



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Laurel L. Prussing and Members of the City Council
FROM: William R. Gray, Public Works Director *WJ*
Gale L. Jamison, Assistant City Engineer *GJ*
Bradley M. Bennett, Civil Engineer *BB*
DATE: January 10, 2013
RE: Stormwater Utility Fee Implementation Update and Billing Recommendations

Introduction

On May 7, 2012 the Council approved by ordinance the establishment of a stormwater utility fee and stormwater utility enterprise fund. The first stormwater utility fee billing will start on July 1, 2013 with the first bills being sent out in September 2013.

Public Works Department staff and Mr. Doug Noel from AMEC Environment and Infrastructure will be presenting an update on the progress of the implementation of the stormwater utility fee at the Committee of the Whole meeting on Monday, January 14th at 7:00 p.m.

Policy Recommendations for Billing

Public Works staff recommends the following policies regarding billing issues associated with the stormwater utility fee:

1. Allow the option of sending a single bill to governmental units that own multiple properties subject to the stormwater utility fee. These rate payers would include the Urbana School District, Urbana-Champaign Sanitary District, Urbana Park District, City of Urbana, University of Illinois, and Champaign County. This grouping of bills is consistent with how the Urbana-Champaign Sanitary District presently bills these rate payers for sanitary sewer service.
2. Charge the owners of condominium units that have individual water meters a stormwater utility fee of one equivalent residential unit (ERU). Condominium units without individual water meters will have stormwater utility fee charged to the condominium association based on the measured imperviousness of the entire condominium development represented by the condominium association. The Urbana-Champaign Sanitary District presently bills sanitary sewer fees this way.

3. Send one bill to property owners that own adjacent parcels where one parcel does not have a water meter. An example of this type of billing would be a business or industry that owns a parking lot on a separate parcel adjacent to its main property.

Recommended Action

The Public Works Department seeks approval by motion of the three proposed policy recommendations regarding the stormwater utility fee billing.