

**WORK SESSION AGENDA  
WYOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**Monday, January 8, 2024, 5:30 P.M.**

- 1) Call to Order**
- 2) Student Recognition**
- 3) Public Comment on Agenda Items (3-minute limit per person)**
- 4) Utility Rate Study Presentation by Stantec Representatives Tracey Moher and James Bearman**
- 5) Spongy Moth Suppression Program**
- 6) 28<sup>th</sup> Street Businesses Survey Results**
- 7) Any Other Matters**
- 8) Acknowledgement of Visitors/Public Comment (3 minute limit per person)**

*The City of Wyoming, including the City Council, is committed to ensuring all persons have access to all its programs, services, and activities, including any public meetings. The City Council will coordinate with city staff to ensure the City Council fulfills that commitment for its programs, services, and activities, including public meetings. Accommodations to enable virtual meeting attendance and participation can usually be made if a request is received at least 5 hours before the meeting time. Other accommodations may require more time.*

*Special Accommodations – Persons with impairments or disabilities needing accommodations to participate in the meeting or persons who need language interpretation services may contact the city clerk at either [Clerk\\_info@wyomingmi.gov](mailto:Clerk_info@wyomingmi.gov) or 616.530.7296 at least 36 hours before the meeting to make arrangements for appropriate accommodation.*

*Acomodaciones Especiales – Personas que deseen asistir a esta reunión y necesitan acomodación para participar, como servicios de interpretación, deben comunicarse con la Oficina del Administrador de la Ciudad al 616.530.7296 o [Clerk\\_info@wyomingmi.gov](mailto:Clerk_info@wyomingmi.gov) al menos 36 horas antes de la reunión para hacer arreglos para el alojamiento apropiado.*



City of Wyoming, MI

Water and Sewer Revenue  
Sufficiency  
Council Work Session

January 8, 2024





# Agenda

- 1) Overview of Approach
- 2) Water Fund
- 3) Sewer Fund
- 4) Summary



# Financial Planning - Overview

## Revenue Requirements

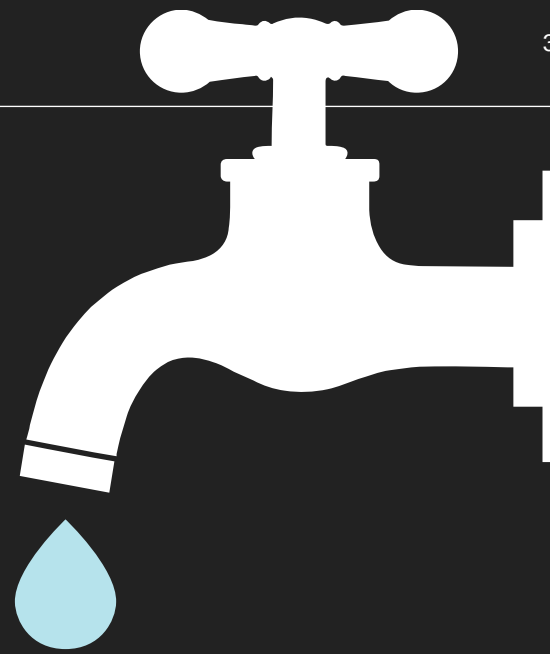
- Forecast of system operating expenditures
- Forecast of capital investments including existing debt obligations

## Revenue Forecast

- Forecast of system demands and customer counts
- Development of revenue forecast with existing planned rates and fees

## Evaluate Key Metrics

- Sufficiency of revenue to meet revenue requirements
- Ability to fall within range of reserve targets
- Meet debt service coverage requirements



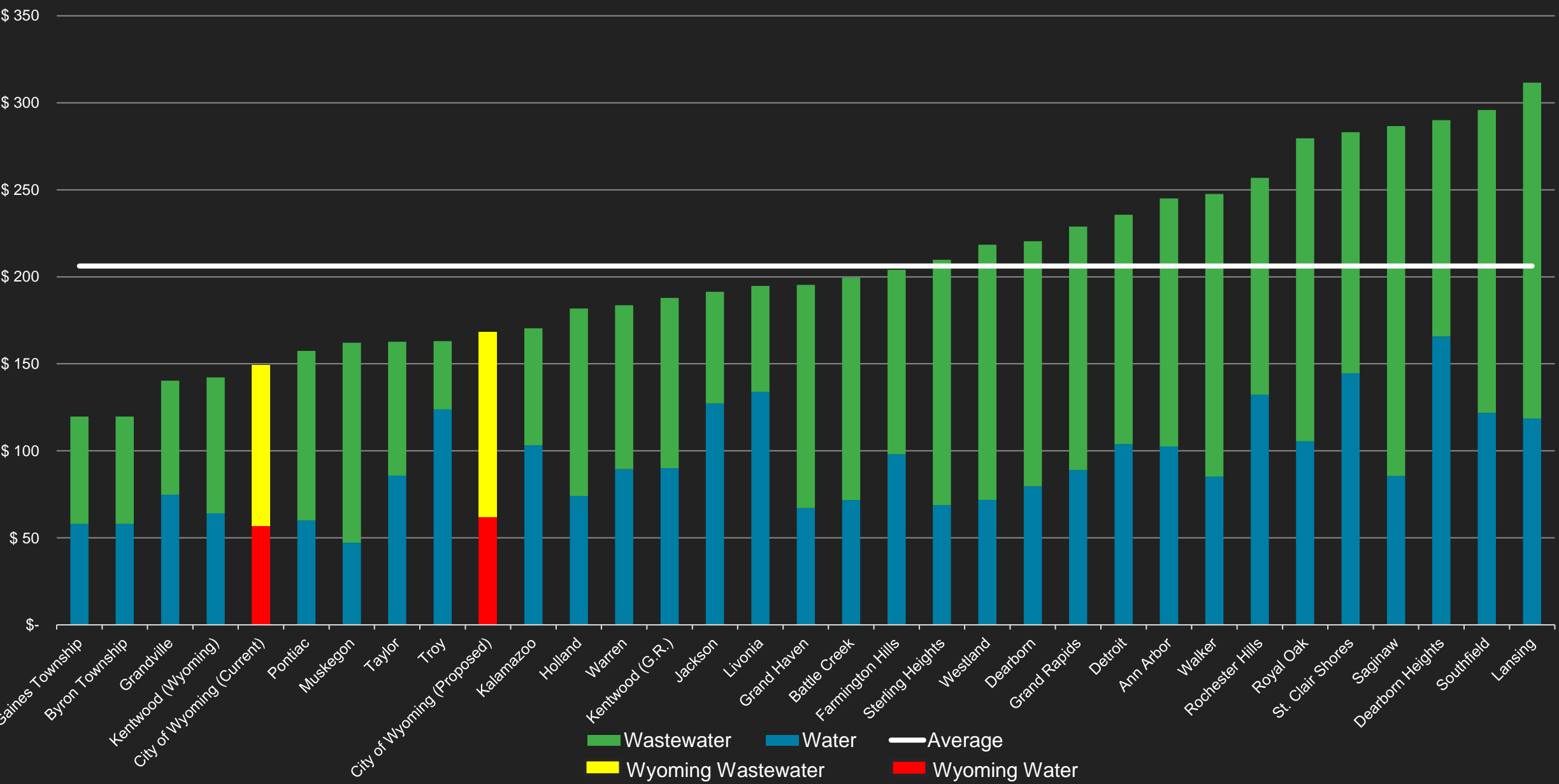
Capital Costs

Debt Service

Operating Costs



# Average Residential Quarterly Water & Sewer Bill – 20 Ccf



# Sample Bill Impacts – Recommended Rate Plan

Low User (10 CCF)	Current Quarterly Bill	FY25 Proposed Quarterly Bill	Quarterly \$ Change	Monthly \$ Change	% Change
Water Bill	\$40.84	\$44.47	\$3.63	\$1.21	9%
Sewer Bill	\$56.28	\$64.68	\$8.40	\$2.80	15%
<b>Total Bill</b>	\$97.12	\$109.15	\$12.03	\$4.01	12%

Medium User (20 CCF)	Current Quarterly Bill	FY25 Proposed Quarterly Bill	Quarterly \$ Change	Monthly \$ Change	% Change
Water Bill	\$56.94	\$61.97	\$5.03	\$1.68	9%
Sewer Bill	\$92.58	\$106.38	\$13.80	\$4.60	15%
<b>Total Bill</b>	\$149.52	\$168.35	\$18.83	\$6.28	12%

High User (35 CCF) <sup>1</sup>	Current Quarterly Bill	FY25 Proposed Quarterly Bill	Quarterly \$ Change	Monthly \$ Change	% Change
Water Bill	\$224.66	\$244.71	\$20.05	\$6.68	9%
Sewer Bill	\$221.57	\$254.65	\$33.08	\$11.03	15%
<b>Total Bill</b>	\$446.23	\$499.36	\$53.13	\$17.71	12%

<sup>1</sup>Low and medium user rates are based on 5/8" meter. high user is based on 2" meter.



# Expense of Water Comparison

Compare cost of filling an average size swimming pool (10,000 gallons) with Wyoming, MI potable water with many other commodities in the marketplace

- \$21.40 to fill with Wyoming water (FY 24 Unit rate)
- \$23.30 to fill with Wyoming water (With Proposed Increase)
- \$10,000 to fill with Zephyrhills bottled water from the grocery store
- \$23,700 to fill with Coca-Cola or Pepsi from a 2L bottle
- \$30,000 to fill with milk
- \$40,000 to fill with gasoline
- \$100,000 to fill with bottled beer
- \$320,000 to fill with Starbucks coffee
- \$2,200 with topsoil from Home Depot in 40 pound bags

# Water Enterprise Fund





# Planning Assumptions - Expenditures

## FY24 amended budget used as starting point for modeling

- Expenditures inflated on a line-item level by expenditure type

## Payment of existing debt service

- Includes four current outstanding debt issuances

## 10-year capital plan

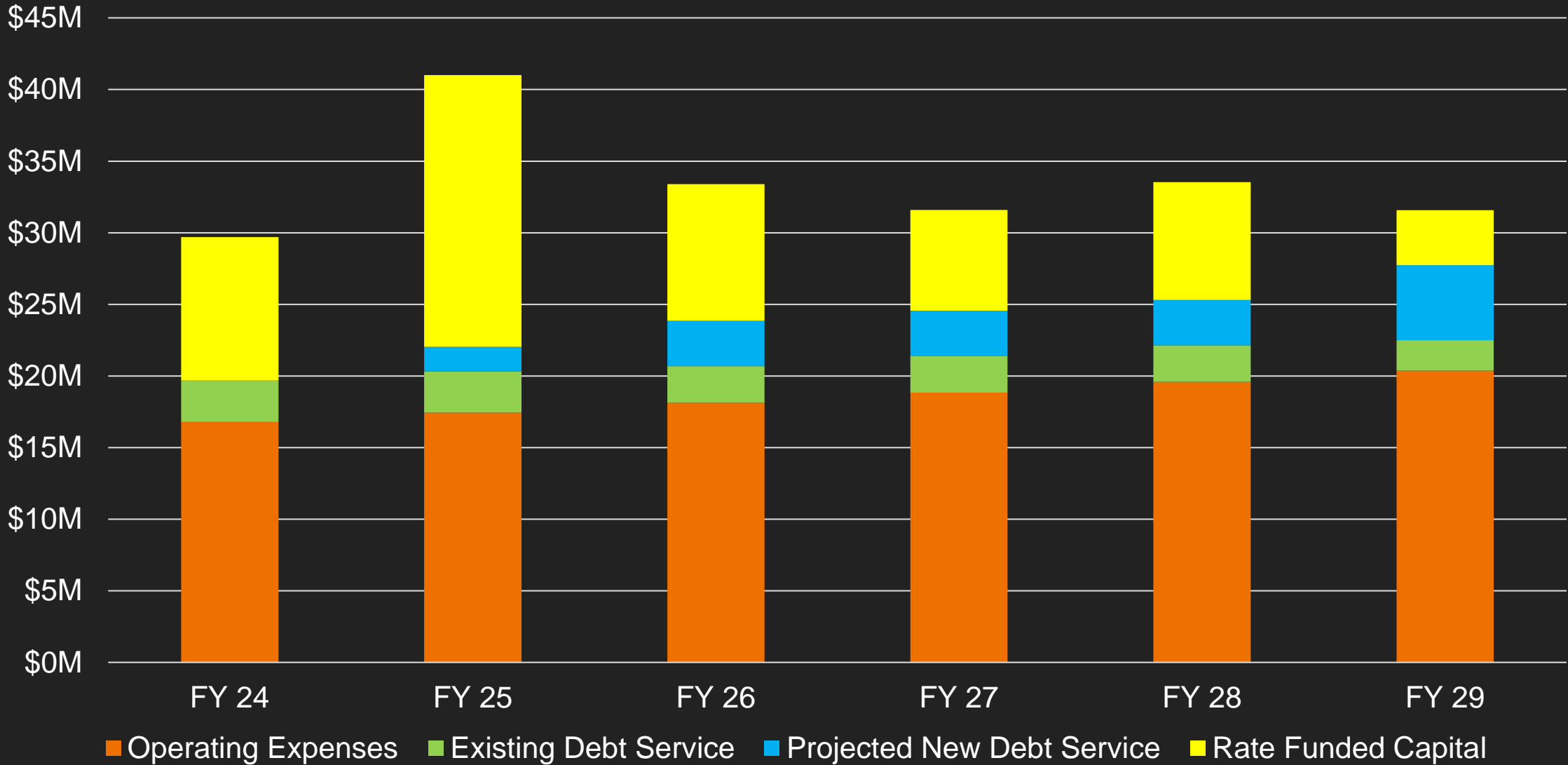
- Totals \$347 million
- Includes Third Transmission Main project in FY 2025 and FY 2033 and Low Service 2<sup>nd</sup> Intake Project in FY 2029
- Ottawa County responsible for 43% of specific projects

## Evaluate Key Metrics

- Maintain minimum reserve balances of 120 days cash on hand
- Meet debt service requirements



# Total Water System Revenue Requirements

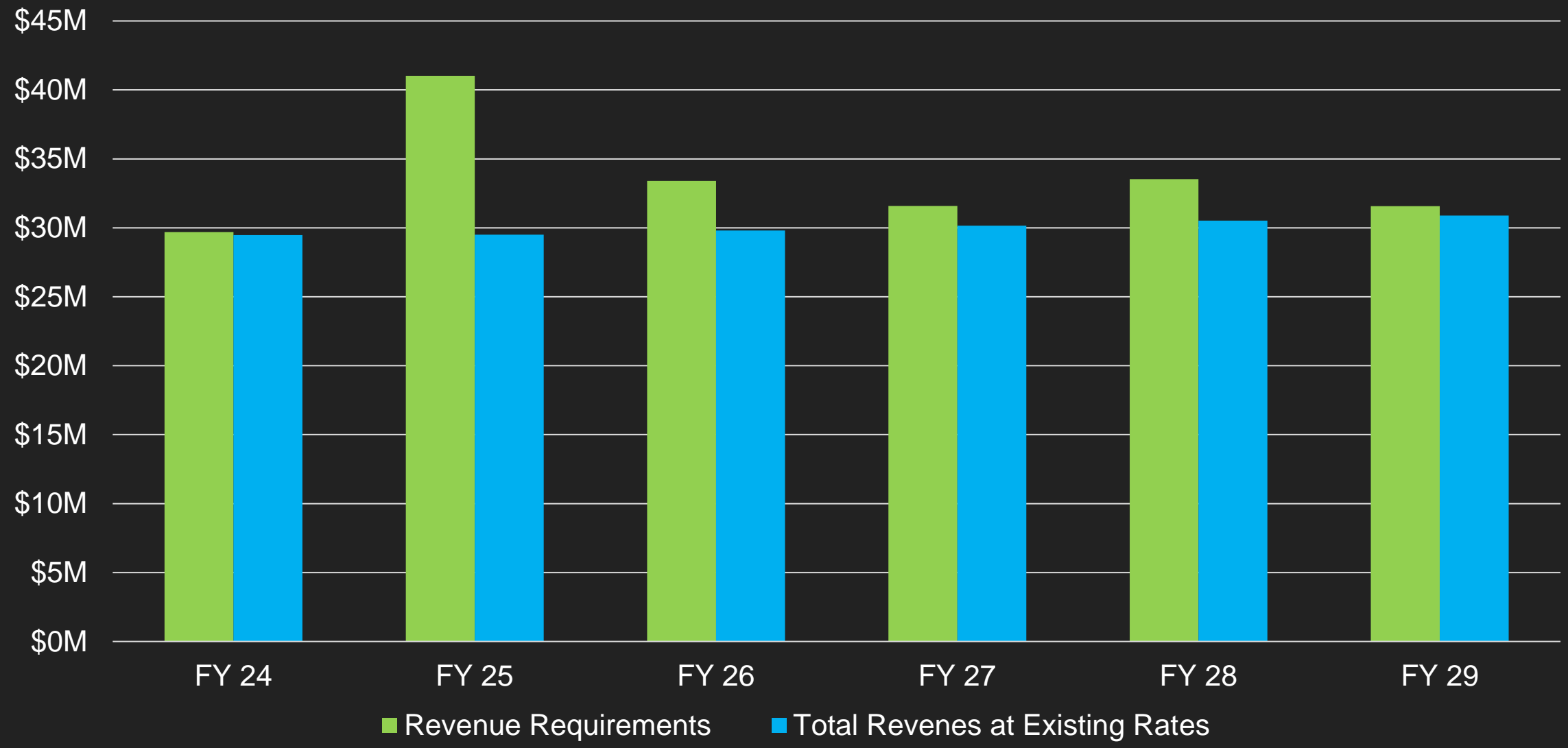




- Account and volume growth:
  - Connection growth estimated at less than 1% per year for entire planning period (retail customers only)
- Miscellaneous non-rate revenues forecasted based on FY 24 amended budget
- Wholesale Water Revenues based on historical actuals and increase on an average of 2% per year over the next five years



# Expenses vs. Revenues – No Rate Increases



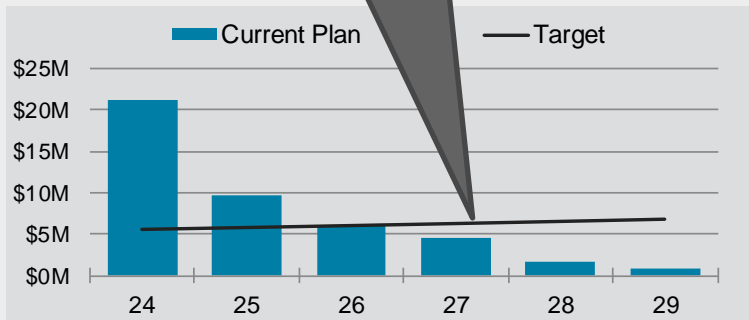
# Financial Plan



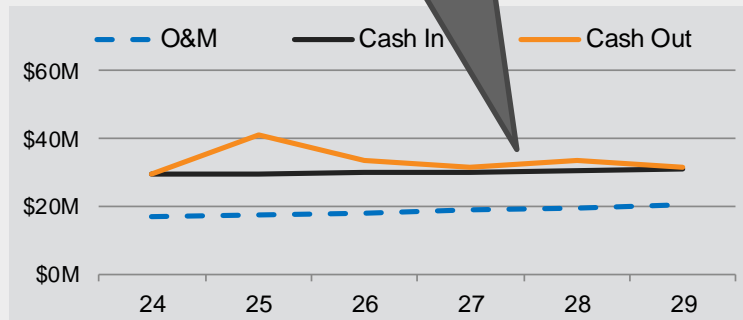
# Water Fund - No Rate Increases: 5-year outlook

	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2029
Water Readiness to Serve Charge	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Water Usage Rate Plan	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Senior-Lien DSC	4.67	2.73	2.11	2.04	1.97	1.46	Scenario Manager
Days of O&M	460	202	122	90	30	17	
Total Quarterly Single Family Bill (20 CCF)	\$56.94	\$56.94	\$56.94	\$56.94	\$56.94	\$56.94	
Quarterly Single Family Bill Change	-	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	

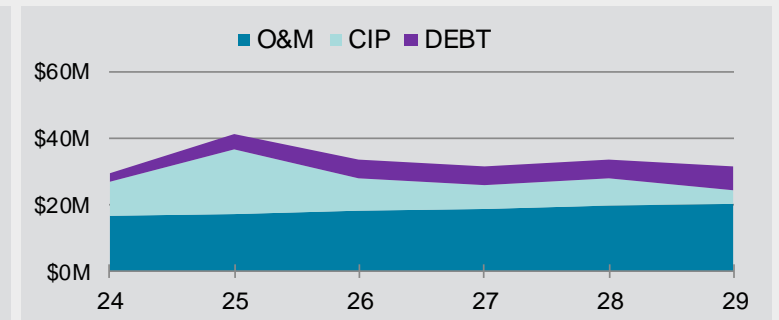
Operating Fund



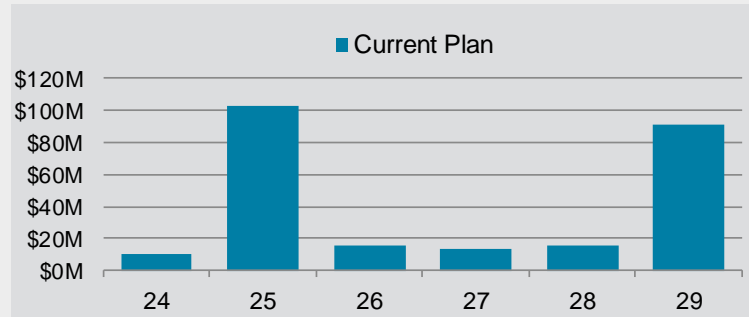
Revenues vs. Expenses



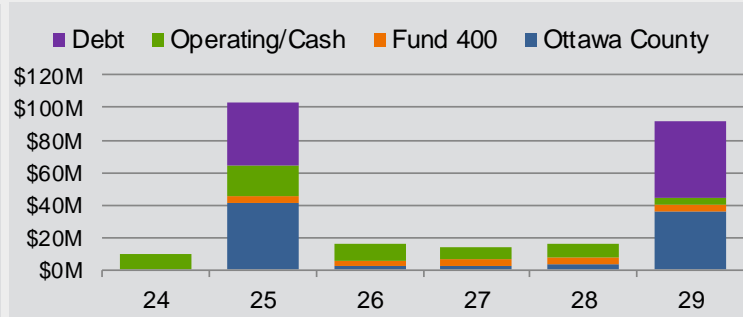
Expenses by Type



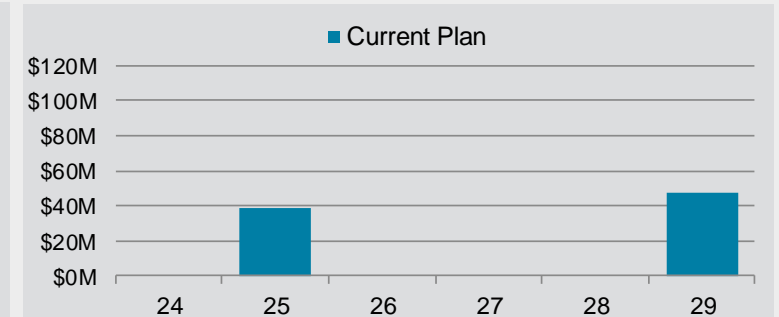
CIP Spending



CIP Funding



Borrowing

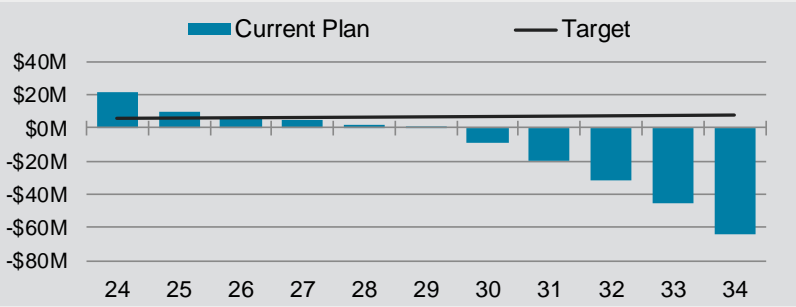




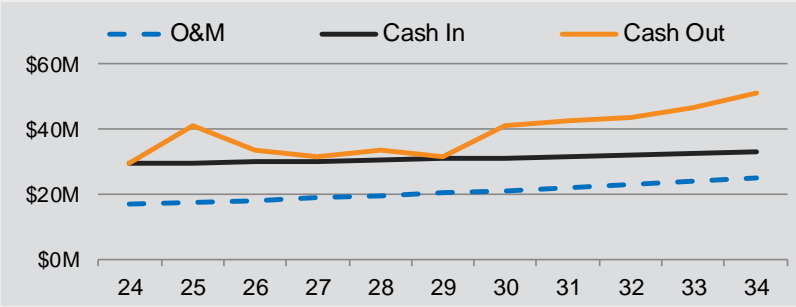
# Water Fund - No Rate Increases: 10-year outlook

	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032	FY 2033	FY 2034	FY 2029	FY 2034
Water Readiness to Serve Charge	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Water Usage Rate Plan	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Senior-Lien DSC	4.67	2.73	2.11	2.04	1.97	1.46	1.13	1.08	1.02	0.83	0.62	Scenario Manager	
Days of O&M	460	202	122	90	30	17	-153	-327	-502	-700	-938		
Total Quarterly Single Family Bill (20 CCF)	\$56.94	\$56.94	\$56.94	\$56.94	\$56.94	\$56.94	\$56.94	\$56.94	\$56.94	\$56.94	\$56.94		
Quarterly Single Family Bill Change	-	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		

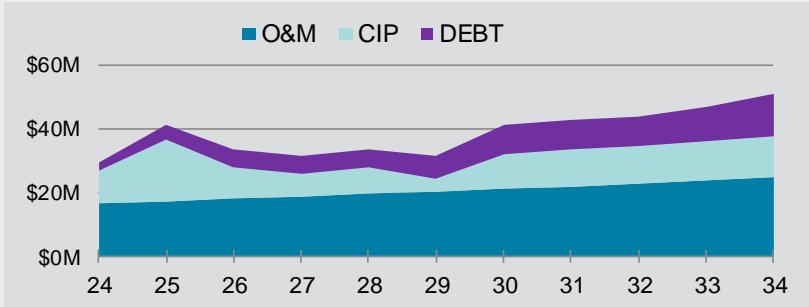
### Operating Fund



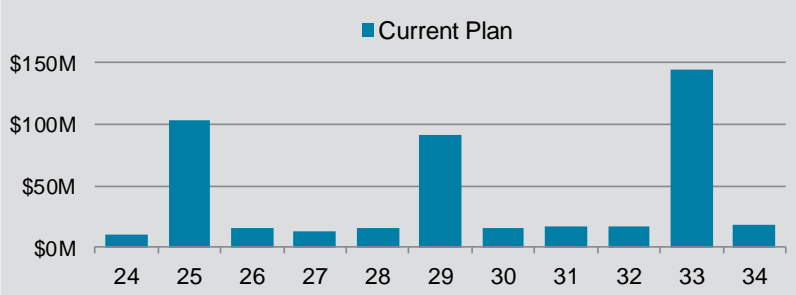
### Revenues vs. Expenses



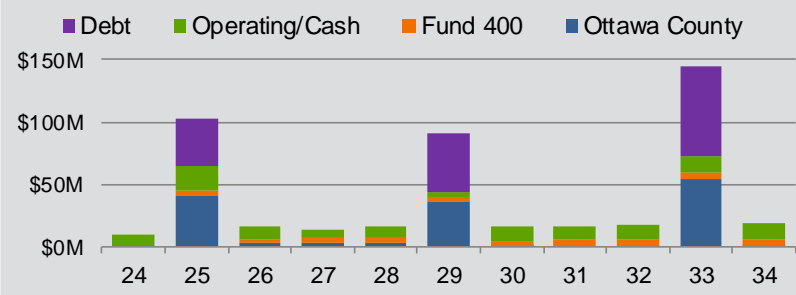
### Expenses by Type



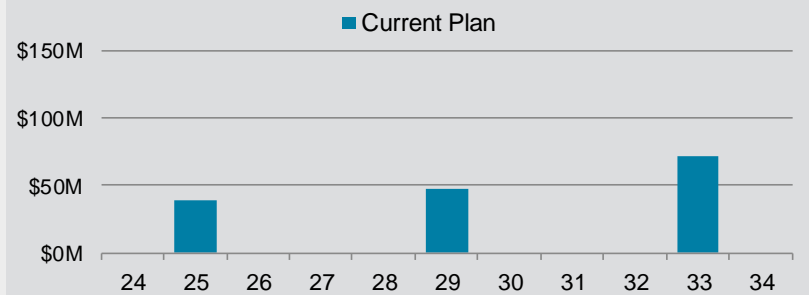
### CIP Spending



### CIP Funding



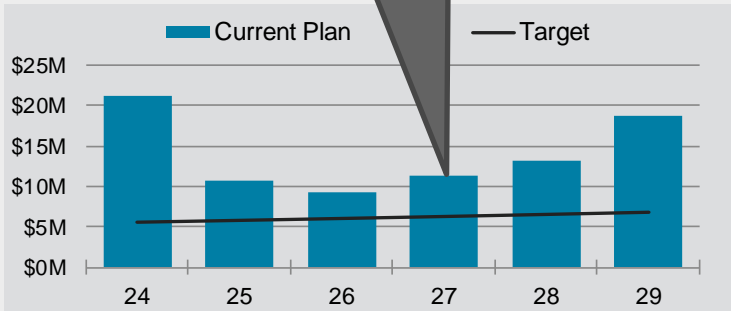
### Borrowing



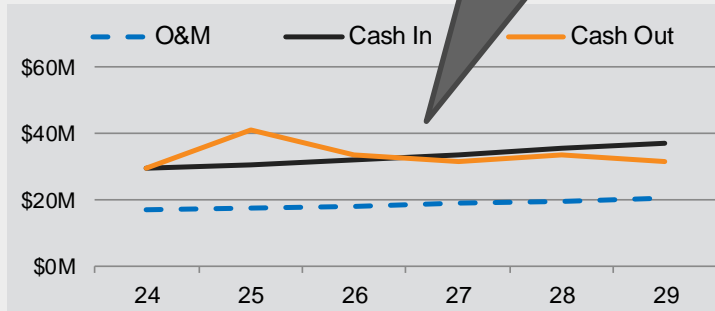
# Water Fund - Recommended Financial Plan: 5-year outlook

	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2029
Water Readiness to Serve Charge	0.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	53.88%
Water Usage Rate Plan	0.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	53.42%
Senior-Lien DSC	4.67	2.96	2.50	2.66	2.85	2.35	Scenario Manager
Days of O&M	460	224	187	219	245	337	
Total Quarterly Single Family Bill (20 CCF)	\$56.94	\$61.97	\$67.60	\$73.65	\$80.33	\$87.47	
Quarterly Single Family Bill Change	-	\$5.03	\$5.63	\$6.05	\$6.68	\$7.14	

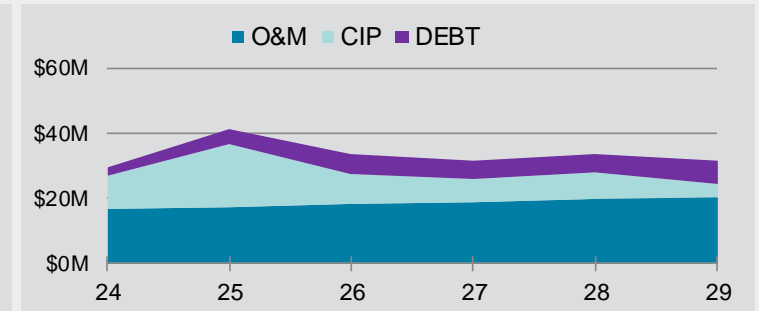
Operating Fund



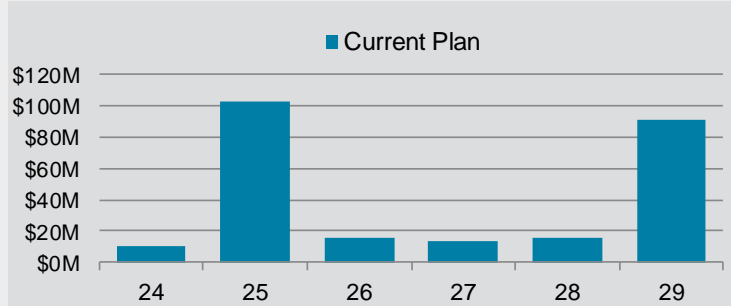
Revenues vs. Expenses



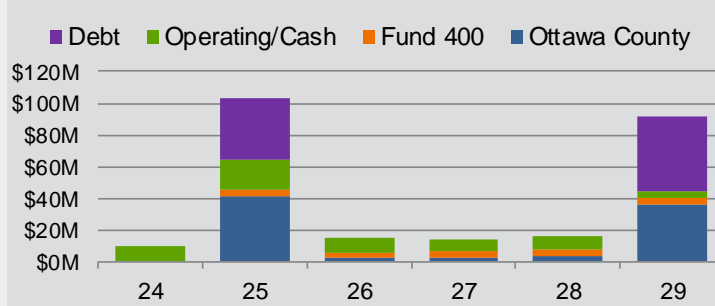
Expenses by Type



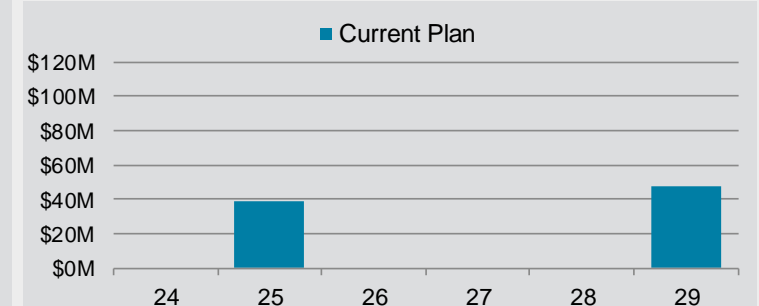
CIP Spending



CIP Funding



Borrowing

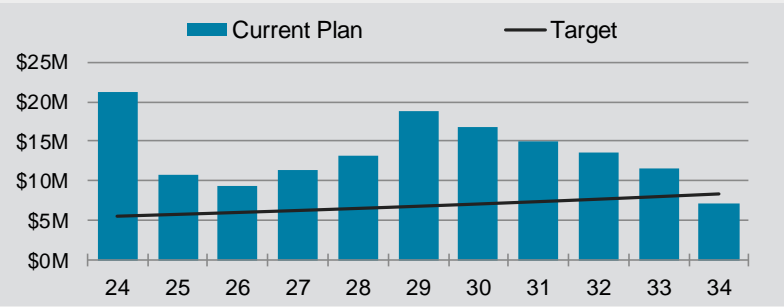




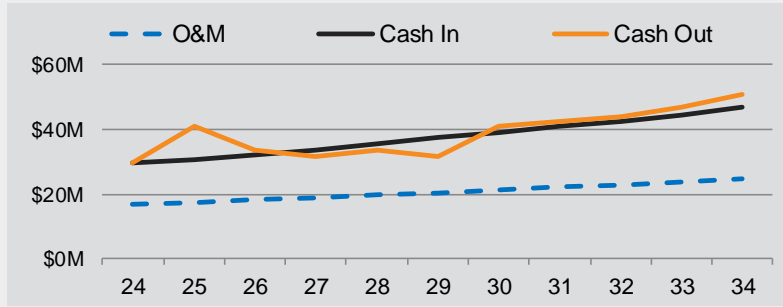
# Water Fund - Recommended Financial Plan: 10-year outlook

	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032	FY 2033	FY 2034	FY 2029	FY 2034
Water Readiness to Serve Charge	0.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	7.00%	7.00%	7.00%	7.00%	7.00%	53.88%	115.76%
Water Usage Rate Plan	0.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	7.00%	7.00%	7.00%	7.00%	7.00%	53.42%	114.91%
Senior-Lien DSC	4.67	2.96	2.50	2.66	2.85	2.35	1.99	2.09	2.20	1.99	1.67	Scenario Manager	
Days of O&M	460	224	187	219	245	337	288	247	217	176	107		
Total Quarterly Single Family Bill (20 CCF)	\$56.94	\$61.97	\$67.60	\$73.65	\$80.33	\$87.47	\$93.53	\$99.98	\$107.03	\$114.49	\$122.58		
Quarterly Single Family Bill Change	-	\$5.03	\$5.63	\$6.05	\$6.68	\$7.14	\$6.06	\$6.45	\$7.05	\$7.46	\$8.09		

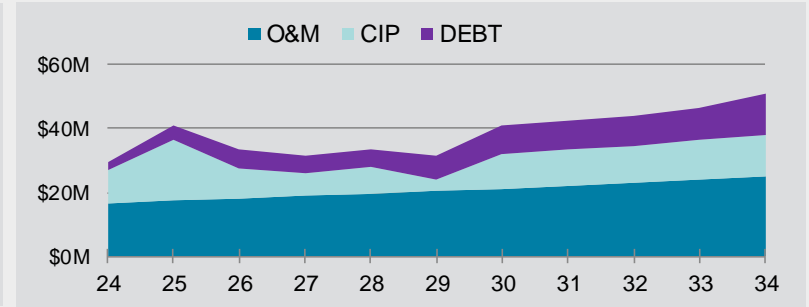
### Operating Fund



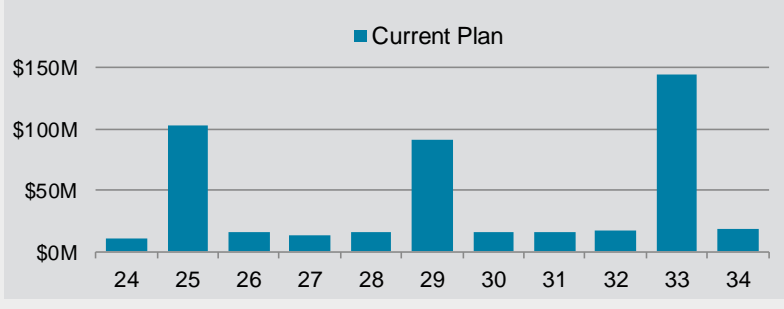
### Revenues vs. Expenses



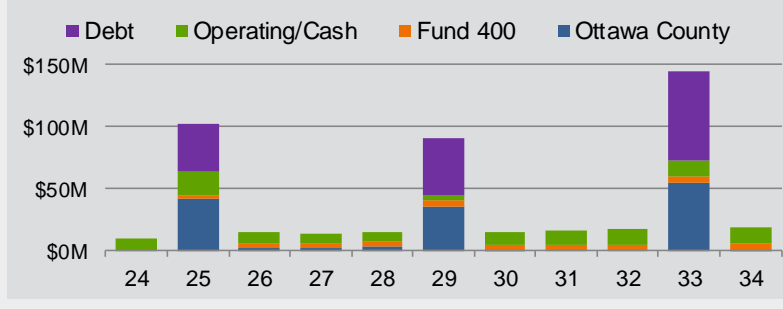
### Expenses by Type



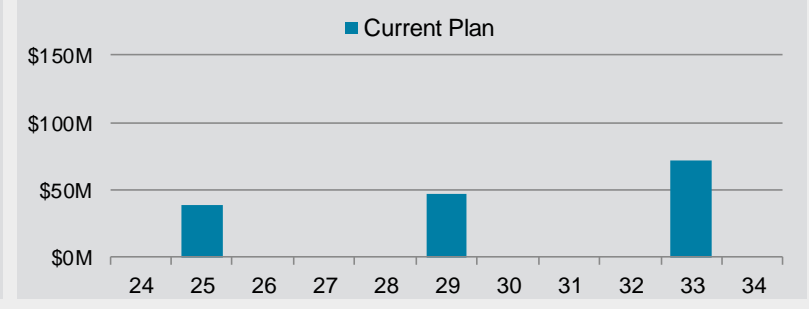
### CIP Spending



### CIP Funding



### Borrowing



Sewer Enterprise Fund





## FY24 amended budget used as starting point for modeling

- Expenditures inflated on a line-item level by expenditure type

## Payment of existing debt service

- Includes FY 2017 Refunding and FY 2021 Refunding debt issuances

## 10-year capital plan

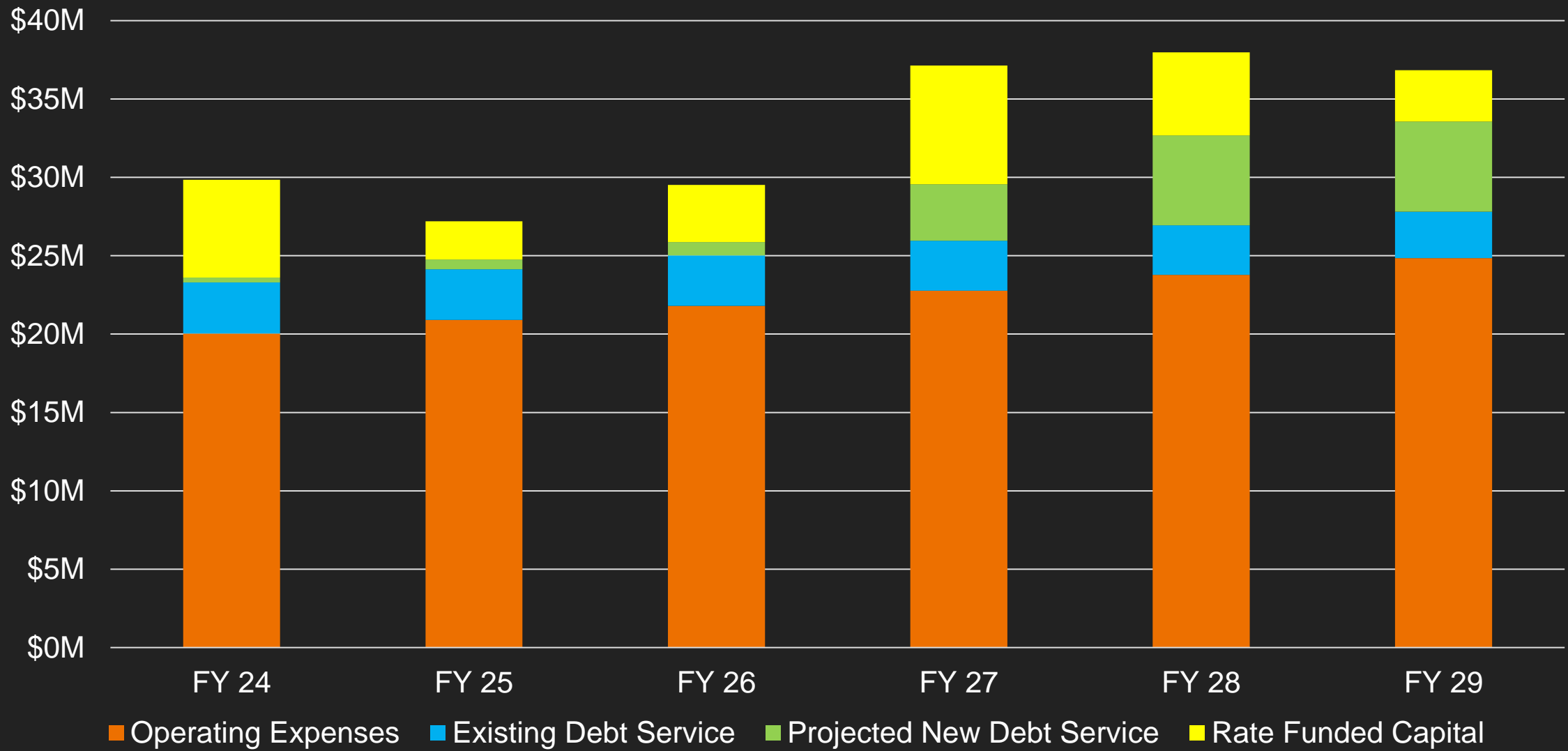
- Totals \$101 million
- Includes Digester project in FY 2027

## Evaluate Key Metrics

- Maintain minimum reserve balances of 120 days cash on hand
- Meet debt service requirements



# Total Sewer System Revenue Requirements

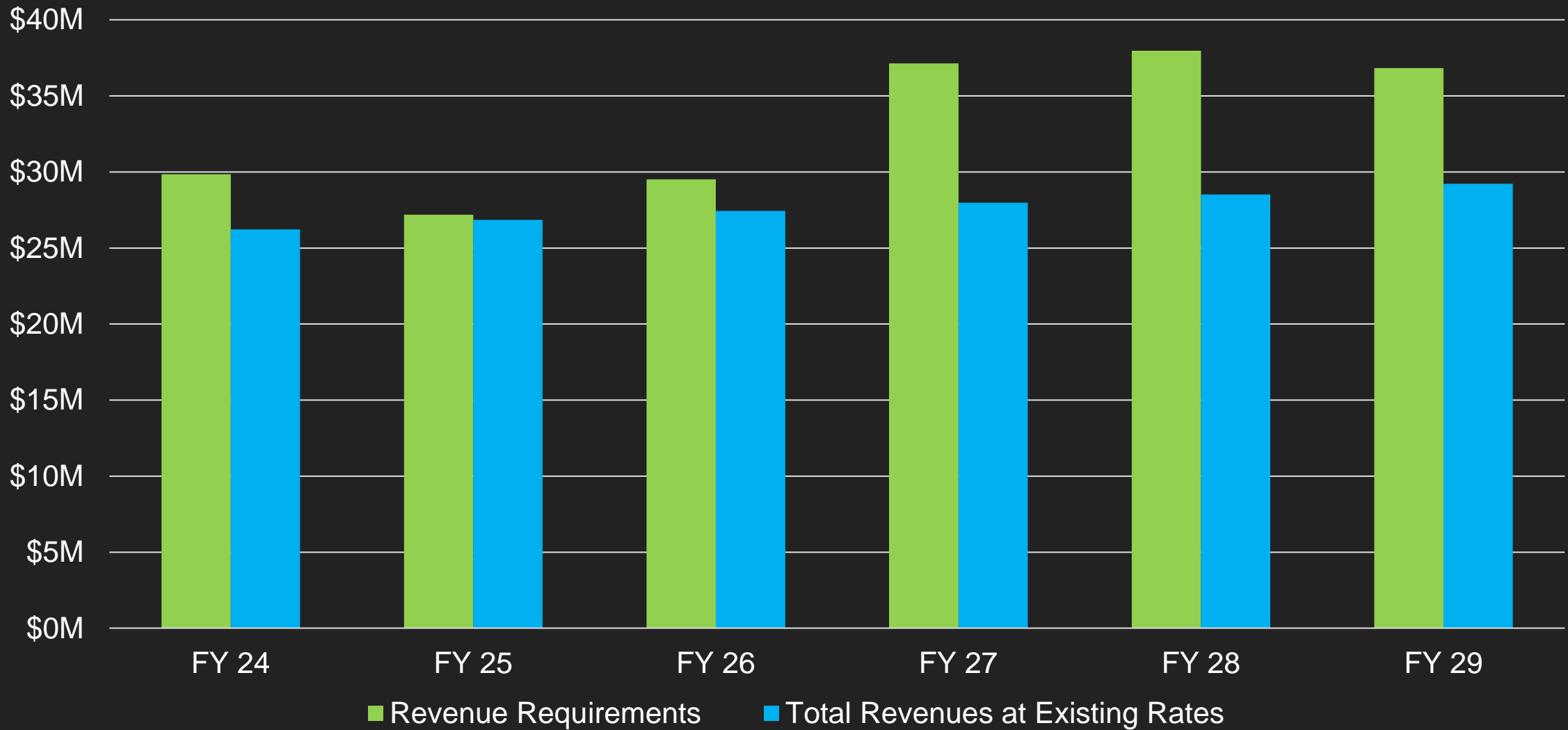




- Account and volume growth:
  - Connection growth estimated at less than 1% per year for entire planning period (retail customers only)
- Miscellaneous non-rate revenues forecasted based on FY 24 amended budget
- Wholesale Sewer Revenues based on historical actuals and increase on an average of 2% per year over the next five years



# Expenses vs. Revenues – No Rate Increases



# Financial Plan

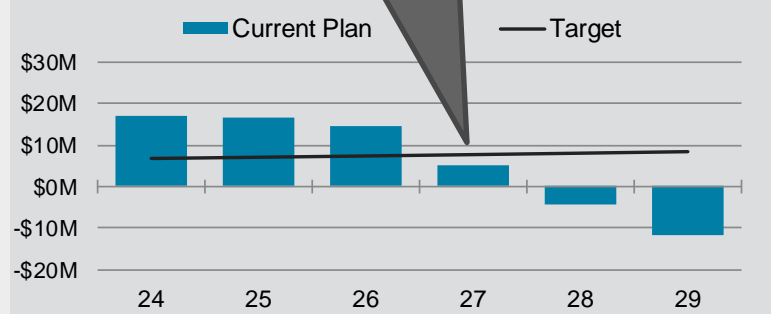


# Sewer Fund - No Rate Increases: 5-year outlook

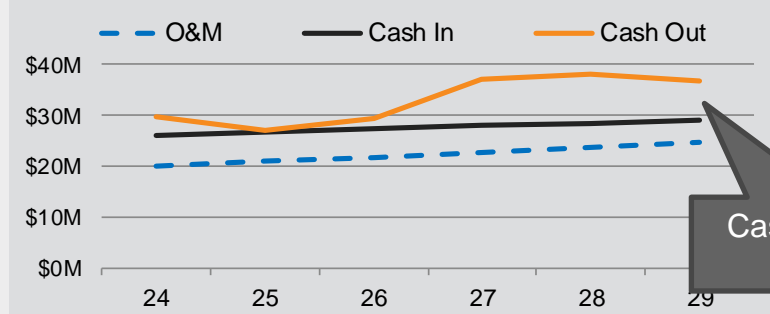
	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2029
Sewer Readiness to Serve Charge	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Sewer Usage Rate Plan	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Senior-Lien DSC	1.73	1.53	1.37	0.76	0.53	0.50	Scenario Manager
Days of O&M	308	289	241	83	-66	-174	
Total Quarterly Single Family Bill (20 CCF)	\$92.58	\$92.58	\$92.58	\$92.58	\$92.58	\$92.58	
Quarterly Single Family Bill Change	-	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	

Coverage falls below minimum

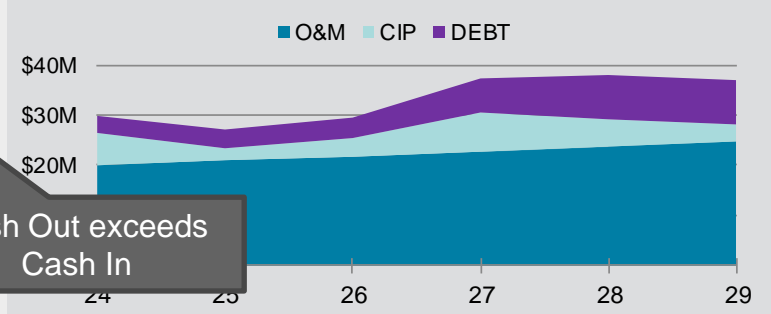
Operating Fund



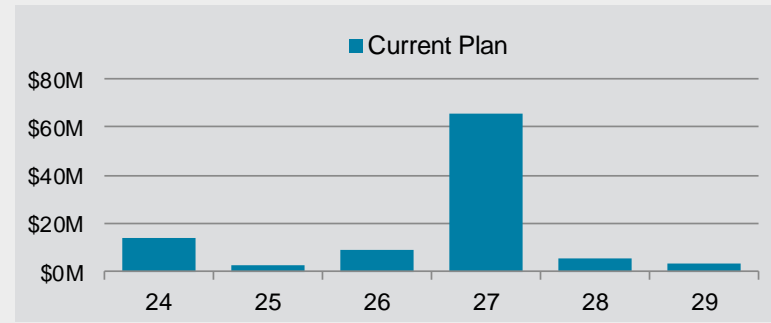
Revenues vs. Expenses



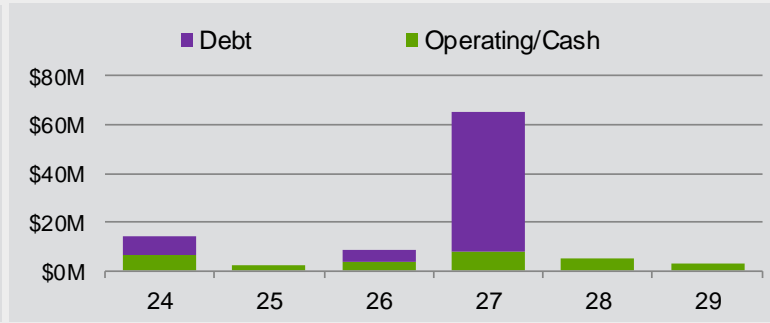
Expenses by Type



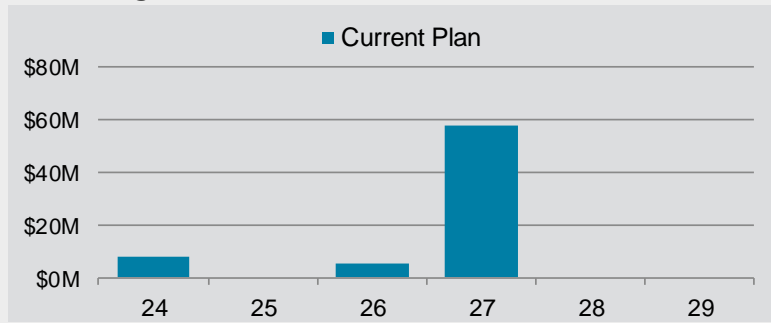
CIP Spending



CIP Funding



Borrowing

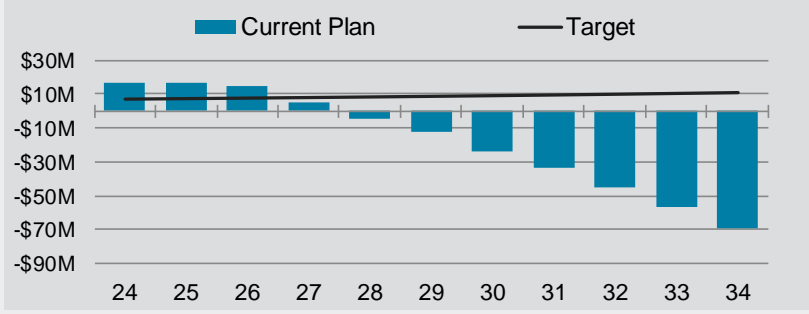




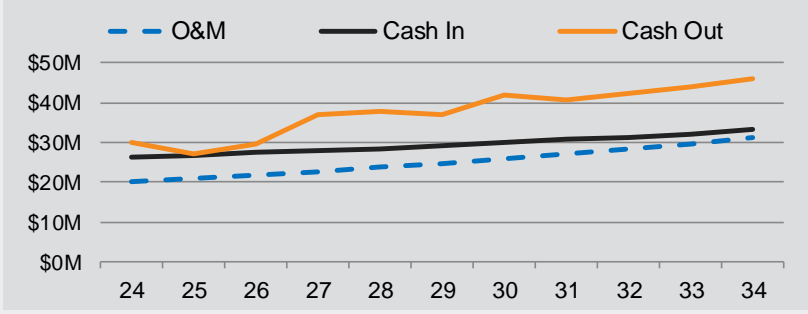
# Sewer Fund - No Rate Increases : 10-year outlook

	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032	FY 2033	FY 2034	FY 2029	FY 2034
Sewer Readiness to Serve Charge	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Sewer Usage Rate Plan	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Senior-Lien DSC	1.73	1.53	1.37	0.76	0.53	0.50	0.46	0.63	0.49	0.43	0.36	Scenario Manager	
Days of O&M	308	289	241	83	-66	-174	-335	-453	-574	-693	-809		
Total Quarterly Single Family Bill (20 CCF)	\$92.58	\$92.58	\$92.58	\$92.58	\$92.58	\$92.58	\$92.58	\$92.58	\$92.58	\$92.58	\$92.58		
Quarterly Single Family Bill Change	-	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		

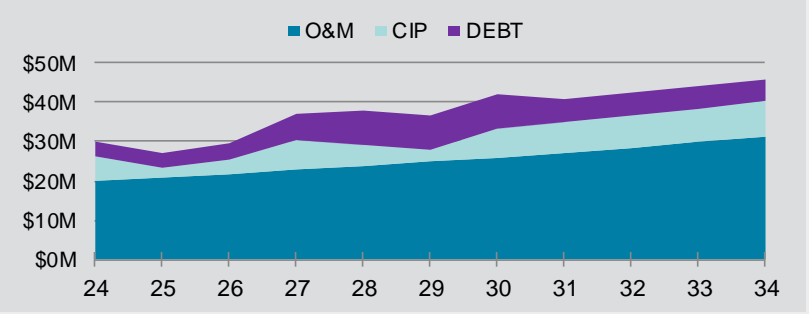
Operating Fund



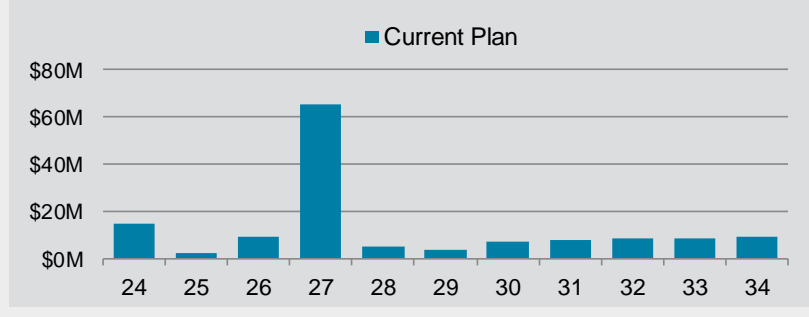
Revenues vs. Expenses



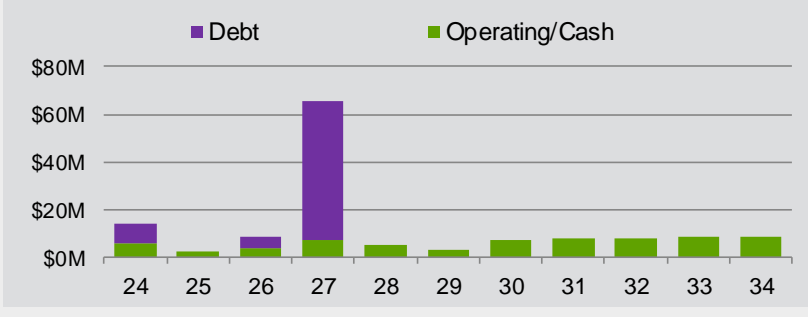
Expenses by Type



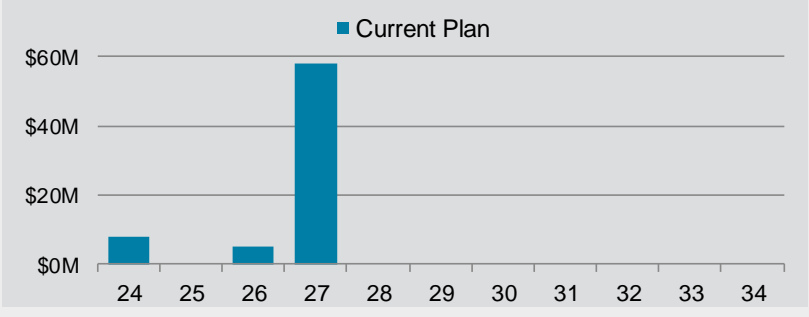
CIP Spending



CIP Funding



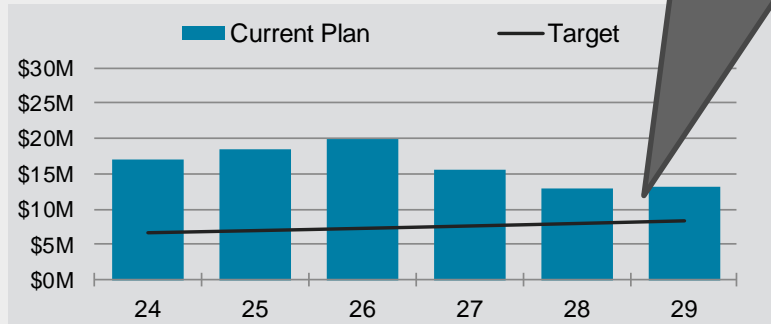
Borrowing



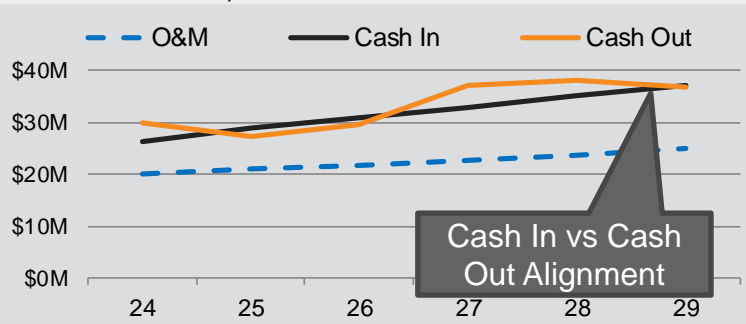
# Sewer Fund - Recommended Financial Plan: 5-year outlook

	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2029
Sewer Readiness to Serve Charge	0.00%	15.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	5.00%	56.41%
Sewer Usage Rate Plan	0.00%	15.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	5.00%	56.47%
Senior-Lien DSC	1.73	2.05	2.21	1.50	1.29	1.39	Scenario Manager
Days of O&M	308	324	332	251	198	192	
Total Quarterly Single Family Bill (20 CCF)	\$92.58	\$106.38	\$116.05	\$126.50	\$137.96	\$144.85	
Quarterly Single Family Bill Change	-	\$13.80	\$9.67	\$10.45	\$11.46	\$6.89	

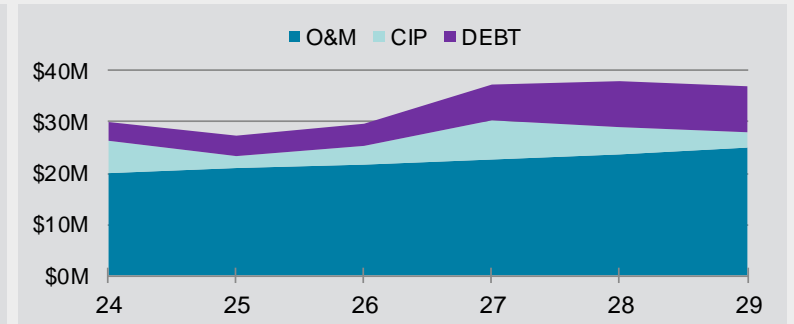
Operating Fund



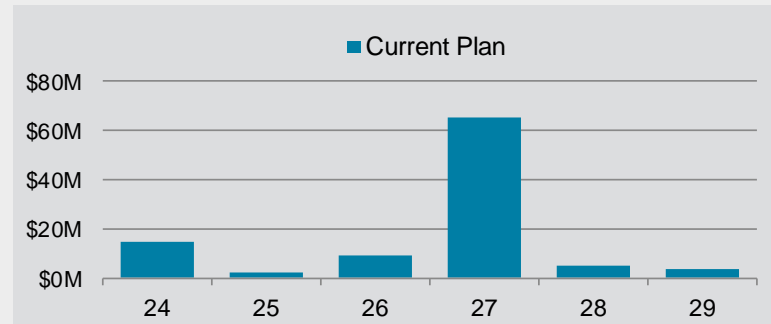
Revenues vs. Expenses



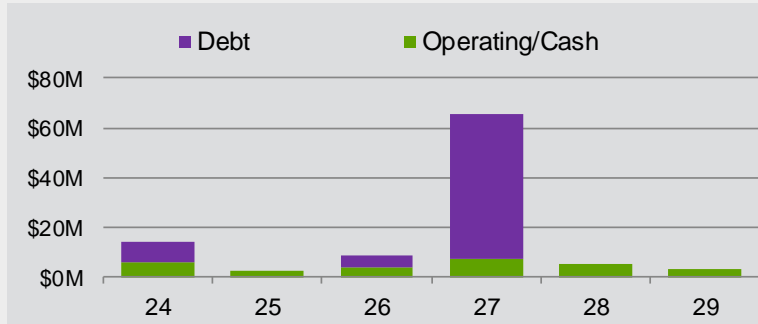
Expenses by Type



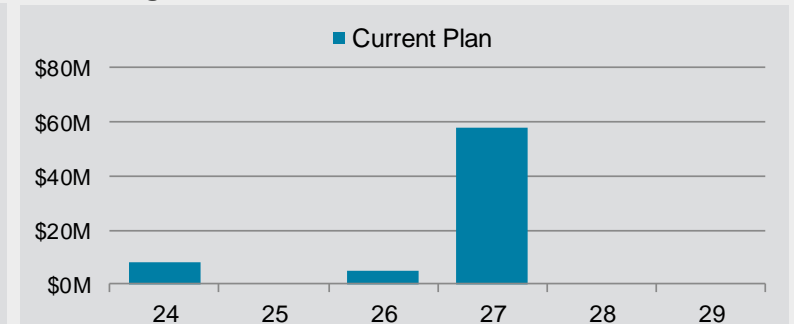
CIP Spending



CIP Funding



Borrowing

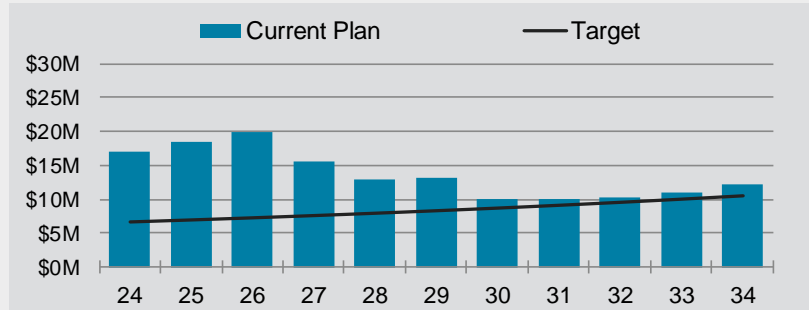




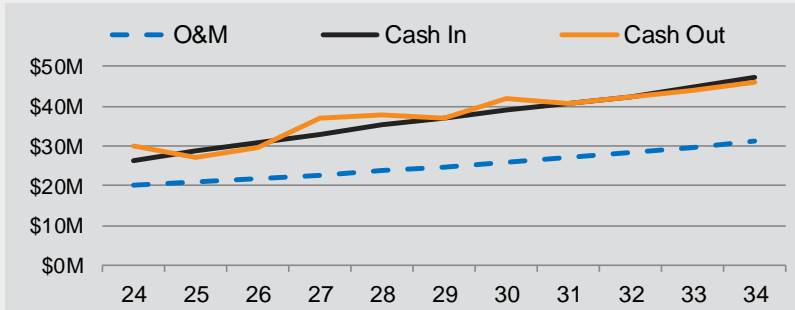
# Sewer Fund - Recommended Financial Plan

	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032	FY 2033	FY 2034	FY 2029	FY 2034
Sewer Readiness to Serve Charge	0.00%	15.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%	56.41%	99.60%
Sewer Usage Rate Plan	0.00%	15.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%	56.47%	99.72%
Senior-Lien DSC	1.73	2.05	2.21	1.50	1.29	1.39	1.49	2.37	2.45	2.60	2.77	Scenario Manager	
Days of O&M	308	324	332	251	198	192	139	135	131	134	142		
Total Quarterly Single Family Bill (20 CCF)	\$92.58	\$106.38	\$116.05	\$126.50	\$137.96	\$144.85	\$152.01	\$159.65	\$167.57	\$175.98	\$184.88		
Quarterly Single Family Bill Change	-	\$13.80	\$9.67	\$10.45	\$11.46	\$6.89	\$7.16	\$7.64	\$7.92	\$8.41	\$8.90		

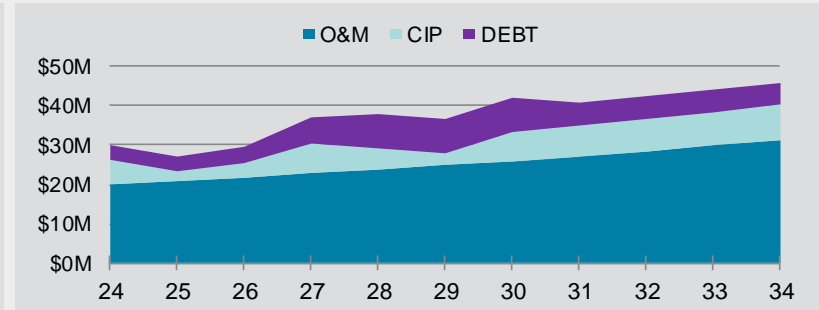
### Operating Fund



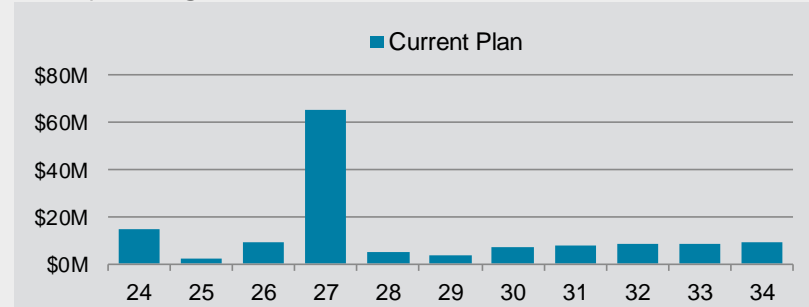
### Revenues vs. Expenses



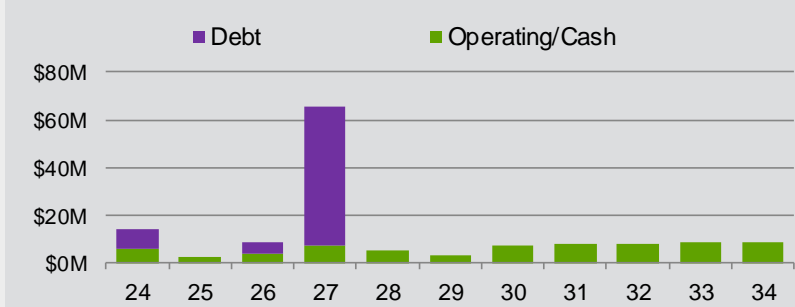
### Expenses by Type



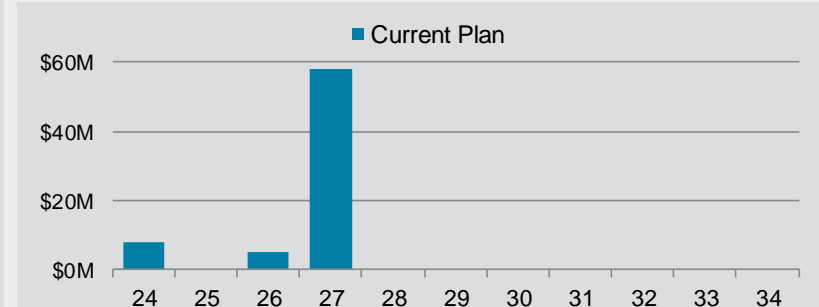
### CIP Spending



### CIP Funding



### Borrowing



# Summary



# Sample Bill Impacts – Recommended Rate Plan

Low User (10 CCF)	Current Quarterly Bill	FY25 Proposed Quarterly Bill	Quarterly \$ Change	Monthly \$ Change	% Change
Water Bill	\$40.84	\$44.47	\$3.63	\$1.21	9%
Sewer Bill	\$56.28	\$64.68	\$8.40	\$2.80	15%
<b>Total Bill</b>	\$97.12	\$109.15	\$12.03	\$4.01	12%

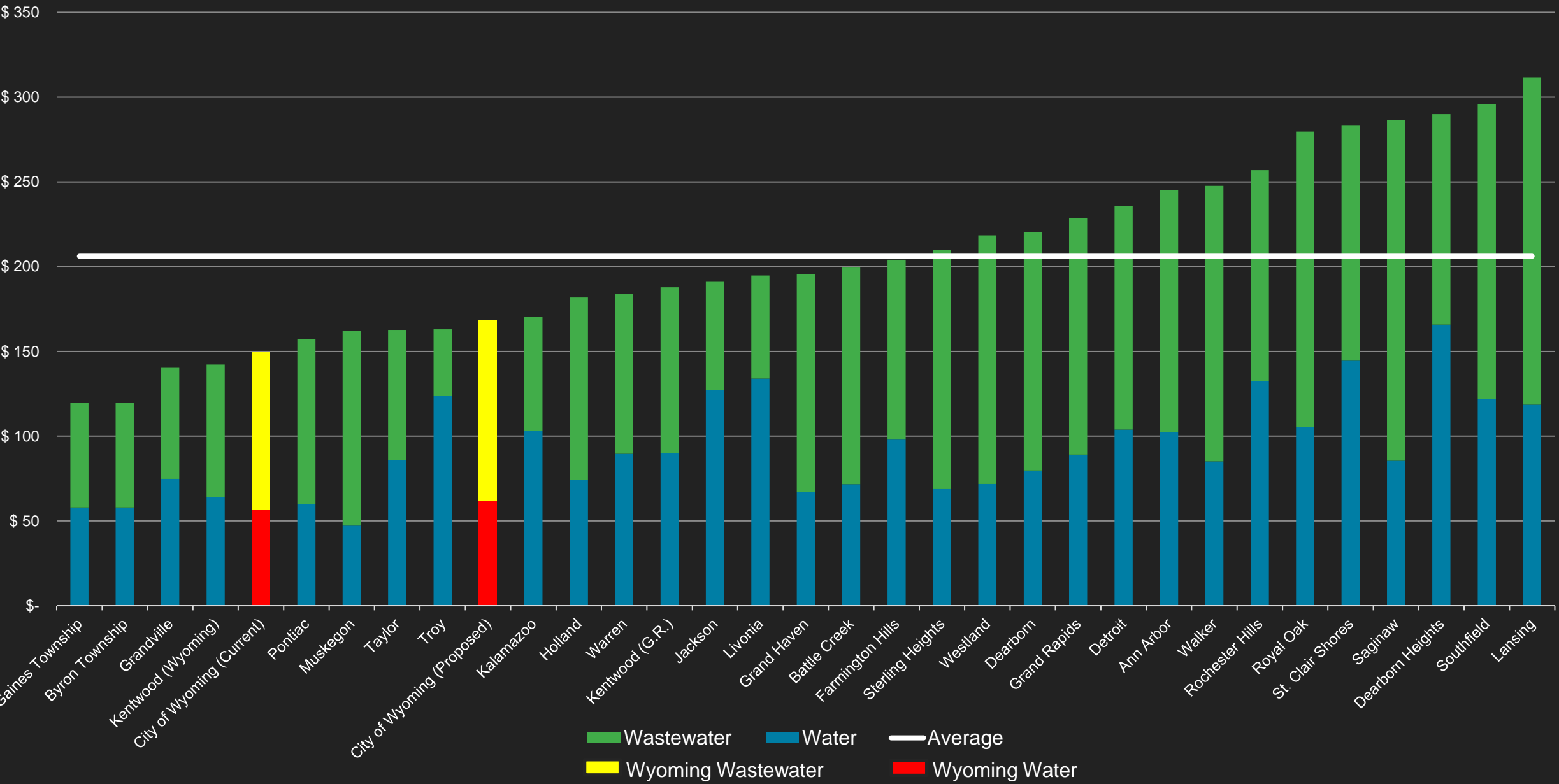
Medium User (20 CCF)	Current Quarterly Bill	FY25 Proposed Quarterly Bill	Quarterly \$ Change	Monthly \$ Change	% Change
Water Bill	\$56.94	\$61.97	\$5.03	\$1.68	9%
Sewer Bill	\$92.58	\$106.38	\$13.80	\$4.60	15%
<b>Total Bill</b>	\$149.52	\$168.35	\$18.83	\$6.28	12%

High User (35 CCF) <sup>1</sup>	Current Quarterly Bill	FY25 Proposed Quarterly Bill	Quarterly \$ Change	Monthly \$ Change	% Change
Water Bill	\$224.66	\$244.71	\$20.05	\$6.68	9%
Sewer Bill	\$221.57	\$254.65	\$33.08	\$11.03	15%
<b>Total Bill</b>	\$446.23	\$499.36	\$53.13	\$17.71	12%

<sup>1</sup>Low and medium user rates are based on 5/8" meter. high user is based on 2" meter.



# Average Residential Quarterly Water & Sewer Bill – 20 Ccf





**Tracey Moher**

Senior Manager

(610) 840-2514

[Tracey.Moher@Stantec.com](mailto:Tracey.Moher@Stantec.com)

Additional Questions/Discussion

## STAFF REPORT

Date: January 3, 2024  
Subject: Spongy Moth Program Costs and Funding Source  
From: Kelli A. VandenBerg, City Clerk  
Date: January 8, 2024

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended the City Council review Wyoming's spongy moth program to determine if treatment should be conducted and if so, the funding mechanism to be used. This decision will allow staff to take the appropriate steps related to the program.

### **COMMUNITY, SAFETY, STEWARDSHIP:**

Spurred by resident complaints in 2008, Wyoming has continuously monitored and treated as needed for spongy moths since 2009. Using resident feedback and field surveys, as well as the principles of integrated pest management, consultant, Neal Swanson of Aquatic Consulting Services (ACS) provides guidance on the annual treatment recommendation. Wyoming's efforts in addressing this invasive species have been supported by residents and help protect property values through preservation of tree canopy throughout the community.

### **DISCUSSION:**

Since its inception, Wyoming has used a special assessment to fund its spongy moth program. This approach has ensured the cost of the program was the responsibility of those receiving the treatment and directly benefiting from it. Council has supported this approach as an equitable way to fund this program. Benefits of this approach include required communications to effected property owners, two public hearings and legal publication notices, ensuring property owners' awareness of the treatment. As the program has evolved, costs have been divided between small parcels (½ acre or less) and larger parcels (larger than ½ acre), with smaller parcels having a flat, per parcel rate and larger parcels having a rate based on the acreage treated. Wyoming is unique in its use of a special assessment to fund this program; most surrounding communities pay directly for this service versus charging residents.

During budget discussions in 2022, council inquired about a different funding mechanism for this program. To ensure council would have options and this discussion could take place, funding was approved as part of the budget process. Using averages and anticipated treatment recommendations, \$89,000.00 has been budgeted for the 2024 spongy moth program.

In late December, the 2024 treatment recommendation was received from ACS, and it is now time to begin preparations. How this program is funded greatly affects what those preparations are, and staff is seeking direction from council. The following is the timeline for the spongy moth suppression program if a special assessment is used for funding. Council actions are identified in bold:

January/February	
	Staff review of recommendation
	Work with IT, REGIS, and ACS to generate parcel data for the spray recommendation
	Staff review of parcel data to develop mailing lists and program costs
March	
4	<b>Resolutions to set public hearings to determine the necessity of a special assessment</b>
5	Mail required notices to property owners
12	Publish legal notice
18	<b>Hold public hearings to determine the necessity of the special assessment</b>
18	<b>Resolutions to declare the necessity of the special assessment</b>
18	<b>Resolutions to set public hearings to confirm the special assessment</b>
18	<b>Resolution to accept a proposal for aerial insecticide spraying</b>
19	Mail required notices to property owners
26	Publish legal notice
April	
1	<b>Hold public hearings to confirm the special assessments</b>
1	<b>Resolutions to confirm the special assessment rolls</b>
May	
	Develop and publish media and social media to share spray information
13 or 20	Courtesy letter to property owners as treatment window is identified
June	
	Conduct treatment (late May to early June)
	Field calls and document feedback through the end of the year
	Relay special assessment data to Treasury for application to the summer tax bill

Using resident feedback, ACS conducts a post-spray analysis in late June. This feedback and analysis is then used by ACS to guide fall and winter field surveys which begins the process again.

There are several components of this program that are time-sensitive, such as staff-driven production and mailing of property owner notifications, legal publications, and communication plans. There are also time-sensitive contractor requirements including obtaining product and securing an approved flight plan. Because of the time needed for these components and spring being predictably unpredictable, we always seek to have all necessary approvals complete well in advance. If a special assessment is not used, some staff-related tasks would be eliminated or modified.

The following is historical data on past spongy moth treatments:

Year	Acreage	Spray Date	ACS Cost	Helicopter Cost/acre	Sm. Parcel	Lg. Parcel	Total Cost	Cost/Acre
2009	1230	May 20	\$6,450	\$50	\$20	NA	\$42,950	\$34.92
2010	1081	May 20	\$6,625	\$50	\$25	NA	\$60,675	\$56.13
2011	0		\$6,830				\$6,830	
2012	0		\$6,830				\$6,830	
2013	0		\$6,625				\$6,625	
2014	0		\$6,625				\$6,625	
2015	745	June 1	\$6,625	\$63	\$24	\$72	\$56,015	\$75.19
2016	460	May 26	\$6,625	\$66	\$28	\$91	\$38,973	\$84.72
2017	612	June 5	\$6,625	\$67	\$26	\$81	\$49,533	\$80.94
2018	1114	June 5	\$6,625	\$67	\$26	\$75	\$86,605	77.74
2019	1704	May 28 and June 3	\$6,625	\$62	\$46	\$132	\$225,001	\$132.04
2020	575	June 1	\$6,625	\$63	\$26	\$82	\$44,063	\$76.63
2021	868	May 18	\$6,825	\$64	\$26	\$75	\$65,591	\$75.57
2022	1544	May 23	\$7,125	\$69.30	\$27	\$72	\$119,078	\$77.83
2023	698	May 17	\$7,225	\$71.70	\$28	\$83	\$60,366	\$86.48

Based on the 2024 treatment recommendation, I estimate program costs will be roughly \$35,425, which includes the following:

Aquatic Consulting Services	\$7,425 (flat rate)
Aerial Applicator	\$28,000 (estimating \$74/acre)

If this is addressed through a special assessment, I would estimate an additional \$2,000 for mailings and legal publications. Until I have parcel data from REGIS, I do not know what the special assessment charge would be per parcel or per acre, but I would guess no more than \$27-30/parcel and \$80-85/acre.

**BUDGET IMPACT:**

If a special assessment is not used as a funding mechanism, sufficient funding is available to address the estimated costs of the 2024 spongy moth program in the Public Works - Other Services account 101-441-441-956.000.

ATTACHMENTS:2024 Spongy Moth Treatment Recommendation and related documents



## Aquatic Consulting Services

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P.O. Box 530, Sanford, MI 48657  
[www.aquaticremedies.com](http://www.aquaticremedies.com)

989-689-0223

December 20, 2023

**Kelli Vandenberg, City Clerk**  
**City of Wyoming**  
**1155 28th Street, S.W., Box 905**  
**Wyoming, MI 49509-0905**

Dear Ms. Vandenberg:

We have completed the spongy moth surveys, maps, and report for the 2024 season in the City of Wyoming. I have included JPG and PDF map files of the results for your review and online posting, as needed. Both JPG and PDF files are printable for your purposes although the PDF file will likely be more user friendly on a website. I will provide your GIS personnel with SHP files for use in a GIS mapping system. I have also included a short report on the conditions in each recommended spray block. An 18 x 24 inch map can be mailed in a separate package for display purposes, if requested.

I am pleased to report that, during our survey, we found spongy moth populations in all of the previously infested areas were significantly reduced. In some areas, we found no new egg masses with many areas seeing >90% reduction. This result is certainly the goal of spongy moth suppression programs, but I do need to explain the factors I suspect may have been at play in this reduction. The application of *Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki* (Btk) was definitely a driving force in the observed reduction, but complete eradication is usually not possible with Btk application alone. When we see this type of reduction, there are often interacting factors that combine to cause population collapse, especially latent environmental factors. There are three major environmental controls that limit spongy moth population buildups; a fungus called *E. maimaiga*, a spongy moth virus called NPV, and a class of egg parasitoid wasps. We suspect that these factors combined with suppressive spray has caused the observed population collapse. However, we are still seeing potentially damaging spongy moth populations in other areas in West Michigan. In fact, we took on new clients this season experiencing infestations similar to the peak level observed in the City of Wyoming. We have also seen nearly eradicated remnant spongy moth populations rebound to problem levels within 2 years. The total acreage recommended for spray in spring 2024 is 378 acres, a 46% reduction from the 2023 season. There are still a few areas with highly suppressed infestations that were not recommended but should definitely be monitored. Overall, I anticipate further gains will be made this season, but encourage the City of Wyoming to continue with a monitoring program of some kind.

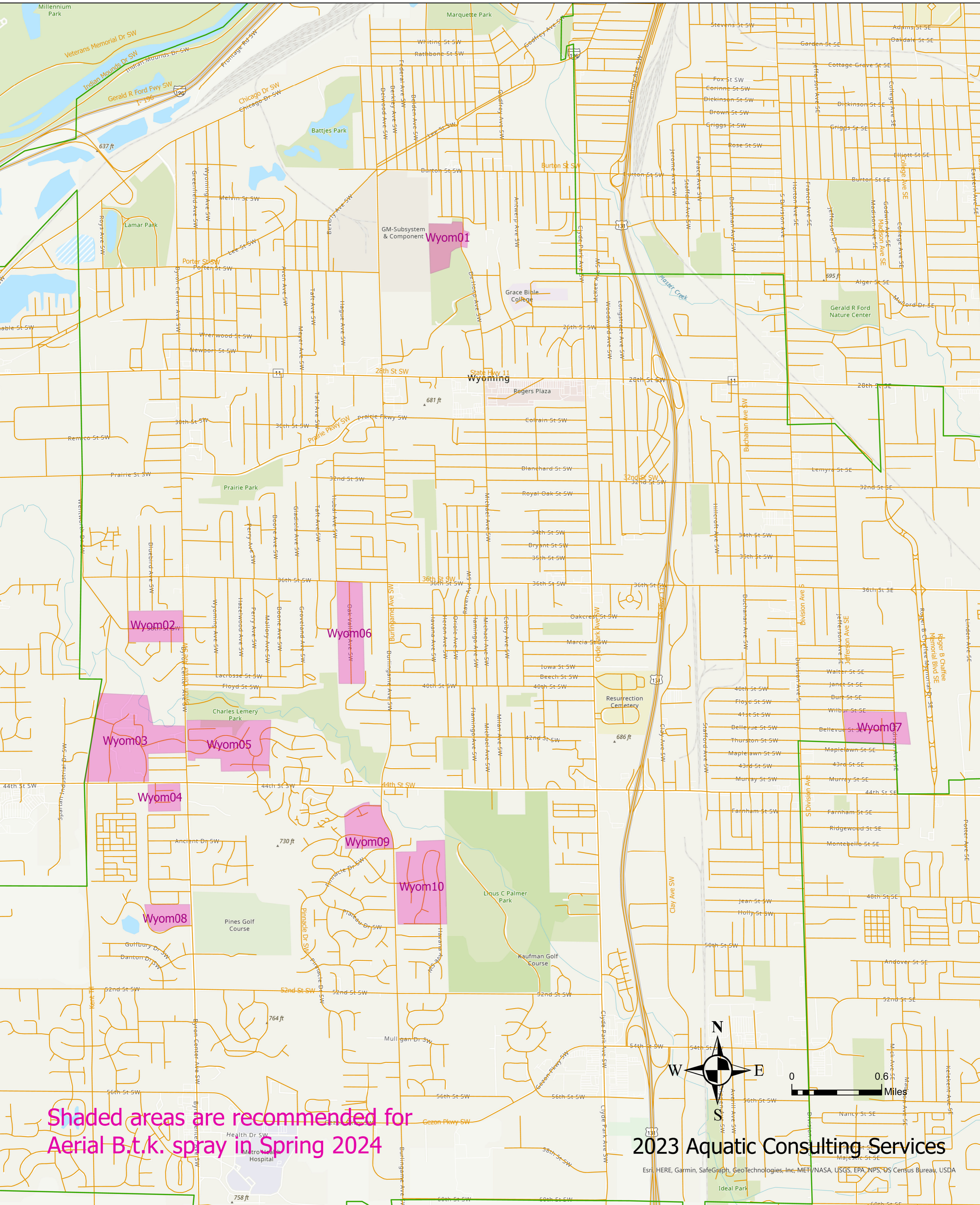
I will hold off on digitizing the spray blocks for the pilot's use until you have had a chance to review the maps. Once we get closer to spray time and you have selected an aerial applicator, I will provide the pilot with spray maps and digitized files.

Thank you for the opportunity to work for the City of Wyoming again this season. Please let me know if I can help with anything further at this time. 989-689-0223 or [spongy moth@aquaticremedies.com](mailto:spongy moth@aquaticremedies.com).

Sincerely,

Neal Swanson  
Owner/Biologist

# City of Wyoming Spongy Moth Survey Report 2024



2023 Aquatic Consulting Services

Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc., METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA

City of Wyoming  
Recommended Spongy Moth Spray Areas 2024

Aquatic Consulting Services II LLC  
December 2023

Block #	Acres	Reason for Spray
Wyom01	21	A persistent remnant population in prime habitat. The block consists of a portion of the popular Pinery Park and a portion of the City of Wyoming Police Department lawn. Nuisance will likely be variable due to varying usage. Tree damage is the primary concern as this area has been generally infested for several years. Population has been largely suppressed for a few years but does show signs of rebound. Spray to mitigate potential nuisance, limit further tree damage, and inhibit population rebound.
Wyom02	26	A sustained population in favorable habitat. Nuisance is the primary concern in this block. Homeowners in the area have expressed elevated nuisance in the past and another year of infestation would likely cause frustration. Spray to mitigate potential nuisance and further suppress population.
Wyom03	91	A sustained population in prime habitat. The population in this area is very persistent and does show some signs of rebound. Tree damage is the primary concern in this area due to a history of heavy defoliation throughout the Ramblewood Apartments complex. Nuisance is a secondary concern but will likely be variable due to varying usage. Spray to inhibit population rebound, limit further tree damage, and mitigate potential nuisance.
Wyom04	13	A sustained population in favorable habitat. Nuisance is the primary concern here, as historical nuisance has been elevated. Tree damage is a secondary concern as a few trees were heavily infested in past years. Spray to mitigate potential nuisance and limit further tree damage.
Wyom05	57	An established population in prime habitat. Several trees in the area were heavily infested in past years, so further tree damage is the primary concern. Historic nuisance level has also been elevated, particularly in the western portion of the block. Population rebound is also most notable in the western portion of the block. Spray to limit further tree damage, mitigate potential nuisance, and inhibit population rebound.
Wyom06	39	A persistent sustained population in prime habitat. Population has been suppressed for 2 years but does show signs of rebound. Nuisance is the primary concern due to a history of heavy infestation for 2-3 years. Tree damage is a secondary concern due to heavy defoliation of a few trees in the area. Spray to inhibit population rebound, limit further tree damage, and mitigate nuisance.
Wyom07	30	An established population in suitable habitat. Population was suppressed to very low numbers in prior years, but signs of rebound are notable. Nuisance is the primary concern due to history of infestation in the area. Population is continuous into neighboring City of Kentwood, so reinfestation post-suppression is also a concern. Spray to mitigate potential nuisance and inhibit reinfestation.
Wyom08	15	A persistent sustained population in favorable habitat. Area is comprised of a forested apartment complex that has been infested to some degree for 4 years. Population persistence causing rebound is the primary concern. Tree damage is a secondary concern due to heavy defoliation of several trees at peak of cycle. Spray to further suppress population inhibiting rebound and limit further tree damage.

WyBlk09	27	A sustained population in favorable habitat. Nuisance is the primary concern due to history of infestation, particularly in the southern portion of the block (northern Chateau Estates). Nuisance may be variable though due to varying use consisting of commercial, private residences, and an apartment complex. Tree damage is a secondary concern, particularly in previously stressed trees in the southern portion of the block. Spray to mitigate potential nuisance and limit further tree damage.
WyBlk10	59	A persistent remnant population in prime habitat. Nuisance is the primary concern in this area due to long history of infestation persistence. Population peak was very high a few years ago, so tree damage is also a concern. Population rebound is always a concern as well due to large continuous woodlot in adjacent Palmer Park. Spray to reduce nuisance, limit further tree damage, and inhibit population rebound.

Total Acreage = **378 acres**

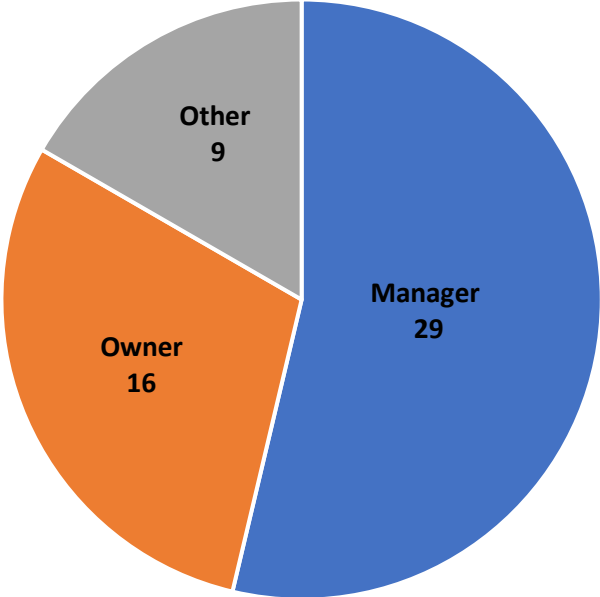
The term “nuisance” is subjective and relates to the likelihood that the number and feeding behavior of caterpillars in the area will impact a property owner’s quality of life. Some property owners may experience heavy infestation yet are unbothered. Other property owners may see 5-10 caterpillars visible on a barn door as a nuisance. Field experience during spongy moth infestation suggests that the number of egg masses found in an area may yield a widespread nuisance situation. The term “tree damage” is more literal, but also relative to environmental and historical factors as well. Any level of defoliation should be considered damaging, but otherwise healthy trees are generally much more resilient, even after consecutive years of defoliation. Other environmental stressors such as drought or disease are additive factors that will contribute to greater risk of tree degradation and/or mortality. Defoliation levels of >60% are also very stressful to trees, although most tree can survive 3+ years of >60% defoliation if few other stressors are present. Habitat quality relates to the species composition, density, distribution, understory, and topography of an area. Mixed forest type consisting primarily of oaks, neatly groomed understory, mixed age-class, and low topographic variability are the ideal conditions for persistent infestation, and so this habitat is designated as “prime” with favorable, suitable, and marginal habitat in decreasing suitability. Trends in populations are designated by the egg mass residues in the area. Rising populations show a high new/old egg mass ratio, with established, sustained, and remnant populations trending toward a high old/new egg mass ratio.

Spray areas are recommended based on historical data, habitat suitability, population dynamics, and field experience in spongy moth management. Other areas within the city may also contain some level of spongy moth infestation, but such areas either show a significant downward trend or habitat conditions do not exhibit high likelihood of a vigorous infestation. The level of damage and/or nuisance can be difficult to predict given the interaction of unpredictable environmental factors. Additionally, spongy moth suppression program managers are often tasked with balancing high potential for damaging spongy moth numbers with high community benefit. Areas where these considerations overlap are generally the areas that are treated first with available funds and areas of diminishing return are treated as funds are depleted. Our treatment recommendations take this into account, and we try to limit recommended spray areas to these top-tier areas. There is always some risk the objection of “Why did you treat them and not me?” Given this trade-off, some more broadly infested clients decide that the best use of available funds is to treat areas of high residential population density that are also generally infested with spongy moths. We cannot offer any guidance on this consideration and take no responsibility for the concluded spray acreage. It is solely the decision of the municipality to treat all, some, or none of the recommended treatment area.

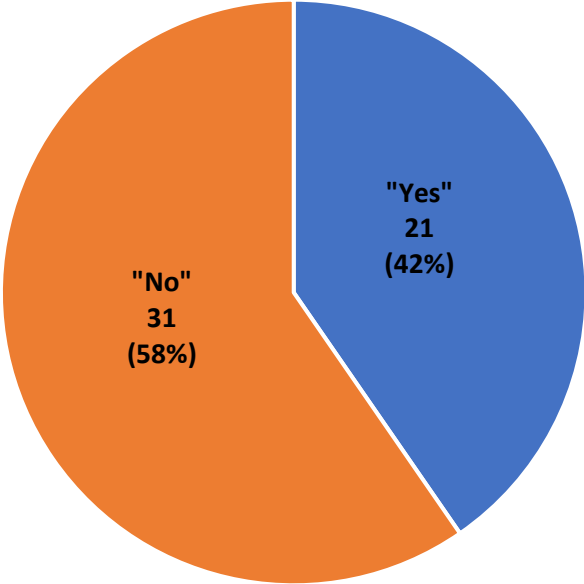
As stated in previous reports to the City of Wyoming, spongy moth suppression programs in Michigan generally follow an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategy which is focused on low environmental

impact and economic awareness. Further, an IPM strategy intends to mitigate exponential population growth with treatment only until latent environmental controls begin to limit populations sufficiently. This approach requires that a monitoring period be commenced once environmental controls begin to act on populations sufficiently where tree damage is expected to be minimal and nuisance levels will be tolerable in the coming season. Considering the low number of complaints, and low defoliation levels observed in the 2021-2023 post-spray surveys, we are confident this was the correct approach. It appears that the more aggressive response to population rebounds in 2022 have paid off and we can reduce acreage once again in favor of monitoring. Accordingly, **we are recommending a decrease of 320 acres (46%) for a total of 378 acres indicated above.** The current population cycle continues to be challenging, and we are still seeing volatility in a few neighboring communities, but many areas are seeing substantial population reductions similar to seen in 2023 in Wyoming. We encourage the City of Wyoming to maintain a monitoring program and treatment of isolated population rebounds until environmental controls eliminate the need for suppressive action.

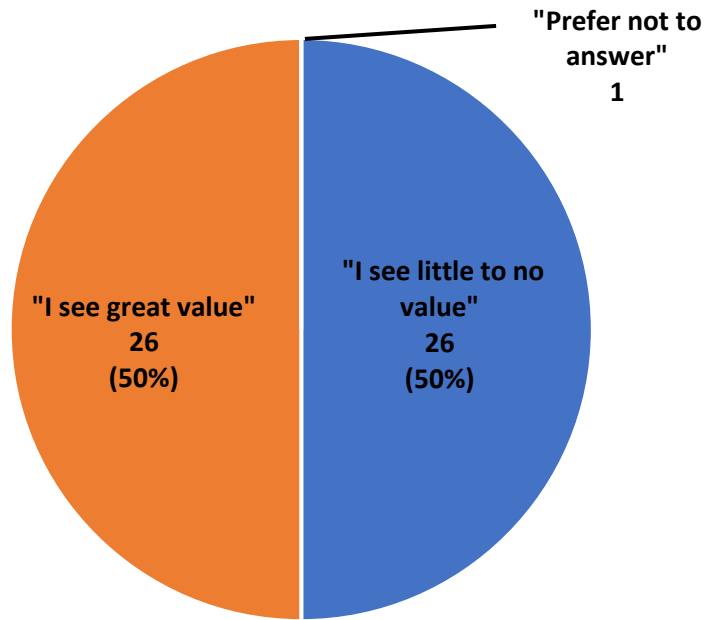
**Role of Interviewee**



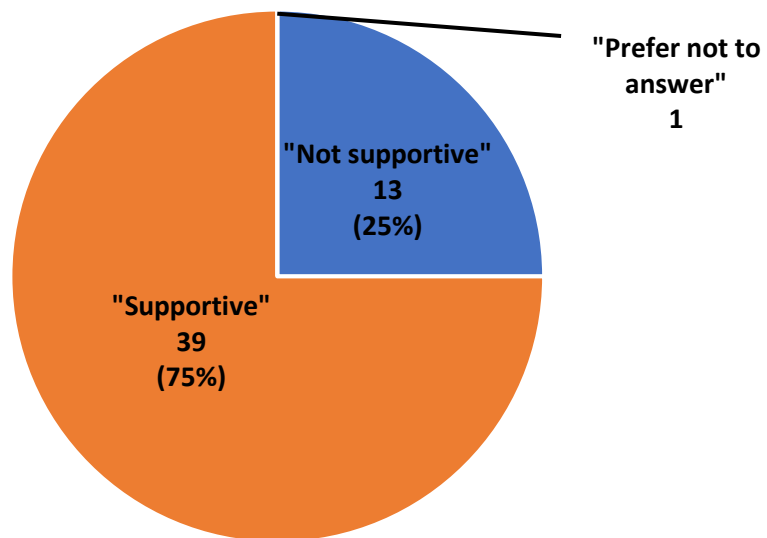
**Have you heard about the City Center project?**



**Do you see value or benefit that the Metro Cruise brings to your business?**



**Are you supportive of Metro Cruise continuing to be held in Wyoming?**



## Please share why you answered this way

### Those in support said:

- Tents food and contests. Closed during Cruise, not a sponsor of table.
- First we are here to take care of our customers. We don't close our doors. Good for the community, nice to see the cars. Good to talk to the elders, they have so much knowledge to share before they pass. Plus I have an 88 bronco in mint condition.
- Brings more people to business and market their business.
- Set up booth at metro cruise. Great recruiting tool.
- Set up tents outside and get more business.
- Grew up in Wyoming, tradition.
- Good way to bring extra attention to the area.
- It's beneficial to people and businesses.
- Receive clients from metro cruise.
- Because it's exciting and everyone is happy to see it. We like to see the cars and the people. It brings in business.
- It brings people out to the City. Enhances the community.
- Don't make much sales, but like the foot traffic in area.
- Pain trying to get through, but it means a lot to the community and it's really cool.
- Great benefit to the store, and I enjoy it. I go every year.
- Doesn't give business day off, but does down the road. Would rather shut doors and enjoy event. Attendees of event already have stuff and don't buy that weekend. Might generate business down the road but don't really know.
- I saw foot traffic during the event.
- The safety thing. Sometimes it can get a little crazy in this area. There is a little safety concern with traffic. The later it gets, it gets dicey, crazy.
- We get a lot of traffic on those days. We got some patients coming in from the metro cruise.
- People look forward to it, brings people to the area.
- Gives us business.
- Residents haven't given any negative feedback.
- Brings business and good community event, able to connect with community. A lot of foot traffic - sales up 280% mainly drinks.
- I close during metro cruise. It's too hard to get in and out. People only came in the mall if it's raining and they need shelter. Doesn't bring a lot of value to my business. We close during that time. We might only get some stragglers. It's a headache coming in and out. Not worth it. Wyoming was the baby of the Metro Cruise, everyone else is jumping in on the east, they are taking everything, finances or stuff, that way. Maybe we do something in Pinery park, like a picnic at the cruise. Right now, everything is going that way. Maybe do some concerts during the day. Make something just off 28th street, in Pinery park, have an activity in there. Have a concert or mini circus there. Going east, every little open area there is something going on. Woodland Mall, Center Point and past that, there is stuff for you to pull off and buy.
- They do need to work on some of the traffic. Nobody can get out.
- Wrong clientele for us. We sell cars and they have nice cars Slows us down some. Brings a lot of people into the area. Good for the city.

- I like it, I love it that way it is.
- Slows us down. Fun to watch, tradition.
- Jeep club sets up outside and vendors. Foot traffic but not people buying.
- Tradition here in Wyoming.
- Work on parking for people. I love Metro Cruise, the fact that it's been around forever. Sometimes my people won't drive, they have to be dropped off. This year, police wouldn't let people coming to pick up my employees in the area. It's an inconvenience for us.
- Why get fast food when there's fresh food. Supportive personally. Talked about dream cruise in Detroit.

**Those not in support said:**

- It's good for city to have a signature event. It doesn't need to be Metro Cruise, but something that the city is known for.
- Liked when it was just a Wyoming event. Provided value for the city.
- Causes issues for business. Have had many issues during the event.
- Would be thrilled if it went away. Detrimental to business. Delivery times go up. Staffing goes up. Customers can't get to our restaurant and cancel orders. Causes profit loss. Really hurts our business.
- I like the event but it's hard for our clients to come. Business is slow. We don't get walk ins.
- We can't tell if customers are coming in from Metro Cruise or just are our customers.
- The parking situation impacts us, our customers complain about the parking.
- People bring their own food, passing by. Some advertising, no one is spending money on local businesses they come out but don't come back. Can't get in.
- Slows Family Fare down, gas station does good.
- Event is poorly run. Has been getting worse, poorly planned for businesses. Traffic flow for businesses. More structure.
- Used to bring business, but when food was allowed outside it stopped. Takes business away from us.
- Members upset about parking. We lose business. People try to use bathrooms.
- Good and bad... lots of trash and garbage left behind. Food vendors take business. Event overall is ok. Not a bad event but no one takes care of their trash and it's a bad image for the business left behind. Brings a lot of walk-in traffic.
- Want to participate next year. Don't see a big change in business weekend of.
- Don't mind metro cruise but hate people using parking lot and not having customer or staff parking. Affects business flow. Brings people to Wyoming but a little annoying.
- No business and too much traffic.

## What would you like to see in this area of 28<sup>th</sup> Street?

- Too busy along 28th St.
- Less crime. Everyone seems pretty nice around here.
- Bringing in other businesses in the area.
- Starbucks.
- Fix congestion on 28th St.
- More shopping.
- They used to do a carnival around here. I know a lot of people are into small bands, live musical events.
- More police. Neighbor is an issue causing bad business for Once Upon a Child.
- More resources for lower income housing. Advertising spacing.
- Hasn't seen a ton of information. Would like to see more entertainment.
- Redo the trees. Blocks business signage when fully bloomed. Better lower landscaping.
- Thinks it's a good idea, Hispanic community is growing, business is growing, Hispanic restaurants are growing. A lot of potential.
- We are hearing rumors that they are going to tear down everything in the area and put up apartments. Would like to see it stay. Fix the homelessness issue.
- More stoplights. People drive like maniacs on road and parking lots. Homeless population hurting business because of image. Garbage everywhere. Why can't I have road signage when they don't block? They get taken down. Can't see my shop from the road and would like more consistency with roadside signage to advertise business. Would help city with taxes.
- Relieved to have a bridge for safety purposes. Affordable shopping, no empty spaces, Roger's Plaza revitalized. Festivals like downtown, makers markets.
- Like the idea of the crossing.
- Cleanliness. New developments, more kid events, coffee shop with play area for kids
- Brings more business to Wyoming. Thinks it's a great idea. Other community events.
- I haven't the slightest idea. I'd like to see more people coming through. Do we have enough foot traffic to warrant a bridge?
- Safety of clients on 28th is a concern. Crossing etc.
- I voted on that, Monica Sparks presented it. It's a hard thing to say right off. Events focused on health and exercise and healthy activities. And something in the winter when there's nothing to do. Ice skating. Winter events.
- More programs for the youth. Family friendly events. Safe events. Safe things, there's a lot of gun violence.
- Would welcome more events with foot traffic
- Seasonal lights, holiday events. More fruitful businesses. Would like to see more of a sense of community. Entertainment, trunk or treats, food trucks in parks.
- Thinks it's a good idea.
- I love Metro Cruise but I hate the parking. We used to have parking passes for my people. I love it but the traffic ...it clogs up 28th. I warn my customers to come earlier in the week. I got some people coming in to look around but there are really here for the cars.
- Better police presence for riff raff in parking lot. A lot of homeless behind building and drug use.
- Traffic is pretty bad. Drag racing.
- great idea, more foot traffic, feeling safer to cross. Promote businesses.

- Events for all ages about nutrition, wellness, fitness. I teach Zumba and healthy living, well-being for all ages and abilities. I would like to get my name out there; we are a small business.
- The project sounds pretty good. If there's a food truck or live music on the plaza that would be pretty cool.
- Would like to see a downtown, events, etc. people drive through here. Somewhere where people will go and walk.

## **Is there anything else you would like to share regarding the Metro Cruise or City Center project?**

- I think they should have more events, more often. Every weekend. Cool to see the vehicles.
- It would be nice to see the city center happen and are excited about it.
- Confused on location of the bridge. Would like to see a department store in Rogers location, or a casino.
- No. I didn't know about this.
- We hope metro cruise continues. It's an exciting time.
- City center project sounds beneficial and exciting for the community.
- Brought business to his former business on 36th St. – a car paint shop
- Going to improve as time goes by. Event keeps developing better.
- Sponsorship possibilities.
- To have something inside the mall, there's no space to park. It won't work. You could get some shuttle buses for parking at the gm plant. Run them to Prairie, don't run on 28th so you can drop off/pick up people. Helps so people don't have to walk. Having a celebrity softball game - tv personalities or retired athletes, to sign autographs. Get some of the old Lions, Izzo knows people. Even the Notre Dame coach. Giveaways open the door. Do events partly on Friday maybe country band and then more on Saturday, autographs, football throws, blow ups for the kids.
- More events.
- Thinks it's a great idea. Likes the sky bridge.
- Exciting.
- I think it's a cool project. My employees would like to see food trucks. I'm in.
- Get rid of Metro Cruise. Would love to see it gone.
- Very excited for the City Center.
- It's a great event.
- No not really. Applebees is closing and that's sad.
- I think you guys are doing good so far. I see the city growing.
- This is needed in the community.

2023 Metro Cruise  
WYDPS After-Action Report

The 2023 Metro Cruise event, owned and sponsored by Brandon Simmons with Greater level, LLC, was held on August 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.

**PLANNING**

Planning for the event involved staff from various City departments including Parks & Recreation, Planning, Public Safety, City Attorney, and the City Manager’s Office. Several meetings were held in the months leading up to the event in order to establish a mutually agreed upon operational plan which included topics related to hours of operation, a security plan, the location and licensing of food trucks, required city permits, and communication with the public regarding traffic laws and ordinances.

**WYOMING CITY EMPLOYEE STAFFING** for the event included:

**Police** – Because the event occurs on the weekend when regularly scheduled officers must work their assigned patrol districts, all Wyoming PD employees who staffed the event were working overtime. The total cost for Wyoming personnel was \$28,400.

	Friday PM Hours Worked	Saturday Hours Worked	Total
Executive Command Officers	<u>6.0</u>	<u>16.0</u>	22.0
Lieutenants	<u>47.5</u>	<u>60.5</u>	108.0
Sergeants	<u>8.0</u>	<u>15.0</u>	23.0
Officers	<u>119.0</u>	<u>125.0</u>	244.0
TOTAL	<u>180.50</u>	<u>216.5</u>	397.0

**Public Works and Facilities** – Numerous City of Wyoming employees assisted with logistical support such as building preparation and use, street barricades, traffic signs, and other matters.

**Wyoming Fire** – A medic was staged at City Hall for quick response to crashes or medical calls.

**ASSISTING LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES**

The superior level of cooperation and collaboration amongst law enforcement in our region was very evident again this year. Five other agencies contributed 437 hours of their civilian and sworn personnel along with other assets.

- Grand Rapids Police Department (GRPD)
  - Motor unit
- Grandville Police Department (GVPD)
- Kent County Sheriff’s Department (KCSD)
  - Dedicated dispatch center, mounted unit, traffic squad for pedestrian crossing, drone team
- Michigan State Police (MSP)
  - Portable camera tower, helicopter, liaison in command post
- Walker Police Department (WPD)

The cost of the resources provided by other municipalities and governmental bodies was estimated to be another \$20,000+ which was absorbed by the contributing agencies.

## ENFORCEMENT

Because of the danger reckless driving and burnouts pose to the public, traffic laws this year were more strictly enforced. Officers reported the following actions taken:

POLICE ACTIVITY	2022	2023
Traffic Stops	51	137
Accidents Policed	6	3
Verbal Warnings for Traffic Violations	46	108
Misdemeanor Arrests	2	9
Felony Arrests	1	0
Motorist Assists	3	5
Alcohol Related Incidents	1	0
Hazardous Citations	4	25
Non-Hazardous Citations	9	14

## THINGS THAT WENT WELL

- Our operational plan and enforcement strategy during the event was effective. We assigned resources to one of four different areas:
  - East – a squad of officers assigned from U.S. 131 to Kalamazoo
  - Central – a squad of officers assigned from U.S. 131 to Burlingame
  - West – a squad of officers assigned from Burlingame to west end in Grandville
  - Rogers Plaza – three 2-person bicycle teams, Kent County Mounted UnitIn the Central area, two motorcycles accompanied by a cruiser were positioned in the turn lane at three different points along 28<sup>th</sup> street. This was an effective deterrent for burnouts and reckless driving.
- There were very few incidents unrelated to traffic enforcement during the event. Aside from the 137 traffic stops, there were only 2 disorderly persons, 3 property damage accidents, 4 suspicious situations/persons, 2 parking issues, 3 noise complaints, 1 trespass, and 2 reckless driving complaints.
- With assistance from the City Attorney, cease and desist letters were served on two groups of GROM riders who were rumored to be attending Metro Cruise. After communicating with WYPD Lt. Brian Look and being served the letters, both groups steered clear of the event.
- Officers remained on-duty until midnight which was helpful in addressing additional meet-ups where reckless driving usually occurs after the event. This was very appreciated by our patrol division who were responding to other calls for service in our City.
- Communication with event security (provided by Diversified Protection and Investigations) was good. Their response was timely.

- Food trucks and concession vendors were all licensed before the event and compliant. Only one unauthorized food truck showed up to the event and was removed without issue.

## CHALLENGES

- During our meetings with Brandon Simmons prior to the event, it was agreed that the shutdown timeline at the end of the night would be:
  - 8:45 p.m. – food truck lines cut off.
  - 8:45 p.m. – the band will make announcements about clearing the lot at 9:00 p.m.
  - 8:45 p.m. – 28<sup>th</sup> Street will be shut down and motor units will take over the turn lane
  - 9:00 p.m. – police clearing of Rogers Plaza lot will begin

Despite the timeline, the following issues occurred:

- Communication on Metro Cruise social media advertised that the event would end at 10:00 p.m. when the agreed upon time was 9:00 p.m. Mr. Simmons claimed that his account had been hacked. He also stated that it was a “cut and paste” issue from his post the previous year.
- The band was still playing at 8:55 p.m. Security advised that Mr. Simmons gave them permission to keep playing.
- Mr. Simmons also advised security that the food trucks could remain open after the agreed time of 8:45 p.m.

Mr. Simmons’ deviation from the plan caused resistance from vendors and attendees when we were trying to clear the Rogers Plaza lot at 9:00 p.m. There were still long lines at the food trucks. Two vendors refused to shut down until 9:35 p.m.

It should be noted that the contract stated:

1. Event activities (including, for example and not for limitation, all sales) will cease 9:00 p.m. on Friday, August 25, 2023 and will not restart until 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 26, 2023. The Sponsor shall direct Event staff and volunteers to actively disburse Event participants, patrons, and other attendees beginning at 9:30 p.m. on Friday, August 25, 2023.
  2. All Event activities (including, for example and not for limitation, all sales) will cease at 9:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 26, 2023. The Sponsor shall direct Event staff and volunteers to actively disburse Event participants, patrons, and other attendees beginning at 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 26, 2023.
  2. Event organizer will present positive messaging around safety for event attendees, specifically noting burnouts are prohibited. Consistent signage must be posted regarding Event hours and prohibited burnouts, wheelies, and other hazardous driving activities.
- Mr. Simmons was difficult to reach during the event. He was not answering the radio and it was often several hours before he would respond to text messages. Communication at an event of this nature is critical and Mr. Simmons was non-responsive.

It should be noted that the contract stated:

15. Sponsor shall coordinate with City Police and Fire personnel in the planning and throughout the event.
17. If directed by City Police Command staff, adjustments will be made to Event procedures, processes, practices, and schedules to address City public safety concerns.

- Leading up to the event, Mr. Simmons was less than transparent about the “pit stop” locations that were being planned. Many of the businesses/locations would need to communicate with the City in order to obtain the necessary permits for their events.
- Mr. Simmons did not follow the City’s permit policy. In one instance, a permit was requested after business hours on Thursday, the night before the event was taking place.
- Mr. Simmons was supposed to supply an updated site plan to be used by our Incident Command. We did not receive it and had to obtain it from security.
- At the end of the night, we pulled law enforcement officers from their posts in order to brief and prepare for the clearing of the Rogers Plaza lot. This created a 15-20 minute time period where enforcement was non-existent. We observed a significant increase in burnouts and reckless behavior during that time. Next year, we will brief and prepare the officers at the beginning of the event so the transition to clearing the lot is seamless.

## **SUMMARY**

Overall, Metro Cruise was a success. We had no injuries. The crowd and traffic were comparable to 2022, however there was a visible decrease in burnouts and reckless driving. Based on the crowd’s reaction to increased enforcement (encouraging burnouts), there is no doubt that our presence makes this event safer. If Metro Cruise continues, it is my recommendation that we continue to staff it in a way that makes it a fun but safe event.

Submitted by Chief Koster

# MEMORANDUM

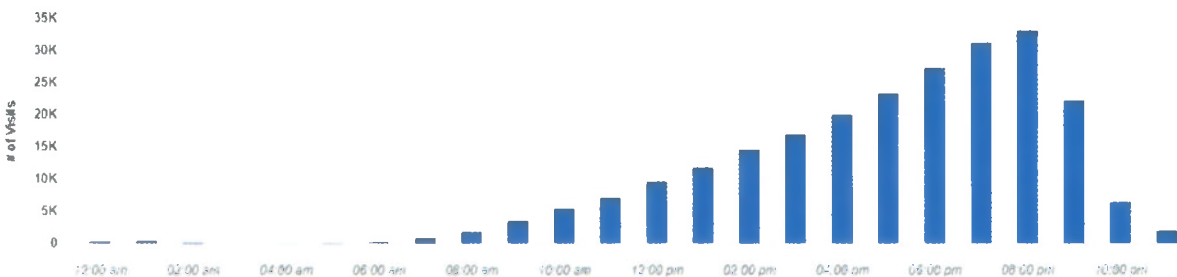
**DATE:** September 27, 2023  
**TO:** Krashawn Martin, Director of Parks and Recreation  
**FROM:** Paul Smith, Assistant Director of Community & Economic Development  
**CC:** Nicole Hofert, Director of Community & Economic Development  
**RE:** Metro Cruise 2023 Attendance in the City of Wyoming

## Attendance

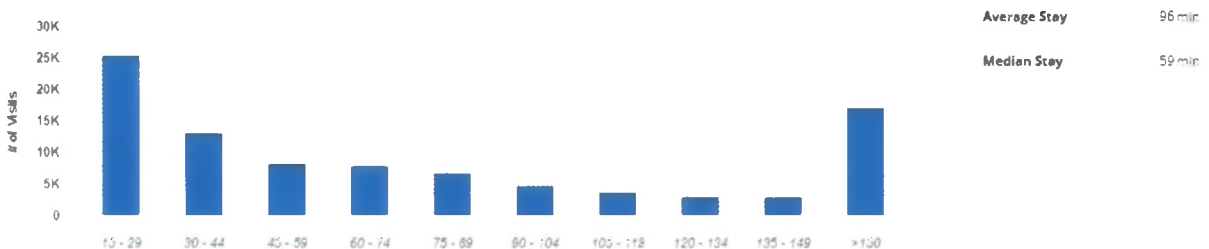
Metro Cruise saw more than 74,000 visitors over the two days of the event. The event area typically sees 12,000 visitors per day, so Metro Cruise drew approximately 50,000 excess visitors across two days.



Attendance built over the course of the day and peaked around 8:00pm. Retail businesses compose the majority of the event area, so this late peak limits the economic impact for brick-and-mortar businesses. The influx of mobile food vendors with more flexible hours might further confine the economic impact to vendors booked by the event's promoter.

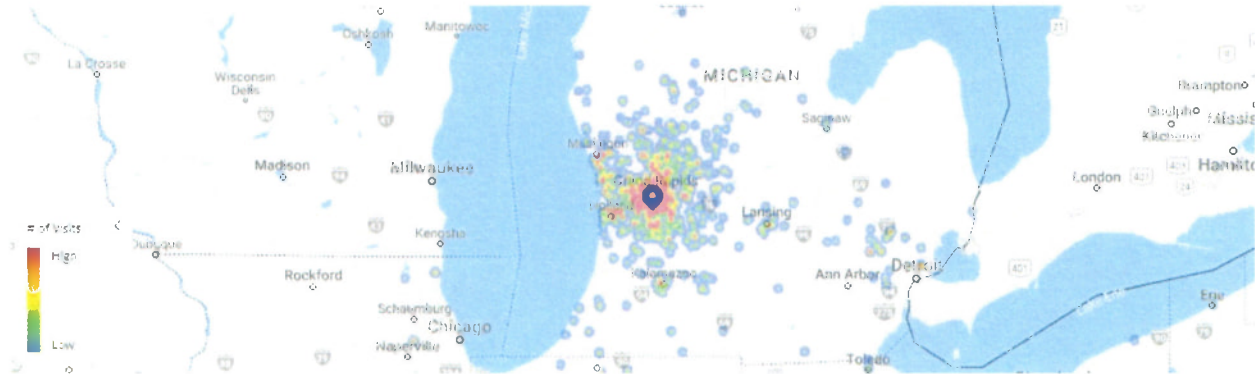


The median stay at the event is just under one hour. Placer data indicates that a substantial number of visitors stayed more 150 minutes. However, Placer is unable to exclude vendors and exhibitors at special events from visitor data. This same limitation makes the average stay an unreliable figure.

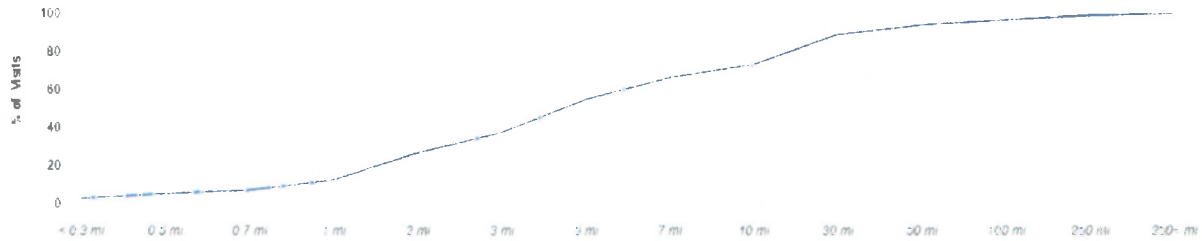


## Trade Area and Visitor Journeys

The majority of Metro Cruise visitors are drawn from the Grand Rapids metro area, but a map of the trade area shows pockets of visitors in Detroit, Ann Arbor, Kalamazoo, Lansing, and farther upstate.



More than 50% of Metro Cruise visitors travel 5 miles or less to the event. Nearly 75% travel 10 miles or less. Just over 10% of visitors travel 30 miles or more to the event.



## Prior Year Comparisons

Metro Cruise 2023 saw similar attendance to 2022, both in the number of visitors and the average dwell time for those visitors. Attendance for both 2023 and 2022 substantially exceeds the figures for prior years.

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Visitors (Thousands of People)	74.2	74.2	55.6	N/A	50.4
Average Dwell Time (Minutes)	96	92	86	N/A	100