## **HOW IS MY WASTEWATER BILL DETERMINED?**

STEP 1

The City uses three years of **winter water use data** covering the November through April bi-monthly billing periods in determining residential wastewater rates.



This approach provides
a less volatile change
in annual rates for
ratepayers year over year.

STEP 2

The **lowest winter billing period** for each of the three most recent years is selected and averaged together.



This amount represents the winter water use, or essential water use, for your home.

STEP 3

To reflect that **not all indoor water is returned to the sewer system**, a factor of 85% is used. This is an industry best practice to represent residential wastewater flow.

This factors in water use for cooking, cleaning, and other activities that don't put water down the drain.

The wasterwater flow\* is multiplied by the current variable rate to provide the commodity rate, or variable component, of the wastewater bill.

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A variable component is more equitable as it helps accurately reflect water usage.

STEP 5

The **variable component** is then added to the **fixed charge** to provide the updated bi-monthly wastewater charge for the residence.

The fixed component helps ensure the financial resiliency and sustainability of the

The new charge are effective January 1 and is reflected on the March or April bill statement, depending on the billing cycle.



Updating the wastewater charge specific to the residence each year more accurately reflects usage trends.