



# CITY OF PORTLAND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 613, Portland, Oregon 97204 ■ Mingus Mapps, Commissioner ■ Michael Jordan, Director

## M E M O R A N D U M

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**April 15, 2021**

**TO: Development Review Advisory Committee**

**FROM: Bureau of Environmental Services, Financial Planning Division**

**RE: DRAC Summary – Fee/SDC/Line and Branch Increases**

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In FY 2021-22, BES is proposing the following changes to fees, system development charges (SDCs), and line and branch charges.

- Proposed fee increases will be limited to a maximum of 5.0% unless the methodology indicated a lower fee increase. The exceptions to this limit are listed as follows:
  - Land Use Review Fees ‘Other Unassigned Reviews’ (25 in section G) increase by approximately 200%. These are rarely used fees that have been updated to account for the average cost of fees of a similar process type.
  - Street Use Permit Fee ‘Sewer Main or Maintenance Hole Connection Fee’ (2c in section I) increases by 103.3%. The increase is to recover pass-through costs BES pays to PBOT for work associated with this fee.
  - Several fees decrease based on an updated analysis of staff time.
- Sanitary SDCs increase by 3.9% and stormwater SDCs increase by 5% for single-family residential. Commercial stormwater SDC charges will be based on the particulars of each permit made up of Impervious Area (+8.2%), Property Frontage (+1.1%) and Trips Generated (+1.8%).
- Line and Branch charges tentatively increase by 1.6%.

The proposal to limit most fee increases to 5.0% is driven by the current economic climate and will result in a lower cost recovery than in previous years. In order to restore cost recovery in the future, it may be necessary to increase certain fees at a higher rate than they otherwise would have increased. This strategy, lower fee increases during the recession followed by higher rate increases during economic recovery, is consistent with BES’ approach during the last recession.