

PLACEMENT OF ANNUAL STORM WATER ENTERPRISE CHARGES ON THE SONOMA COUNTY PROPERTY TAX ROLL

City Council Meeting

August 18, 2026

Nick Lynn, Research and Program Coordinator

Annual Storm Water Enterprise Charges on the Sonoma County Tax Roll

- The Storm Water Enterprise was created by Council in accordance with Title 16 of the City Code in 1996.
- Provides funding for implementation of the City's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Storm Water Permit, as well as activities such as: Creek Restoration and Stewardship, Flood Protection, Public Education, Storm Drain Maintenance, and Storm Water Quality Testing.

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- The calculated assessment is based on Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) and considers the size of the parcel, amount of impervious surface, and land use of each parcel.
- The current ERU fee is \$43.52 which was approved by Council during the 2026/2027 budget process.

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- In order to simplify the payment process for property owners and minimize collection expenses, it is requested that these charges be collected on the Sonoma County Property Tax Roll on the City's behalf.
- The charges have been collected annually on the tax roll since they were established in September 1996.

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- It is in the best interest of the City that those parcels not billed by the County due to the charges not meeting the County's \$10 minimum to bill and/or parcels with known incorrect ownership contact information shall not be separately billed by the City, as the cost of separately billing exceeds the potential revenue.
- Any charges not collected will not affect other parcel charges.

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- Today's public hearing, in accordance with Title 16 of the City Code, will adopt the Storm Water Enterprise Charge Report, approve placing the charges on the County Tax Roll for collection, and allow the public the opportunity to protest the method of collecting the charges.

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- The Board of Public Utilities and Santa Rosa Water recommend that the Council, by resolution, adopt by 2/3 vote the Storm Water Enterprise Charge Report and approve placement of the Storm Water Enterprise charges on the Sonoma County Property Tax Roll, to be collected by the Sonoma County Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector at the same time and in the same manner as Sonoma County property taxes are collected, unless those charges do not meet the County minimum of \$10 and/or parcel owner contact information is known to be incorrect. This item has no impact on current fiscal year budget.