

City of Alexandria, Virginia
FY 2027 Proposed Operating Budget & CIP
Budget Questions & Answers

March 30, 2026

Question:

Have we considered phasing in the Sanitary Sewer rate increase forecasted for FY 2028? What would it look if rate increase was split over multiple years to avoid a large increase in FY28 for residents?

Response:

Staff considered a variety of funding scenarios and rate increase schedules while developing the proposal to address the City's wastewater capacity needs through a capacity purchase from Fairfax County.

The Sanitary Sewer Maintenance Fee increase projected for FY 2028 will take the rate per 1,000 gallons from the current \$2.28 per 1,000 gallons to \$2.49 per 1,000 gallons. This is a percentage increase of 9.2%, however nominally this is a 21-cent increase in the rate. For the average homeowner in Alexandria, this equates to a \$0.84 increase in monthly costs, or \$10.08 annually.

Staff ultimately recommended scheduling the rate increase fully in FY 2028, as smoothing the rate increase over multiple years would have only had a marginal impact on Sanitary Sewer bills.