You may also submit written public comments via email to [info@troutdaleoregon.gov](mailto:info@troutdaleoregon.gov) no later than **5:00pm on Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>**. City Council Regular Meetings are broadcast live on Comcast Cable Channel 30 (HD Channel 330) and Frontier Communications Channel 38 and replayed on the weekend following the meeting - Friday at 4:00pm and Sunday at 9:00pm.

Further information and copies of agenda packets are available at: Troutdale City Hall, 219 E. Historic Columbia River Hwy. Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; on our Web Page [www.troutdaleoregon.gov/meetings](http://www.troutdaleoregon.gov/meetings) or call Sarah Skroch, City Recorder at 503-674-7258.

The meeting location is wheelchair accessible. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made at least 48 hours before the meeting to: Sarah Skroch, City Recorder 503-674-7258.

**MINUTES**  
**Troutdale City Council – Regular Meeting**  
**Troutdale Police Community Center – Kellogg Room**  
**234 SW Kendall Court**  
**Troutdale, OR 97060**

**Tuesday, January 24, 2023 – 7:00PM**

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL, AGENDA UPDATE**

Mayor Lauer called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Lauer, Councilor Ripma, Councilor Wunn, Councilor White, Councilor Moon and Councilor Glantz.

**ABSENT:** Councilor Caswell (excused).

**STAFF:** Ray Young, City Manager; Sarah Skroch, City Recorder; Ed Trompke, City Attorney; Erich Mueller, Finance Director, Tim Seery, Parks & Facilities Superintendent and Mollie King, Recreation Director.

**GUESTS:** See Attached.

Mayor Lauer asked for agenda updates.

Ray Young, City Manager, replied there are no updates.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT:** Public comment on non-agenda and consent agenda items is welcome at this time.

Carol Allen, Troutdale resident, stated she has served the City by being on several committees. She has felt frustrated in the past because when committees make recommendations to the City Council it seems like a lot of the recommendations fall on deaf ears. The Council and city staff seem to make decisions that are not part of the committee's recommendations and she is wondering why. An example is the dog park. One year it was approved by the Council but then there was no money because it was taken out of the budget. The park has been a recommendation for over 20 years. She is also concerned about alcohol in the parks because of what it can bring into the parks, such as disrespect, irresponsibility and fighting in Glenn Otto Park. She has witnessed fights in the park during the summer. She's not sure how often it is patrolled, but every year there are fights there and she is concerned. She asked Council to please listen to the recommendations of the committees who work so hard. Thank you for listening.

Paul Wilcox, Troutdale resident, read from a self-prepared statement (attached as Exhibit A).

### **3. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**3.1 RESOLUTION:** A resolution declaring a vacancy on the City Council and approving an application process to fill the vacancy.

**MOTION:** Councilor White moved to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Councilor Ripma.  
Non-unanimous vote.

**MOTION:** Councilor White moved to pull item 3.1 and reconsider at the end of the meeting. Seconded by Councilor Wunn.  
Motion Passed 6-0.

### **4. PRESENTATION:** A student essay presentation by Dalton Roberson as part of a Restorative Justice Program.

Ray Young stated most everyone should remember a couple years ago there was a fairly serious incident down at Glenn Otto Park. It was a situation where 4 individuals assaulted another individual. It made the press, and it was quite concerning for the citizens. Tonight, one of the participants in that event, Dalton Roberson, is coming before the Council to work on the process of repairing the damage done with the incident.

Theresa Huggins, Restorative Justice Program Manager, stated restorative justice is a principle that is victim harmed or person harmed centered. It addresses crimes or harm that's happened in the community in a way of repairing the harm. What they do in the process of restorative justice is when they have a youth or someone come in, they have a discussion of the story and what happened. They are allowed to explore the harm that was caused by the incident and explore their feelings and emotions. Then there is a discussion on ways to repair the harm. One of the most key parts of the process is taking accountability for your actions. One of the ways to repair the harm is writing an essay. Dalton is very concerned about the harm that he did to the community of Troutdale through his actions.

Dalton Roberson stated he compiled an essay about what happened. He read the following statement, "About a year and a half ago I made a huge mistake in my life and think about how I want to re-evaluate my life. I have learned how my actions have impacted the community and how it made a toxic environment around me. It taught me a valuable lesson about responsibility and how my actions affect people. I made people at Glenn Otto Park feel as if it isn't safe to enjoy themselves and have a good time with their families. It's not fair that I ruined such a beautiful park which I've been going to for over 5 years. When I was in the scenario, I thought nothing but of myself. I should've taken a step back and walked away and thought about how this would hurt and impact people around me. During this altercation in which I was involved in I was with a group of friends which I no longer associate myself with. During this argument they used a derogatory slang towards the LGBTQ community. It was really uncalled for and not right and hateful. Whether the brothers were gay has nothing to do with this problem. The problem is thinking it's okay to say in the first place. Someone who has family in the community understands the pressure and the discrimination towards something like that and the mental

toll it takes on someone when no one is there to have your back or listen to your problems and who accepts you for who you are. My actions especially when that happened at the river began to show up all over social media making it seem like it's not safe to go out in public and be themselves. It's unacceptable. I would feel unsafe wondering why the community would let something like that happen. The only thing we can do is make a better tomorrow and try not to make the same mistakes again. I've learned a lot from this experience and there's nothing I can do or say to change what I have done, but I can change myself and live a better life. I present this to the Troutdale City Council and the people of the community members and the LGBTQ community to present as a formal reconciliation of my actions and what I did and know I hurt this community in such a hurtful way. I came here to ask for forgiveness and hope this does something to repair the damage I have caused to the City and the people. Thank you.

**5. PRESENTATION:** A presentation on the impact of the previous changes to the Summer Concert Series agreement with McMenamins, Inc.

<0:24:28>

Ray Young gave a brief overview of the staff report.

DJ Simcoe, McMenamins, stated that the changes that were made a couple of years ago to allow for more shows have kept us competitive in the market. There were 38 shows last year, the most prior to COVID was 26-27. The biggest issue at Edgefield is staffing and complaints have been about long waits and high prices. The City had 2 complaints and Edgefield had 4 that came into the front desk. He was contacted 5 times from a neighbor about noise complaints. This year to better mitigate the low sound, we are trying to better adjust, point and keep the subwoofers down. The biggest traffic impact is weekday sold out concerts. They work with a flagging company and will continue to make Halsey traffic better and sound complaints better. This was the 15<sup>th</sup> year of concerts, 38 shows and they sold 190,000 tickets. The economic impact is huge. Edgefield hopes to be able to do shows for a long time and they're hoping to figure out more ways to give back to local charities.

Councilor White stated that he has heard officers saying they would like better lighting for people walking along Halsey towards the other parking lot when they leave.

Councilor Ripma stated he has been a big fan of the concerts since they've started. Keep up the good work.

Mayor Lauer stated that Halsey is his route to/from work and each year traffic keeps getting better and more efficient.

**6. DISCUSSION:** A review of amendment to Municipal Code to add fee option to run for office.

<0:38:15>

Ray Young gave a brief overview of the staff report.

Councilor Ripma stated he led the charge of trying to keep the process the way it was before. He paid the fee the last time he ran. He's always felt that the requirement that people running for office gather 25 signatures as an exercise every 4 years was a good thing for them to do. If Council doesn't wish to take this up, he will leave it at that. He would ask staff to bring back something to change this back.

Councilor Glantz stated this is what Council decided. She thinks it's fine the way it is.

Councilor Wunn stated he thinks it should stay the way it is, so it gives options.

Councilor White stated he's very frugal so he would be out there getting signatures. He sees it as a low bar and kind of a safety mechanism for the City. For him, it's the equivalent of a reference check. It was changed because of COVID, and that was the only reason for changing it. Now that that seems to be subsiding he thinks they should get back to it. He thinks it's important. It's a low bar. He understands Councilor Wunn's comments as well.

Mayor Lauer stated he likes it the way it is.

Jordan Wittren stated he likes the option for either method.

Paul Wilcox read from a self-prepared statement (attached as Exhibit B).

## **7. REPORT: Background report and update on Utility and System Development Charge Rate Processes.**

<0:51:46>

Travis Hultin, Interim Public Works Director/Chief Engineer, gave a brief overview of the staff report and presented a PowerPoint (attached as Exhibit C). He shared with Council that back in 2008-2013 he was active with Engineers without Borders and worked on a project in Les Anglais, Haiti. They had been a recipient of numerous NGO (Non-Governmental Organizations) assistance programs including one in the 80s that built a water system for them. A spring collection system, transmission line, distribution system into the community and a reservoir. That NGO did not provide them with any training or capability to have a financing system for that utility. They received a lot of great infrastructure but the utility quickly deteriorated. The engineers provided them some assistance on how to get funds to put into their infrastructure. If you don't have a system for generating revenue to pay operators, buy materials, rent equipment, then your utility is not going to survive. It is critical to get funds.

Councilor Ripma asked if one of the rate reviews would look at the issue of how the City charges SDCs for restaurants. Currently it's charged by the number of seats.

Travis Hultin replied, yes. That is part of the scope of work for rate reviews. He stated he's never been a fan of that basis.

Saul Pompeyo, Owner Ristorante Di Pompello, stated he has the best service in Troutdale. Good water is important for cooking. If the sewers clog, then the restaurant has to shut down.

He's never had to close because of bad water. The only problem he has is how the SDC rates are. He's okay with increasing the price because the service is excellent. He doesn't understand why the food carts have a different rate; it should have the restaurant rate.

Councilor Glantz asked if Gresham was talking about moving from Bull Run to drilling wells.

Travis Hultin stated yes, they are working with Rockwood PUD and are currently drilling wells.

**8. RESOLUTION:** A resolution declaring a vacancy on the City Council and approving an application process to fill the vacancy.

<1:32:54>

*This was pulled from the Consent Agenda.*

Councilor Glantz stated she is not a fan of references like Paul Wilcox mentioned nor the possibility of Councilors being listed as references.

Councilor Ripma stated he would be okay with the application sheet being reworded saying please list 3 personal or professional references, other than City Councilors.

Councilor Wunn stated he's not sure how much a reference would have an impact on his decision. The other questions on the application would hold more weight.

Mayor Lauer stated if this were an election and the Council had someone they encouraged to run, we could endorse them. In his opinion, he would not endorse someone over someone else on a Council that he sits on. He stated this looks like an endorsement and he believes it's up to Council to do the right thing.

Councilor Ripma stated he would probably decline endorsing someone because he would be voting on it. Those voting on the appointment should not be named as endorsers.

**MOTION:** Councilor Ripma moved to adopt the resolution declaring a vacancy on the City Council and approving an application process to fill the vacancy.  
Seconded by Councilor Wunn.

**VOTE:** Councilor Wunn – Yes; Mayor Lauer – Yes; Councilor White – Yes; Councilor Glantz – Yes and Councilor Ripma – Yes.

**Motion passed 5-0.**

## **9. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

<1:43:33>

Ray Young provided the following staff communications:

- Parks Master Plan process – The draft is online, please review. The first hearing will be 3/14 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> hearing will be 4/11.



- No Council Meeting 2/14
- Please let people know about the Council vacancy and encourage people to apply

## 10. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Ripma asked to have a copy of Travis Hultin's PowerPoint presentation.

Councilor Glantz encouraged Council to watch the most recent parks meeting. There was some concern over a lot of things in the Parks Plan that they didn't feel came from the Parks Committee and opened a conversation about how they feel that their contributions aren't valued.

Councilor Wunn stated he feels like he's getting more comfortable and how everybody can work together. He works in pediatric neonatal. He sees sometimes the best like a new baby or the worst like trauma patients. There are certain things that stick with you. In the past he took care of a young man involved in a shooting. He was shot and had shot someone else. Within 12 hours he had a great time with the patient. He stated he jumped to conclusions about the incident, and he realized he made the wrong decision. It takes a lot of courage to take accountability and grow from it.

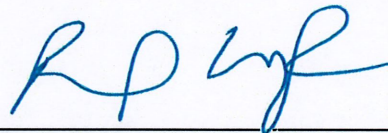
Councilor White stated Glenn Otto Park is a very popular place and it's not always good. He would like to hear from the PAC and their thoughts on alcohol, dogs, a charge (fee), security, etc. at the park.

Mayor Lauer stated he was a stupid kid for many years and did many things he wasn't proud of. It does take a lot of courage to recognize your wrongs. He (Dalton) hurt a very specific group and he doesn't want them to feel unsafe.

## 11. ADJOURNMENT

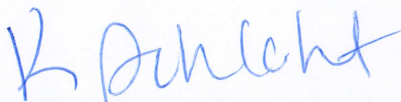
**MOTION: Councilor Ripma moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Glantz. Motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:57pm.



**Randy Lauer, Mayor**  
**Dated: April 26, 2023**

**ATTEST:**



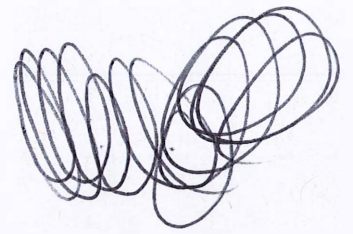
**Kenda Schlaht, Deputy City Recorder**



# CITY OF TROUTDALE

City Council – Regular Meeting  
7:00PM

Tuesday, January 24, 2023



## PLEASE SIGN IN

Name – Please Print	Address	Phone #
Theresa Huggins	NE Portland	971-291-2250
Thomas Dickerson	N Portland	503 915 6643
JEFF HUTCHINSON - PAC	TROUTDALE	954 612 2922
Carol Allen	Troutdale	
David Kreisman	Milbankie	612-845-8810
Rich Allen	Troutdale	11
PAUL WILCOX	TROUTDALE	
JAMIE MCKILLOP	SE PORTLAND	505-706-8951
John Sanders	SE Portland	503-816-5595
Kristine Roberson	Sandy	
Shane Smith	Gresham	
Robbie Cantrell	Troutdale	503-919-1340
DJ Simca	Edgefield	503-341-1977
Jim Pison	"	503 341 1989
Delta Roberson		971-413-2170
ETHAN LEVI		503-914-8158
ELIZABETH LEVI	Elizabeth M Levi	503-208-9101
Tatjana Twerdochlib	Tatjana Twerdochlib	
Victoria Rizzo	Victoria	503 880-1756

## January 24, 2023 City Council Regular Mtg. - Zoom Guest List

Name (Original Name)	User Email	Join Time	Leave Time	Duration (Minutes)
Troutdale Conferencing	troutconf@troutdaleoregon.gov	1/24/2023 18:42	1/24/2023 20:57	135
tim.seery		1/24/2023 18:43	1/24/2023 20:57	135
Testimony Table		1/24/2023 18:43	1/24/2023 20:57	134
Sarah Skroch		1/24/2023 18:46	1/24/2023 19:02	17
MetroEast		1/24/2023 18:48	1/24/2023 20:57	129
leslietaylor		1/24/2023 18:49	1/24/2023 19:24	35
Geoffrey Wunn		1/24/2023 18:50	1/24/2023 20:57	128
Jordan Wittren		1/24/2023 18:51	1/24/2023 18:52	1
Jordan Wittren		1/24/2023 18:53	1/24/2023 18:55	2
Randy Lauer		1/24/2023 18:53	1/24/2023 20:57	124
Dave Ripma		1/24/2023 18:54	1/24/2023 20:57	123
Jordan Wittren		1/24/2023 18:57	1/24/2023 20:57	120
Shelly		1/24/2023 18:58	1/24/2023 20:57	120
Sandy Glantz		1/24/2023 18:59	1/24/2023 20:57	118
Zach Andrews		1/24/2023 19:00	1/24/2023 20:01	61
Troutdale Conferencing	troutconf@troutdaleoregon.gov	1/24/2023 19:03	1/24/2023 20:57	114
ray.young		1/24/2023 19:03	1/24/2023 20:57	114
Travis Hultin		1/24/2023 19:05	1/24/2023 19:06	1
david.berniker		1/24/2023 19:08	1/24/2023 20:57	109
Travis Hultin		1/24/2023 19:42	1/24/2023 20:25	44

## Exhibit A

January 24, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes

Mayor and Councilors,

I'd like to see consent agenda item 3.1, a Resolution, pulled off consent agenda to consider removing the requirement for personal references on the Council vacancy application. I agree with Councilor Glantz that asking for personal references is unnecessary and in my opinion counterproductive. It's an invitation to name drop. For example, there's nothing to prevent an applicant from listing sitting Councilors as references. Council candidates in the past have endorsed each other in the voters' pamphlet. I also question classifying Nick Moon as an incumbent in the Resolution, although the Charter language requires that for lack of a more accurate description. **SECTION 13 QUALIFICATIONS FOR ELECTIVE OFFICE. No officer elected or appointed may continue to serve if he or she ceases to be a resident of the city.**

I'd also like to confirm that Mr. Trompke is on record as saying that the ballot in 2024 will read "Vote for 4", unless of course there's a resignation. For example, if a four-year term Councilor were to resign prior to July 15th in their second year, wouldn't that create an additional opening for Nov. 2024? I do appreciate that Mr. Trompke has formalized the filling of additional vacancies by candidates beyond the top three full-term seats. This will be the third election-related vacancy that has occurred since 2008. It might be time to consider a Charter amendment to require filling Council vacancies by election, as a Mayoral vacancy would be now. If someone wants to serve in the U.S. House or the Oregon House for a two-year term they have to go before the voters. If someone wants to fill a nearly two-year term on Council they only need the approval of 4 of 6 Council members. While Section 28 of the Charter states that "A vacancy in the office of Councilor shall be filled by appointment..." Section 9 Council states "The Council may consist of fewer members when there are vacancies in office." This speaks to the fact that there is no time requirement related to when the vacancy is filled. When appointee David Hartmann resigned in May 2010 his seat was left vacant for seven months. I'm not suggesting that the vacancy be allowed to exist indefinitely, but rather that's a weakness in the Charter language. Gresham's, for example, calls for the vacancy to be filled within 30 days. I would, however, much prefer vacancies be filled by election, rather than appointment. The County Commission is holding a special election in March to fill their two-year vacancy.

One final observation. I've noticed that ever since I suggested the secular oath of office be offered as an option every candidate has availed themselves of it.

Submitted by:

Paul Wilcox

Troutdale

1/24/23

## Exhibit B

January 24, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes

Mayor and Councilors,

When I encouraged the Council to make the filing fee a permanent option I pointed out that Troutdale was the only City in the entire County that didn't offer a fee option, including Portland. As the staff report states, all four 2022 Council candidates chose the fee option. The one "con" listed, that \$50.00 could be a financial hardship for a candidate, fails to mention that the voters' pamphlet fee is \$100.00. If they can't afford one, they probably can't afford the other.

A review of the May 10, 2022 minutes also seems to indicate that the Council did not in fact agree to a future review, as stated in the staff report. There's also nothing in the 2022 Ordinance referring to COVID as a basis. I noted that Councilor Ripma voted against the option in May, but availed himself of it when he filed to run. I have no doubt that Councilor White, the other NO vote, will also choose the fee option in 2024.

Submitted by:

Paul Wilcox

Troutdale

1/24/23

# Utility & System Development Charge Rate Processes

Background report and update

Troutdale City Council Regular Meeting  
January 24, 2023



# Rate-funded Public Works Systems

- The City of Troutdale operates five primary Public Works (PW) infrastructure systems:
  - **Water** – Production and distribution of potable water for domestic use, commercial and industrial processes and services, and fire fighting
  - **Sanitary Sewer** – Collection, treatment, and disposal of residential and commercial domestic wastewater, and industrial process wastewater
  - **Stormwater** – Collection, treatment, and disposal of stormwater runoff from residential, commercial, and industrial lands, and streets
  - **Streets/Transportation** – Public streets and transportation facilities for motor vehicles, pedestrians, and bicycles.
  - **Parks** – Public parks, greenways, and recreational trails.



# What do we mean by “rates”?

- Terminology can be easily conflated, and therefore confusing.
- In this context, a “rate” simply means that the charge, cost, or fee is rated based on some unit of measurement.
  - The charge is scaled for each payer
  - Scaled to demand, usage, consumption, or impact.

# Types of PW rates

- Three primary categories of PW rates:
  - **Utility Rates** (aka user charges, commodity rates) – These are the charges on ratepayers' monthly water bills.
  - **Local Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax Rate** (aka local gas tax) – 3 cents per gallon collected from dealers/distributors of motor vehicle fuel sold in Troutdale.
  - **System Development Charge Rates (SDC's)** – One-time (non-recurring) charges imposed on development and other new/expanded users
    - Three subcomponents of SDC's – Improvement, Reimbursement, Administration
- All have rules: collection, accounting, use of funds

Five systems, 3 categories (and subs), lots of rules, so...

...No less than sixteen (16) distinct PW funds to directly track and manage all of these monies! (see Exhibit A)

# Utility Rates (monthly bills)

- Generate revenue needed for Enterprise Funds
  - Water
  - Sanitary Sewer
  - Stormwater
- Fund the costs of ownership, operation, and maintenance of the respective utilities.
- Aim to cover the costs of providing service, without profit.
- Costs are recovered by apportioning costs equitably to the customer base through rates
- Long term (presumably perpetual) enterprises that require both short-term and long-term financial planning

# What happens if rates don't keep up with costs?

- Dramatic future rate hikes, disproportionate burden on future users/customers
- Reduced levels and/or quality of service
  - Reduced quality of life, health, commerce, and the environment
- Degraded infrastructure
  - Higher costs of operation, maintenance, rehab
  - System failures
    - Deprivation of services essential to life, health, commerce, environment
  - Potential for cascading consequences
- Regulatory violations

# System Development Charges (SDC's)

- Generate revenue needed for the improvement and reimbursement funds:
  - Water
  - Sanitary Sewer
  - Stormwater
  - Streets
  - Parks (currently improvement only)
- Paid by developers, new users, expanded users that increase demand
- Proportional to increased demand/impact on respective system

# SDC subcomponents

- Improvement fees
  - Fund the costs of capacity enhancing improvements to serve growth.
- Reimbursement fees
  - Reimburse ratepayers for the cost of existing capacity.
  - Funds capital rehab and replacement projects (helps operating funds).
- Administrative Fees
  - Recover the City's costs to administer SDC programs

**The basic concept is “growth pays for growth”**



# What happens if SDC rates don't keep up with forecasted growth?

- Improvement fees
  - Inability to expand capacity when needed
    - Growth stymied, and/or
    - Systems may overload and fail, and/or
    - Development moratoriums
- Reimbursement fees
  - Greater burden on monthly ratepayers (higher utility rates)
  - Development gets a “free ride” on existing capacity that ratepayers built

# Utility and SDC rate principles

- Cost recovery, no profit
- Best available cost data (past, present, future) and reasonable forecasts of needs
  - **Not based on or biased by:**
    - Other cities' rates (each city is unique)
    - Other unrelated costs that customers may have to bear
    - “Gut feelings” of what rates should be
- Rate analyses ultimately boil down to dividing costs by units of service and/or demand...

...but it's a complex analysis to get to that.
- Rate planning begins with:
  - Operational and management practices and decisions
  - Infrastructure master plans, capital improvement plans, other plans

# Utility and SDC rate process 2023

- Last utility rate plan adopted in 2017
  - 5-year plan, concluded with rate adjustment of 7/1/21
  - No rate increases in FY 22-23
  - Changes have occurred, inflation has increased, City has evolved
  - It's time for a new rate plan to stay on pace, ensure equity
- Water, sewer, storm, transportation SDC's last adjusted in 2018, with inflator. Parks in 2008/2014 (no inflator).
  - Changes have occurred, City has evolved
  - Amended Transportation System Plan, new Parks Master Plan, new North Troutdale Storm Master Plan, Town Center Plan
  - It's time to analyze and adjust SDC rates to stay on pace, ensure equity

# Utility and SDC rate process and sequence

- Utility and SDC analyses best done in concert, holistic
- Master plans inform CIP; utility and SDC rates
- General sequence: Master plans -> CIP -> Rates
- 2022 saw two infrastructure plans in progress, process deferred.
  - Last (Parks MP) nearing completion
    - Not in time for a full analysis for FY 23-24
    - Proposed “Stop-gap” CPI adjustment for utility rates

# Utility and SDC rate sequence and estimated timeline

- Transportation System Plan Amendment December 2022
- New Parks Master Plan April 2023
- One-time utility rate CPI adjustment May 2023 (eff. 7/1)
- Capital Improvement Plan Update June 2023
- Utility Rate Analysis Summer/Fall 2023
- Utility Rate Plan and SDC Rates to Council Fall 2023
- Adjusted SDC rates effective January 1, 2024
- New utility rate plan commences July 1, 2024

# Thank you!

- This is a complex topic, and staff appreciates the Council and community's attention and engagement
- Questions?

## Contact:

Travis Hultin, Chief Engineer/Interim PW Director

503.674.7265

[travis.hultin@troutdaleoregon.gov](mailto:travis.hultin@troutdaleoregon.gov)

342 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Troutdale, OR 97060