# City of Middleton, Wisconsin Stormwater Utility Rate Study

# DRAFT

February 2024

# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

At their August 2023 meeting, the City of Middleton's Stormwater Utility Board (SWUB) requested the preparation of this rate study. The purpose of this study is to investigate and estimate the entire program costs of the City of Middleton's Stormwater Utility. The program costs are separated into the current program supported by the existing utility fee, and additional program costs that are eligible for funding via the Stormwater Utility per current Ordinance. The program costs will be presented to the SWUB, Finance Committee, and Common Council for determination of what eligible program costs will be funded by the Stormwater Utility; and what user fee rate is necessary to support those program costs. Once program funding needs and a required fee rate is determined, Council will decide if a referendum to approve funding should be placed before the voters in Fall of 2024.

# 1.1 OVERVIEW OF STORMWATER UTILITIES

The management of stormwater runoff is one of the "unseen" services a city provides to its citizens. Stormwater is the fourth major municipal infrastructure component along with transportation, water supply, and wastewater collection. A city is responsible for collecting, conveying, storing, treating, and discharging rainfall and snowmelt runoff (stormwater) in a manner that is safe for the public and the environment. There are extensive State and Federal regulatory mandates to document, manage, and make progress towards pollution reduction goals. Construction and maintenance of facilities to properly manage stormwater are expensive and have long-term obligations. All properties within a community are served by this system and benefit from this investment.

Historically, communities have paid for stormwater infrastructure expenses with property tax revenues, which are based on property value and the tax status of the property owner (exempt/nonexempt), neither of which is related to a property's contribution to the stormwater infrastructure systems. Since the 1980s, municipalities in the United States have increasingly turned to a stormwater utility to fund these expenses. Similar to a city's water and wastewater utilities, a city's stormwater utility is used to fund the construction, maintenance and management of stormwater management infrastructure.

The quantity and quality of stormwater runoff is very closely related to the amount of impervious area on a property. Unlike a water or wastewater utility, we cannot directly measure or meter the amount of stormwater runoff generated by a property. Instead, the amount of impervious area is often used as a proxy for a "meter" to estimate a property's contribution to the system.

This method is more equitable than funding via property tax because the stormwater utility customers who generate more stormwater runoff pay proportionally more than other customers, regardless of property value and exempt or nonexempt tax status. Stormwater utility rate studies consistently show a shift in the funding burden away from residential properties and towards non-residential properties. Tax exempt institutional properties, which would not fund

City of Middleton Stormwater Utility Rate Study DRAFT February 2024 any of these services via property taxes, are required to fund their proportionate share of the stormwater infrastructure expenses, same as they are for water and wastewater utilities.

Using City of Middleton specific data, this shift in funding burden away from residential properties and towards properties with more impervious area is depicted in Figure 1 below. Data for Figure 1 was taken from research performed in 2013 just prior to creation of the City's stormwater utility.



Figure 1: Comparison of funding City of Middleton stormwater services through property taxes vs. a utility fee system

Most frequently, an Equivalent Runoff Unit (ERU) methodology is utilized to calculate the user fees for a stormwater utility. With the ERU methodology, impervious areas for non-residential properties are measured utilizing construction plan data and aerial photography. Because it would be too labor intensive to measure the impervious area on every residential property, a random sampling of residential properties is used to calculate an average impervious area for a typical residential property. Each residential property is then assigned one ERU. Middleton's Stormwater Utility assigns duplexes and triplexes two and three ERUs, respectively. For non-residential land uses (including multi-family) a parcel's measured impervious area is divided by the average residential impervious area to convert to an equivalent number of ERUs. Stormwater Utility user fees are then calculated using each property's number of ERUs.

Appendix A includes a listing of stormwater utilities in Wisconsin and their respective ERU sizes and rates, compiled by the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA). This compilation shows 123 Wisconsin municipalities which have created stormwater utilities (beginning in the early 1990s). Many of the ERU rates stated in this compilation are in need of updating, hence, a more recent survey of ERU rates for select Dane County municipalities is also included in Appendix A. It's reasonable to assume that in recent years, ERU rates for other stormwater utilities in Wisconsin have also increased from what's shown on APWA's compilation.

## 1.2 HISTORY OF MIDDLETON'S STORMWATER UTILITY

In the mid-2000s the City of Middleton (City) identified burgeoning costs for managing stormwater infrastructure including: deferred maintenance of previously constructed facilities; routine inspections and maintenance that wasn't being performed; future costs due to anticipated expansion and development of the City; increased regulatory costs; capital improvements needed to improve conveyance, flood protection, and water quality performance; and a lack of staff to manage and accomplish all of the necessary tasks. The City desired a funding system that was fairer and more equitable, and sought to identify a stable funding source that would be dedicated to stormwater infrastructure. After research, study, and discussion, the City determined to utilize a stormwater utility to provide the funding needed for our neglected stormwater infrastructure.

The City's Stormwater Utility was created in Fall of 2014. Because the 2013 Wisconsin Act 20 required voter approval for tax levy or fee revenue increases, the City presented a referendum to voters to approve the creation of the Stormwater Utility. Resolution 2014-34A (included as Appendix B), which authorized the 2014 referendum, expressed Common Council's desire to limit the activities of the Stormwater Utility for maintenance of existing stormwater management facilities, though the Stormwater Utility Ordinance would allow more expansive activities. Middleton voters approved the 2014 referendum with 65.1% voting in favor.

The work to create the utility in 2014 included an analysis of parcel impervious areas, which determined the average single-family residential impervious area (the ERU) to be 2,880 square feet. Although deferred maintenance needs for numerous major stormwater management facilities were identified, a detailed assessment of program costs was not performed. Instead, the stormwater utility fee was set to \$15 per ERU annually. At its inception, the Stormwater Utility included approximately 18,200 ERUs resulting in annual revenues of \$273,000. It is important to note that the annual ERU rate was not based on an actual needs study, and was somewhat arbitrary. The purpose of this rate study is to provide objective data in support of an ERU rate that will fund the desired activities of the municipal stormwater management program.

Following the historic and devastating flood event of August/September 2018, the City identified significant additional stormwater management costs related to flood damage repair, and determined that the revenues of the Stormwater Utility were inadequate to fund these efforts. Through Resolution 2019-01 (included as Appendix C), the City authorized another referendum to temporarily (for a period of five years) increase the Stormwater Utility's user fee rate by \$30, to \$45 per ERU annually. Middleton voters approved the 2019 referendum with 76.1% voting in favor. At that time there were approximately 18,900 ERUs and anticipated annual revenues of \$850,000 using the \$45 ERU. The increased ERU rate authorized by the 2019 referendum will sunset at the end of 2024 and without an additional successful referendum, the ERU rate will revert back to \$15 annually.

# 2.0 RATE STUDY ANALYSIS 2024

In recent years the City of Middleton's Public Works and Parks and Recreation Departments have made progress with repairing flood damage from the 2018 flooding event. Unfortunately, little progress has been made with the deferred maintenance needs identified in the mid-2000s, and additional deferred maintenance needs have also been identified. Capital improvements necessary to reduce future flood risks and improve stormwater conveyances have been identified and continue to be studied. Additional routine maintenance and equipment needs have become evident. Mandated activities and reporting for the City's State of Wisconsin Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) permit, Rock River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) compliance and Adaptive Management continue to increase. The City may also desire to shift maintenance practices for some detention basins and ditches to promote the growth of native vegetation and improve habitat.

Maps of the City's stormwater management infrastructure are provided in Appendix D. The City continues to grow in footprint, population, and density. It's become evident that the City's current Public Works staff is inadequate to fulfill our obligations to manage the stormwater management infrastructure. Each new development project or re-development project adds stormwater infrastructure and increases the impervious area within the City. Even privately-owned stormwater management infrastructure must be reviewed during design, inspected during construction, and private maintenance agreements must be enforced in perpetuity. The major stormwater management infrastructure components for two major residential subdivisions currently under development were approved to require private ownership due to anticipated lack of staff and funding available from the Stormwater Utility.

The SWUB requested staff prepare this comprehensive rate study in advance of a potential referendum to be placed before the voters in November of 2024. The study included an inventory of existing facilities, and estimates of maintenance needs, regulatory compliance and administrative oversight. The categories of program costs included in this stormwater utility rate analysis parallel the categories for the City's Water and Sewer Utility (which are also funded through a utility fee system). Cost estimates are intended to be suitable for budgetary purposes – more precise cost estimates for specific large-scale maintenance and capital improvement projects can only be determined during the design and plan preparation phases for each particular project.

The Stormwater Utility currently includes approximately 19,400 ERUs. Due to anticipated increases to total ERUs within the next few years, calculations in this report utilize 20,000 ERUs to convert specific program costs to costs per ERU. As the City continues to grow, the total number of ERUs will continue to increase, as will the City's stormwater management infrastructure and the program costs necessary to maintain it.

# 3.0 Current (2024) Stormwater Program Services and Costs

Section 3 describes current program services funded by the Stormwater Utility in the City's 2024 budget. The following Section 4 includes a description and estimated budget for program services and costs which are eligible to be funded through the Stormwater Utility. Within both sections, the stormwater management programs are organized under five functional elements:

- 1. Program Administration and Management
- 2. Regulatory Compliance
- 3. Inspections and Enforcement
- 4. Operations and Maintenance (O&M)
- 5. Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

#### 3.1 Program Administration and Management

This element includes portions of wages, benefits and overhead from City administrative staff related to the stormwater management needs of the city. The Assistant Director of Public Works/Assistant City Engineer is primarily responsible for the administration of the stormwater management program. The public works administrative duties include overseeing the maintenance, operation, and construction of the city's stormwater facilities and ensuring compliance with state and federal regulations. Program management also includes time from the City Administrator, City Attorney, Finance Director, IT Department, and other Administration and Public Works Department staff.

Table 3.1 on the following page shows the cost breakdown for this element as approved in the City's recent Operating Budgets. The allocation of administrative time for stormwater management shown in Table 3.1 is estimated and follows a similar pro-ration approach as that used by the City's Water and Sewer Utility. The City's Water and Sewer Utility currently applies a 5% allocation for support from non-Public Works support and a 10% allocation from Public Works Engineering and Administration. City staff determined that an appropriate stormwater administrative allocation would be 2.5% for non-Public Works support and 5% for Public Works administrative support.

	Table 3.1 Trogram Administration and Management Dudget Anotation										
Department	Allocation	2023 Total Budget	2023 Stormwater Amount	2024 Total Projected	2024 Stormwater Amount						
City Administrator	2.5%	\$200,205	\$5,005	\$213,304	\$5 <i>,</i> 333						
Administrative Services	2.5%	\$791,168	\$19,779	\$816,671	\$20,417						
Building & Grounds	2.5%	\$61,300	\$1,533	\$167,563	\$4,189						
Information Technology	2.5%	\$832,010	\$20,800	\$846,852	\$21,171						
Public Works Engineering and Administration	5.0%	\$991,156	\$49,558	\$1,011,988	\$50,599						
TOTAL AMOUNT		\$2,875,839	\$96,675	\$3,056,378	\$101,709						
Actual Budget Allocation			\$50,000		\$100,000						
TOTAL AMOUNT (per ERU)*					\$5.09						

Table 3.1 – Program Administration and Management Budget Allocation

\* Based on 20,000 ERUs

#### 3.2 Regulatory Compliance

Wis. Adm. Code NR 216 establishes a stormwater management program to reduce urban stormwater pollution, and the City of Middleton is regulated under that program. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) issues a joint MS4 Permit for stormwater discharge to the City along with 20 other Dane County co-permittees, known collectively as the Madison Area Municipal Stormwater Partnership (MAMSWaP). The permit defines a schedule of actions that must be conducted by the City. At a minimum, the permit requires the following:

- 1. Public Education and Outreach
- 2. Public Involvement and Participation
- 3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
- 4. Construction Site Erosion Control
- 5. Post-Construction Stormwater Management
- 6. Pollution Prevention
- 7. Other Stormwater Permit Costs
- 8. Adaptive Management

Each of these regulatory compliance elements is described in detail within Appendix E. Table 3.2 on the following page summarizes the regulatory stormwater program costs.

Regulatory Compliance	2023	2024
Public Education and Outreach	\$6,592	\$6,592
Public Involvement and Participation	\$500	\$500
Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination	\$5,000	\$5,000
Construction Site Erosion Control	0	0
Post-Construction Stormwater Management*	0	\$7,500
Pollution Prevention	0	0
Permit Fee**	\$3,000	\$3,000
Adaptive Management	\$61,912	\$61,912
TOTAL	\$77,004	\$84,504
TOTAL (per ERU)	\$3.85	\$4.23

### Table 3.2 – Annual Regulatory Non-Capital Stormwater Program Costs

\*\$7,500 is included in the 2024 Operating Budget for an outside consultant to perform maintenance inspections for properties which are delinquent in their required reporting. \*\*Permit Fee is anticipated to increase to \$4,000 in 2026.

#### 3.3 Inspections and Enforcement

Public Works staff, along with Dane County staff contracted by the City, conduct inspections and enforcement activities mandated for regulatory compliance items 3,4 and 5 (Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination, Construction Site Erosion Control, and Post-Construction Stormwater Management). Dane County's fees are passed along to the developer. Public Works' staff also spends significant time coordinating with Dane County staff, conducting inspections and enforcements, and managing the required maintenance agreements, and the bulk of those program costs are not passed along to the developer.

#### 3.4 Operations and Maintenance

The Streets Division bears responsibility for repair and maintenance of the city's stormwater management and conveyance facilities. Those facilities include the public roads/curbs/inlets, storm sewers and manholes, structural management facilities such as detention basins, and open conveyances such as ditches and drainage ways. This department is also in charge of catch basin sump cleaning, street sweeping and yard waste pickup. None of these costs are currently funded through the Stormwater Utility, except that occasionally the Stormwater Utility has funded \$5,000 for rental of a Vactor utilized for catch basin sump cleaning.

The City's Parks and Recreation Department also maintains portions of natural drainageways such as the Pheasant Branch Corridor, and these program costs are not currently funded through the Stormwater Utility. Table 3.4 shows the Stormwater Utility's current Annual Operations and

Maintenance Budget. Under the city's current funding approach only catch basin sump cleaning is (partially) covered under the stormwater fee. Other line items listed in Table 3.4 are eligible for funding under the stormwater utility fee system, however are either currently funded from property tax revenue, or not funded and not regularly performed. Detailed discussion of Operations and Maintenance items are provided in Appendix E.

Operations and Maintenance Activity	Annual Stormwater Allocation
Street Sweeping	0
Catch Basin Sump Cleaning	\$5,000
Yard Waste Collection	0
Storm Inlets and Curb & Gutter	0
Storm Sewer Maintenance & Repair	0
Mowing (detention basins and ditches)	0
Ditch Maintenance (dredging, clearing, grubbing)	0
Outfall / Culvert Maintenance	0
TOTAL	\$5,000
TOTAL (per ERU)	\$0.25

Table 3.4 – Annual Operations and Maintenance Budget – Stormwater

# 3.5 Major (Capital) Maintenance

One of the primary drivers for creating the Stormwater Utility in 2014 was to address deferred maintenance of existing stormwater infrastructure which historically had rarely been performed, if ever. Little progress has been made in this regard. These program costs involve clearing and grubbing vegetation along channels; dredging of accumulated sediments from conveyances and basins; cleaning of culverts and outfalls; correction of design or construction oversights; upgrading facilities to comply with current regulatory standards; and various other minor repairs.

These major maintenance program costs are outlined in the Capital Improvements Plan provided in Appendix G. For purposes of this study, the program costs for the first five years of the Capital Improvements Plan have been averaged to provide an annual cost of \$915,000. It is anticipated that the City's Finance Director will analyze the Capital Improvements Plan in order to determine whether capital borrowing would be necessary, or alternatively, whether current fund balances would support a reduction in the ERU rate necessary to complete the Capital Improvements.

Note that design and construction of "new" stormwater management facilities is shown separately in the Capital Improvements Plan and not included in the annual Major (Capital) Maintenance costs of the Stormwater Utility. The most recent direction of Common Council (September 21, 2021) was to NOT fund the design and construction of "new" stormwater management facilities with stormwater utility funds. At this time, the project identified are

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primarily related to flood control and conveyance improvements, but in the future will likely include projects related to water quality and regulatory compliance.

## 3.6 Summary of Current (2024) Program Costs

Current Stormwater Program Costs are summarized in Table 3.6 below. It should be noted that the 2024 ERU rate of \$45.00 / ERU does not cover the estimated current needs.

# Table 3.6 – Summary of Currently Funded Stormwater Program Budget

Program Component	Annual Cost
Program Administration and Management	\$101,709
Regulatory Compliance	\$84,504
Inspections and Enforcement	0
Operations and Maintenance	\$5,000
Major (Capital) Maintenance	\$915,000
Total	\$1,106,213
Total (per ERU)*	\$55.31

\*Based on 20,000 ERUs

# 4.0 Eligible Stormwater Program Services and Costs

Section 3 described current program services funded by the Stormwater Utility in the City's 2024 budget. Section 4 describes total stormwater program and costs that are eligible for funding under a utility system.

# 4.1 Program Administration and Management

Current staff allocations as presented in Table 3.1 do not represent the level of effort necessary to perform all of the functions and duties which are necessary for the City's Stormwater Management Program. In recent years, Public Works staff has identified these staffing issues and has submitted requests for funding additional staff positions to Finance Committee and Common Council. These requests for additional staff have not been approved – priority has been given to other budget items.

The bulk of routine stormwater maintenance efforts are performed by a Streets Crew member, but these duties are not given priority over the other duties and functions of the Streets Division. Hence, routine stormwater maintenance duties are not being performed as they should be, and deferred maintenance continues to go unaddressed. Public Works staff proposes a new position for a Stormwater Lead Crew Member to be 80% funded by the Stormwater Utility, with the remaining 20% (mainly for snow plowing and winter maintenance) to be funded through the general Public Works budget.

Staff estimates that Stormwater Utility program duties currently absorb 110% to 120% of a fulltime position, spread amongst six different Public Works Engineering and Administration staff positions. If staff is to make progress with the necessary deferred maintenance and capital improvements projects, even more staff time will be needed to effectively perform these duties. For purposes of this rate study, Public Works staff proposes a new position for a Stormwater Utility Manager to be 100% funded by the Stormwater Utility. If a new position is eventually approved, it is anticipated that the necessary duties will still be spread amongst several staff members, with the Stormwater Utility Manager filling the primary role.

Table 4.1 on the following page shows a program administration and management budget allocation which includes the two new proposed positions.

Allocation	2024 Amount
2.5%	\$5,333
2.5%	¢20.417
2.5%	\$20,417
2.5%	\$4,189
2 50/	621 171
2.5%	\$21,171
5.0%	\$50,599
	\$91,000
	381,000
	¢122.000
	\$122,000
	\$304,709
	\$15.24
	Allocation 2.5% 2.5% 2.5% 5.0%

### Table 4.1 – Program Administration and Management Budget Allocation

#### 4.2 Regulatory Compliance

Stormwater program costs associated with regulatory compliance (aside from the additional staff discussed in Section 4.1) are currently funded through the stormwater utility. Hence, there is no adjustment to these estimated annual program costs of \$84,504.

#### 4.3 Inspections and Enforcement

As described in Section 3, Public Works' staff spends significant time coordinating with Dane County staff, managing the required maintenance agreements, and those program costs are not currently funded through the Stormwater Utility budget. The potential adjustment to these program costs is included in additional staff labor and benefits costs discussed in Section 4.1., and no adjustment is included here.

### 4.4 **Operations and Maintenance**

There are numerous operations and maintenance functions which are currently funded through the general budget, but which are eligible to be funded through the Stormwater Utility. Additionally, there are numerous operations and maintenance functions which unfortunately are not being performed regularly, but would be if additional staff was added to manage and perform these duties. Appendix F provides a detailed description of these functions, and the costs for these programs are provided in Table 4.4 It should be noted that while some of these functions are currently being conducted and funded under general revenue (property tax), some of these functions are being performed intermittently or not being performed at all. For the program costs that are currently being performed and currently funded with general revenue, Council will need to decide if it is fairer and more equitable to cover these existing costs under the stormwater utility fee system.

Operations and Maintenance Activity	Annual Stormwater Allocation (\$)	Annual Stormwater Allocation (ERU)
Street Sweeping	\$120,000	\$6.00
Catch Basin Sump Cleaning	\$12,000	\$0.60
Yard Waste Collection	\$130,000	\$6.50
Storm Inlets and Curb & Gutter	\$70,000	\$3.50
Storm Sewer Maintenance & Repair	\$50,000	\$2.50
Mowing (detention basins and ditches)	\$35,000	\$1.75
Native Vegetation Maintenance (four sites)	\$11,000	\$0.55
Ditch Maintenance (dredging, clearing, grubbing)	\$20,000	\$1.00
Outfall / Culvert Maintenance	\$5,000	\$0.25
Equipment Needs	\$59,000	\$2.95
Tiedeman Pond Lift Station	\$20,000	\$1.00
TOTAL	\$532,000	\$26.60

# Table 4.4 – Annual Operations and Maintenance BudgetEligible Stormwater Program Costs

# 4.5 Major (Capital) Maintenance

As discussed in Section 3.5, the Capital Improvements Plan provided in Appendix G separates projects into two categories – maintenance of existing facilities and construction of new facilities. Based on Council's direction from September 2021, the costs of new stormwater management facilities are not to be funded through the Stormwater Utility, and other funding sources will have to be identified. Hence, no adjustment to the Major (Capital) Maintenance program costs is included here.

### 4.6 Summary of Eligible Program Services and Costs

Table 4.6 summarizes eligible costs for the overall stormwater program.

Program Component	Annual Cost
Program Administration and Management	\$304,709
Regulatory Compliance	\$84,504
Inspections and Enforcement*	\$0
Operations and Maintenance	\$532,000
Major (Capital) Maintenance	\$915,000
Total	\$1,836,213
Total (per ERU)**	\$91.81

# Table 4.6 – Summary of Eligible Overall Stormwater Program Budget

\* City costs covered under expanded Program Administration and Management category \*\* Based on 20,000 ER

# 5.0 SUMMARY

The total cost for the City of Middleton's stormwater management program based on the previous analysis is summarized in Table 4.6. The total budget shown represents the program activities that will need to be supported and funded to address a comprehensive City-wide stormwater management program and to meet all regulatory requirements. It is important to note that while some of these items are currently being conducted by the City and supported through the general budget, some of these items are not being performed regularly. This DRAFT report does not apply inflation rates or debt service costs at this time. The City's Finance Director will analyze the estimated costs and make the necessary adjustments for capital borrowing, existing fund balances, and inflation rates.

The total annual ERU rate of \$91.66 is a more accurate reflection of the actual city's stormwater program costs. Table 5.1 shows the most up to date stormwater utility fees for selected communities in Dane County. The fees were obtained from a review of each city's current charges and are not the same as shown in Appendix A on the APWA summary table. This is because the APWA table does not reflect current rates. The proposed City of Middleton ERU rate for supporting its stormwater program is in line with, and in most cases lower than, comparable communities listed in Table 5.1.

Municipality	Annual ERU Rate*
Middleton	\$ 45.00
Fitchburg	\$ 103.28
Madison	\$ 140.64
McFarland	\$ 120.00
Monona	\$ 96.60
Verona	\$ 85.00
Sun Prairie	\$ 144.60

# Table 5.1: Annual Stormwater ERU Rates for Comparable Dane County Municipalities

\* Rates based on a review of currently published rates on the municipalities' websites for an average singlefamily property.

Upon review of this DRAFT Rate Study, it is the position of the Stormwater Utility Board that:

- 1) A stormwater fee system is a fairer and more equitable approach to distribute program costs among all the properties in the city that benefit from an efficiently managed stormwater management system,
- 2) All of the costs shown in Table 4.6 are eligible for funding through a stormwater utility fee system,

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- 3) This DRAFT Rate Study be forwarded to the Finance Committee, Public Works Committee, other committees as deemed necessary, and Common Council for review and consideration.
- 4) It is recommended that the City Council approve issuing a November 2024 referendum to adopt a stormwater utility ERU rate supportive of a comprehensive stormwater management program as described within this document.

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# Appendix A

# Wisconsin Stormwater Utility ERU Rates

# **Dane County Municipalities**

Municipality	2024 Annual
	ERU Rate *
Middleton	\$ 45.00
Fitchburg	\$ 103.28
Madison	\$ 140.64
McFarland	\$ 120.00
Monona	\$ 96.60
Verona	\$ 85.00
Sun Prairie	\$ 144.60

• Based on a review of currently published rates on the municipalities' websites for an average single-family property.



# WI Stormwater User Charge System Information

for various Wisconsin Communities

Note: Stormwater user charge information changes often. Please contact individual communities to confirm accuracy.

					F	Annual	Credit Policy?			
	Name of Community or	Population		ERU Size	\$/I	ERU or 1		Max		Last
	Stormwater District	(2013)	Created	(sf)	fai	m home	Y/ N	Amount	Web site addresses	Confirmed
1	Allouez (Village)	13,896	2004	3,333	\$	90.00	Ν		www.villageofallouez.com	08/04/17
2	Altoona (City)	7,056	2007		\$	36.00	Y	50%	www.ci.altoona.wi.us	05/20/21
3	Antigo (City)	8,004	2010	3,069	\$	42.24	Y	50%	www.antigo-city.org	07/27/21
4	Appleton (City)	74,526	1995	2,368	\$	175.00	Υ	73%	www.appleton.org	07/27/21
5	Ashwaubenon (Village)	17,272	2012	3,316	\$	50.00	Y	50%	www.Ashwaubenon.com	07/27/21
6	Baraboo (City)	12,100	2005	2,379	\$	49.24	Ν		www.cityofbaraboo.com	07/15/21
7	Barron (City)	3,311	2006	10,850	\$	24.00	Y	75%	www.barronwi.us	07/27/21
8	Bayside (Village)	4,354	2009	5,269	\$	244.00	Ν		<u>www.bayside-wi.gov</u>	07/27/21
9	Beaver Dam (City)	16,345	2008	2,637	\$	80.08	Y	33%	www.cityofbeaverdam.com	07/15/21
10	Belleville (Village)	2,450	2010	2,800	\$	50.04	Y	50%	www.bellevillewi.org	07/27/21
11	Bellevue (Village)	15,733	2002	3,221	\$	72.00	Y	100%	www.bellevue-wi.com	07/27/21
12	Beloit (City)	37,018	2006	3,347	\$	45.00	Y	90%	www.beloitwi.gov	03/01/22
13	Brookfield (Town)	6,390	2003	3,681	\$	81.60	Y	Undfnd	www.townofbrookfield.com	02/02/15
14	Brown Deer (Village)	12,102	2004	3,257	\$	106.08	Y	Undfnd	www.browndeerwi.org	02/02/15
15	Butler (Village)	1,838	1999	3,032	\$	94.36	Y	Undfnd	<u>www.butlerwi.gov</u>	06/01/21
16	Caledonia (Village)	24,737	2013	5,230	\$	65.25	Y	50%	www.caledoniawi.com	02/02/15
17	Cambridge (Village)	1,498	2005	43,560	\$	28.00	Ν		www.ci.cambridge.wi.us	02/02/15
18	Chetek (City)	2,210	2006	15,246	\$	27.00	Y	75%	www.chetek.net	02/02/15
19	Chippewa Falls (City)	13,718	2005	N/A	\$	41.64	Y	75%	www.ci.chippewa-falls.wi.us	07/09/21
20	Cudahy (City)	18,340	2001	2,700	\$	93.96	Y	Undfnd	www.ci.cudahy.wi.us	06/04/21
21	De Forest (Village)	9,372	2005	2,900	\$	78.00	Ν		www.vi.deforest.wi.us	06/04/21
22	De Pere (City)	24,893	2005	3,861	\$	82.00	Y	60%	www.de-pere.org	08/04/17
23	Delafield (City)	7,159	2004	1,000	\$	29.00	Y	Undfnd	www.cityofdelafield.com	02/02/15
24	Denmark (Village)	2,169	2006	3,500	\$	48.00	Ν		www.denmark-wi.org	02/02/15
25	Durand (City)	1,878	2010	3,300	\$	48.00	Y	20%	www.durand-wi.com	02/02/15
26	Eau Claire (City)	67,545	1996	3,000	\$	107.00	Y	89%	www.ci.eau-claire.wi.us	08/18/22
27	Elm Grove (Village)	5,949	2004	6,235	\$	135.62	Ν		www.elmgrovewi.org	06/04/21
28	Fitchburg (City) - Rural	4,000	2002	3,700	\$	45.48	Y	50%	www.fitchburgwi.gov	06/04/21
29	Fitchburg (City) - Urban	25,260	2002	3,700	\$	74.84	Y	50%	www.fitchburgwi.gov	06/04/21
30	Fort Atkinson (City)	12,482	2009	3,096	\$	52.50	Y	50%	www.fortatkinsonwi.net	07/12/21
31	Fox Crossing (Village)	18,498	2009	4,177	\$	130.00	Y	80%	www.town-menasha.com	06/04/21
32	Fox Point (Village)	6,698	2009	2,988	\$	142.80	Y	60%	www.vil.fox-point.wi.us	06/04/21
33	Garner's Crk (watershed)	20,922	1998	3,523	\$	118.00	Y	85%	www.garnerscreekutility.org	08/04/17
34	Glendale (City)	12,920	1996	3,200	\$	54.00	Y	Undfnd	www.glendale-wi.org	02/02/15
35	Grand Chute (Town)	22,409	1997	3,283	\$	99.84	Y	85%	www.grandchute.net	08/04/17
<mark>36</mark>	Grantsburg (Village)	1,317	2004		\$	24.00	Y	75%	www.grantsburgwi.com	02/02/15
37	Green Bay (City)	105,207	2004	3,000	\$	122.64	Y	67%	www.greenbaywi.gov	06/04/21
38	Greendale (Village)	14,340	2004	3,941	\$	79.60	Y	50%	www.greendale.org	02/02/15
39	Greenfield (City)	37,159	2009	3,630	\$	70.80	Y	66%	www.ci.greenfield.wi.us	06/04/21
40	Greenville (Town)	10,309	2004	4,510	\$	70.00	Y	85%	www.townofgreenville.com	08/04/17
41	Hales Corners (Village)	7,757	2008	3,952	\$	20.00	Ν		www.halescorners.org	06/04/21
42	Harrison (Town of)	5,800	1998		\$	96.00			www.townofharrison.org	02/02/15
43	Hobart (Village of)	7,365	2007	4,000	\$	72.00	Y	50%	www.hobart-wi.org	02/02/15
44	Holmen (Village of)	9,423	2007	3,550	\$	49.00	Y	50%	www.holmenwi.com	06/01/21
45	Howard (Village)	19,410	2004	3,301	\$	74.40	Y	67%	www.villageofhoward.com	06/01/21

08/20/23



# WI Stormwater User Charge System Information

for various Wisconsin Communities

Note: Stormwater user charge information changes often. Please contact individual communities to confirm accuracy.

					A	nnual	Credit Policy?			
	Name of Community or	Population		ERU Size	\$/E	RU or 1	Max			Last
	Stormwater District	(2013)	Created	(sf)	far	n home	Y/ N	Amount	Web site addresses	Confirmed
46	Hudson (City)	13,179	2012	2,890	\$	48.00	Υ	90%	www.ci.hudson.wi.us	05/20/21
47	Janesville (City)	64,000	2003	3,200	\$	81.28	Y	85%	www.ci.janesville.wi.us	07/20/19
48	Jefferson (City)	7,984	2008	3,220	\$	40.00	Y	100%	www.jeffersonwis.com	02/02/15
49	Kaukauna (City)	15,900	2009	2,944	\$	90.00	Υ	50%	www.cityofkaukauna.com	07/16/21
50	Kenosha (City)	99,889	2006	2,477	\$	93.87	Y	44%	www.kenosha.org	06/04/21
51	Kimberly (Village)	6,739	2007	3,350	\$	110.00	Ν		www.vokimberly.org	08/04/17
52	La Crosse (City)	51,522	2012	2,841	\$	53.92	Y	80%	www.cityoflacrosse.org	05/10/21
53	Lake Delton (Village)	2,934	1993	1,685	\$	18.00	Y	Undfnd	www.lakedelton.org	02/02/15
54	Lancaster (City)	3,809	2008	3,400	\$	24.00	Y	50%	www.lancasterwisconsin.com	02/02/15
55	Lawrence (Town)	5,037	2010	1,000	\$	11.00	Y	60%	www.townoflawrence.org	08/04/17
56	Ledgeview (Town)	7,983	2010	5,800	\$	88.00	Y	50%	www.ledgeviewwisconsin.com	07/19/21
57	<b>Lisbon</b> (Town)	10,157	2006	6,642	\$	48.00	Y	50%	www.townoflisbonwi.com	02/02/15
58	Little Chute (Village)	11,250	1995	2,762	\$	99.00	Ν		www.littlechutewi.org	08/04/17
59	Madison (City)	252,557	2001	Lot Area	\$	104.76	Y	Undfnd	www.cityofmadison.com	06/04/21
60	Marinette (City)	10,930	2010	3,105	\$	49.00	Ν		www.marinette.wi.us	02/02/15
61	McFarland (Village)	8,108	2007	3,456	\$	88.98	Y	60%	www.mcfarland.wi.us	06/04/21
62	Menasha (City)	18,498	2008	2,980	\$	99.00	Y	Undfnd	www.cityofmenasha-wi.gov	02/02/15
63	Menomonie (City of)	16,156	2008	3,000	\$	42.00	Y	20%	www.menomonie-wi.gov	05/10/21
64	Middleton (City of)	19,660	2014	2,880	\$	45.00	Y	60%	https://www.cityofmiddleton.us/	08/15/22
65	Milton (City of)	5,564	2009	4,081	\$	62.88	Y	50%	http://www.ci.milton.wi.us	02/02/15
66	Milwaukee (City)	599,164	2006	1,610	\$	67.76	Y	60%	http://city.milwaukee.gov/mpw	02/02/15
67	Monona (City)	7,745	2004	NA *	\$	60.00	Y	35%	www.monona.wi.us	02/02/15
68	Monroe (City)	10,832	2007	2,728	\$	60.00	Y	50%	www.cityofmonroe.org	02/02/15
69	Mount Pleasant (Village)	26,224	2007	3,000	\$	55.00	Ν		www.mtpleasantwi.gov	02/02/15
70	Mukwonago (30 cust's)		2006	3,000	\$	10.31	Ν		www.villageofmukwonago.com	02/02/15
71	N Fond du Lac (Village)	5,034	2007	3,232	\$	56.00	Y	70%	www.nfdl.org	08/04/17
72	Neenah (City)	25,501	2003	3,138	\$	84.00	Y	68%	www.ci.neenah.wi.us	08/04/17
73	Neenah (Town)	3,237	2008	4,040	\$	85.00	Y	80%	www.townofneenah.com	08/04/17
74	New Berlin (City)	39,834	2001	4,000	\$	60.00	Y	Undfnd	www.newberlin.org	06/04/21
75	New Glarus (Village)	2,160	2009	3,000	\$	101.16	Y	100%	www.newglarusvillage.com	06/04/21
76	New Richmond (City)	8,610	2005	13,000	\$	35.28	Y	75%	www.ci.new-richmond.wi.us	02/02/15
77	Oak Creek (City)	35,008	2003	3,300	\$	29.00	Y	Undfnd	www.oakcreekwi.org	02/02/15
78	Onalaska (City)	18,312	2010	3,888	\$	86.44	Y	50%	www.cityofonalaska.com	05/21/21
79	Onalaska (Town)	5,882	2005	3,709	\$	24.00	Y	Undfnd	www.co.la-crosse.wi.us/townofo	06/04/21
80	Oshkosh (City)	66,778	2003	2,817	\$	210.60	Y	75%	www.ci.oshkosh.wi.us	06/04/21
81	<b>Palmyra</b> (Village)	1,783	2000	3,387	\$	117.24	Y	50%	www.villageofpalmyra.com	06/04/21
82	Pewaukee (City)	13,827	2010	5,339	\$	120.00	Y	40%	www.cityofpewaukee.us	06/04/21
83	Pleasant Prairie (Village)	20,173	2006	TR-55 M	\$	72.00	Y	30%	www.pleasantprairieonline.com	06/04/21
84	Plymouth (City)	8,419	2019	3,850	\$	30.00	Y	30%	www.plymouthgov.com	06/04/21
85	Poynette (Village)	2,513	2006	3,550	\$	60.00	Y	50%	www.poynette-wi.gov	02/02/15
86	Prairie du Sac (Village)	4,188	2002	43,560		(1)	Ν		www.prairiedusac.net	02/02/15
87	Racine (City)	78,199	2004	2,844	\$	123.77	Y	45%	www.cityofracine.org	06/04/21
88	Raymond (Town)	3,909	2008	7,000	\$	25.00	Y	50%	www.raymondtownof.com	05/07/18
89	Reedsburg (City of)	9,532	2009	3,024	\$	46.80	Y	50%	www.reedsburgwi.gov	02/02/15
90	Rhinelander (City)	7,557	2013	3,305	\$	39.00	Y	100%	http://rhinelandercityhall.org	02/02/15

08/20/23



### WI Stormwater User Charge System Information

for various Wisconsin Communities

Note: Stormwater user charge information changes often. Please contact individual communities to confirm accuracy.

					A	nnual	<b>Credit Policy?</b>			
	Name of Community or	Population		ERU Size	\$/E	RU or 1		Max		Last
	Stormwater District	(2013)	Created	(sf)	far	n home	Y/ N	Amount	Web site addresses	Confirmed
91	Rice Lake (City)	8,339	2010	3,701	\$	57.72	Ν		www.ci.rice-lake.wi.us	02/02/15
92	River Falls (City)	15,209	1998	NA *	\$	37.68	Y	100%	www.rfcity.org	05/20/21
93	Rochester (Village)	3,693	2011	4,500	\$	63.20	Y	50%	www.rochsterwi.us.index.asp	02/02/15
94	Salem (Town)	12,056	2008	6,352	\$	60.00	Y	50%	www.townofsalem.net	02/02/15
95	Scott (Town)	3,545	2010	4,250	\$	55.00	Y	50%		07/19/21
96	Shorewood Hills (Village)	1,799	2007	2,941	\$	110.00	Y	Undfnd	www.shorewood-hills.org	02/02/15
97	Silver Lake (Village)	2,420	2008	3,870	\$	94.00	Ν		www.villageofsilverlakewi.com	02/02/15
98	Slinger (Village)	5,141	2007	4,300	\$	47.70	Y	50%	www.slinger-wi-usa.org	02/02/15
99	Somers (Village)		2018	5,000	\$	172.92			https://www.somers.org/depart	06/04/21
100	South Milwaukee (City)	21,239	2007	2,964	\$	92.64	Y	50%	http://smwi.org	06/04/21
101	St. Francis (Village)	9,546	2001	2,500	\$	60.00	Y	Undfnd	www.ci.stfrancis.wi.gov	06/04/21
102	Stevens Point (City)	26,670	2013	3,364	\$	59.08	Y	60%	http://stevenspoint.com	02/02/15
103	Stoughton (City)	12,945	2012	3,105	\$	51.55	Y	50%	www.ci.stoughton.wi.us	02/02/15
104	Suamico (Village)	12,588	2008	5,137	\$	25.00	Ν		http://suamico.org/	08/04/17
105	Sun Prairie (City)	30,871	2003	3,468	\$	90.00	Y	65%	www.cityofsunprairie.com	02/02/15
106	Superior (City)	26,869	2004	2,933	\$	70.80	Y	85%	www.ci.superior.wi.us	06/04/21
107	Sussex (Village)	10,695	2006	3,897	\$	110.64	Y	49%	www.village.sussex.wi.us	06/04/21
108	Two Rivers (City)	11,261	2014	3,015	\$	69.00	Y	60%	www.two-rivers.org	08/04/17
109	Union Grove (Village)	4,884	2010	4,000	\$	87.32	Y	50%	www.uniongrove.net	02/02/15
<mark>110</mark>	Vernon (Town)	7,502	2007	6,904	\$	13.00	Y	50%	www.townofvernon.org	02/02/15
111	Verona (City)	11,775	2011	2,842	\$	66.00	Y	58%	www.ci.verona.wi.us	06/04/21
112	Washburn (City)	2,098	2005	Lot Area	\$	63.00	Y	75%	www.cityofwashburn.org	02/02/15
<mark>113</mark>	Watertown (City)	23,929	2005	2,900	\$	81.24	Y	60%	www.cityofwatertown.org	02/02/15
114	Waupun (City)	11,330	2005	3,408	\$	84.00	Y	75%	www.cityofwaupun.org	01/26/21
115	Wauwatosa (City)	47,134	2000	2,174	\$	130.52	Y	54%	www.wauwatosa.net	06/04/21
116	West Allis (City)	60,697	1997	1,827	\$	82.32	Y	50%	www.ci.west-allis.wi.us	06/04/21
117	West Milwaukee (Village)	4,215	1998	1,956	\$	36.00	Y	50%	www.westmilwaukee.org	02/02/15
118	West Salem (Village)	4,980	2007	2,400	\$	18.00	Y	Undfnd	www.westsalemwi.com	02/02/15
119	Weston (Village)	14,934	2004	3,338	\$	50.00	Y	68%	www.westonwi.gov	03/09/18
120	Whitefish Bay (Village)	14,125	2013	3,045	\$	100.00	Y	100%	www.wfbvillage.org	06/04/21
121	Whitewater (City)	14,732	2007	3,875	\$	74.04	Y	50%	www.whitewater-wi.gov	11/09/17
122	Wind Point (Village)	1,717	2008	3,857	\$	37.84	Ν		http://windpointwi.us	06/04/21
123	Wisconsin Rapids (City)	18,039	2009	2,620	\$	40.85	Y	50%	www.wirapids.org	07/16/21

This information needs your help to keep it fresh and current. Please send updates to rick.eilertson@gmail.com.

Reverse numbers *indicate entries confirmed since January 1, 2021.* 

08/20/23

Appendix B

Resolution 2014-34A

# **RESOLUTION NO. 2014-34A**

# RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING HOLDING A REFERENDUM RELATING TO THE MIDDLETON STORM WATER UTILITY EXCEEDENCE OF MUNICIPAL LEVY LIMITS

WHEREAS, the City of Middleton first began studying the feasibility of creating a Storm Water Utility in 2006; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council engaged a consultant to study whether to create a Storm Water Utility and concluded that the City needed a Storm Water Utility for the following reasons:

- 1. Storm water management is a legitimate City concern for all residents and property owners in the City of Middleton, whether their properties pay property taxes to the City or are exempt from property taxes.
- 2. Since storm water management is currently funded through property taxes, residential homeowners pay for approximately 67% of storm water management costs, while a Storm Water Utility would shift costs more to property owners that generate more storm water runoff.
- 3. The City has been unable to keep up on maintenance of its existing storm water management projects in recent years due to the conflicting demands upon City funds caused by a number of factors, including municipal levy limits.
- 4. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has increased the level of storm water management required in all Wisconsin municipalities, but the State has not provided a funding source for the additional storm water management costs necessitated by the higher storm water management standards; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council has determined that rather than permitting a Storm Water Utility to engage in all of the storm water management activities that would be authorized by law, the activities of the Middleton Storm Water Utility would be confined to maintenance of installed storm water management facilities; and

WHEREAS, on October 1, 2013, the Common Council approved first readings of Ordinances creating a Storm Water Utility and providing for the management of the Storm Water Utility but deferred the effective dates of these Ordinances until such time as the resident electors of the City approved a binding referendum concerning the cost recovery method for the Storm Water Utility, and this Resolution is intended to provide authority for holding this referendum; and WHEREAS, the 2013-14 Executive Budget Act adopted by the Wisconsin Legislature as 2013 Wisconsin Act 20 determined that certain services funded in 2013 by the property tax levy of local governments could not be recovered in subsequent years as fee revenue without the fee revenue reducing the current year levy limit unless the local governing body adopted a Resolution that the levy limit should not be reduced by the fee revenue, and the Resolution is approved by a binding referendum; and

WHEREAS, storm water management is one of the categories of "covered services" subject to the 2013 Act 20 levy limit restrictions; and

WHEREAS, in 2013 and in previous years, storm water management maintenance activities were funded by the Middleton by the general property tax levy;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Common Council of the City of Middleton as follows: beginning in 2015, the City of Middleton Storm Water Utility may collect fees for maintenance of storm water management facilities by usage fees collected from the owners of City properties on the basis of equivalent runoff units ("ERUs") and the applicable levy limit shall not be reduced by the fee revenue collected for storm water management.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution shall not take effect until such time as the electors of the City of Middleton approve a referendum containing the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, that the City of Middleton Storm Water Utility shall be permitted to charge customers of the Storm Water Utility an annual charge up to \$15.00 per equivalent runoff unit from each property for maintenance of existing storm water management facilities without reducing the levy limit for the charges of the Storm Water Utility.

Yes No

Explanation: A "yes" answer means you support the City of Middleton being able to charge utility fees for maintenance of storm water management facilities up to \$15.00 per year spread over all property owners producing storm water runoff in the City of Middleton beyond maximum property tax revenue levy limits. A "no" answer means that you do not support the City of Middleton being able to support storm water maintenance projects outside of property taxes.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Common Council of the City of Middleton hereby directs the City Clerk to place the above referendum question on the November 4, 2014 ballot.

The above and foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Middleton on the 20 day of May , 2014.

**APPROVED:** 

By

Kurt J. Sonnentag, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lorie J. Burns, City Clerk Vote: Ayes: Noes: Adopted:

#### **CERTIFICATION**

Lorie J. Burns, being first duly sworn on oath, does hereby certify that the above and foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Common Council of the City of Middleton on the 20 day of May 2014.

Lorie J. Burns, City Clerk

Subscribed and sworn to before me this <u>\_20</u> day of \_\_\_\_ VYLAV , 2014

- MAN LEHM Name: JOHN Notary Public, State of Wisconsin My Commission: 7 STATE OF 4837-8421-1739, v. 1

# NOTICE OF REFERENDUM CITY OF MIDDLETON

# NOVEMBER 4, 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at an election to be held in the City of Middleton on November 4, 2014, the following proposed Resolution 2014-34A, will be submitted to a vote of the people:

# RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING HOLDING A REFERENDUM RELATING TO THE MIDDLETON STORM WATER UTILITY EXCEEDENCE OF MUNICIPAL LEVY LIMITS

WHEREAS, the City of Middleton first began studying the feasibility of creating a Storm Water Utility in 2006; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council engaged a consultant to study whether to create a Storm Water Utility and concluded that the City needed a Storm Water Utility for the following reasons:

- 1. Storm water management is a legitimate City concern for all residents and property owners in the City of Middleton, whether their properties pay property taxes to the City or are exempt from property taxes.
- 2. Since storm water management is currently funded through property taxes, residential homeowners pay for approximately 67% of storm water management costs, while a Storm Water Utility would shift costs more to property owners that generate more storm water runoff.
- 3. The City has been unable to keep up on maintenance of its existing storm water management projects in recent years due to the conflicting demands upon City funds caused by a number of factors, including municipal levy limits.
- 4. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has increased the level of storm water management required in all Wisconsin municipalities, but the State has not provided a funding source for the additional storm water management costs necessitated by the higher storm water management standards; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council has determined that rather than permitting a Storm Water Utility to engage in all of the storm water management activities that would be authorized by law, the activities of the Middleton Storm Water Utility would be confined to maintenance of installed storm water management facilities; and

WHEREAS, on October 1, 2013, the Common Council approved first readings of Ordinances creating a Storm Water Utility and providing for the management of the Storm Water Utility but deferred the effective dates of these Ordinances until such time as the resident electors of the City approved a binding referendum concerning the cost recovery method for the Storm Water Utility, and this Resolution is intended to provide authority for holding this referendum; and

WHEREAS, the 2013-14 Executive Budget Act adopted by the Wisconsin Legislature as 2013 Wisconsin Act 20 determined that certain services funded in 2013 by the property tax levy of local governments could not be recovered in subsequent years as fee revenue without the fee revenue reducing the current year levy limit unless the local governing body adopted a Resolution that the levy limit should not be reduced by the fee revenue, and the Resolution is approved by a binding referendum; and

WHEREAS, storm water management is one of the categories of "covered services" subject to the 2013 Act 20 levy limit restrictions; and

WHEREAS, in 2013 and in previous years, storm water management maintenance activities were funded by the Middleton by the general property tax levy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Middleton as follows: beginning in 2015, the City of Middleton Storm Water Utility may collect fees for maintenance of storm water management facilities by usage fees collected from the owners of City properties on the basis of equivalent runoff units ("ERUs") and the applicable levy limit shall not be reduced by the fee revenue collected for storm water management.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution shall not take effect until such time as the electors of the City of Middleton approve a referendum containing the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, that the City of Middleton Storm Water Utility shall be permitted to charge customers of the Storm Water Utility an annual charge up to \$15.00 per equivalent runoff unit from each property for maintenance of existing storm water management facilities without reducing the levy limit for the charges of the Storm Water Utility.

Yes

No

Explanation: A "yes" answer means you support the City of Middleton being able to charge utility fees for maintenance of storm water management facilities up to \$15.00 per year for each equivalent runoff unit spread over all property owners producing storm water runoff in the City of Middleton beyond maximum property tax revenue levy limits. A "no" answer means that you do not support the City of Middleton being able to support storm water maintenance projects outside of property taxes.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Common Council of the City of Middleton hereby directs the City Clerk to place the above referendum question on the November 4, 2014 ballot.

The above and foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Middleton on the 20th day of May, 2014.

CITY OF MIDDLETON By: Kurt J. Sonnentag, Mayor

ATTEST: Lorie J. Burns, City Clerk

Ayes: 5 Noes: 3 Adopted: May 20, 2014

The question will appear on the ballot as follows:

"Shall the City of Middleton Storm Water Utility be permitted to charge customers of the Storm Water Utility an annual charge up to \$15.00 per equivalent runoff unit from each property for maintenance of existing storm water management facilities without reducing the levy limit for the charges of the Storm Water Utility?"

#### EXPLANATION

A "yes" answer means you support the City of Middleton being able to charge utility fees for maintenance of storm water management facilities up to \$15.00 per year for each equivalent runoff unit spread over all property owners producing storm water runoff in the City of Middleton beyond maximum property tax revenue levy limits.

A "no" answer means that you do not support the City of Middleton being able to support storm water maintenance projects outside of property taxes.

> Done in the City of Middleton on August 1, 2014, Lorie J. Burns, City Clerk

Publish: October 30, 2014, Middleton Times Tribune

Type C Notice of Referendum | Rev 2011-12 | Government Accountability Board, P.O. Box 7984, Madison, WI 53707-7984 | 608-261-2028 | web: gab.wi.gov | email: gab@wi.gov

Appendix C

Resolution 2019-01

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2019-01**

### RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING HOLDING A REFERENDUM RELATING TO THE MIDDLETON STORM WATER UTILITY RAISING ITS ANNUAL CHARGE FOR A TERMPORARY PERIOD OF TIME

WHEREAS, on November 4, 2014, the electors of the City of Middleton approved a referendum permitting exceedance of municipal levy limits for maintenance of existing storm water management facilities of up to \$15.00 dollars per equivalent runoff unit from each property in the City of Middleton; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Wis. Stats. §66.0602(4), the approval of the resolution by the City's voters permitted the City to exceed its levy increase limit under Wis. Stats. §66.0602(2); and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Middleton sustained devastating damage to its storm water management facilities in a rain event on August 20, 2018 estimated to exceed the 1 in 1,000 year storm in the City of Middleton; and

WHEREAS, the amount of damage to the City of Middleton's storm water management facilities – and especially those within the Pheasant Branch Creek Corridor and Tiedeman and Stricker Ponds – would require many years of storm water utility revenue to restore to its pre-storm condition without a sizeable increase in funding of the storm water utility's operations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Middleton anticipates that once the storm damage is remediated, the annual charge for storm water management may return to its pre-flood levels; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to the August, 2018 flood, the storm water utility had made substantial progress toward eliminating the maintenance project deficit that existed at the time of its adoption of Resolution 2014-34A, authorizing the initial charge of the storm water utility;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Common Council of the City of Middleton as follows: beginning in 2019 and ending December 31, 2024, the City of Middleton Storm Water Utility may collect fees for maintenance of storm water management facilities by usage fees collected from the owners of City properties on the basis of \$45.00 dollars per equivalent runoff unit, and the applicable levy limit shall not be reduced by the fee revenue collected for storm water management.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**: that beginning with fees collected in January, 2025, the fee per equivalent runoff unit shall be reduced to \$15.00. In all cases, the City levy limit shall not be reduced by the fee revenue collected for storm water management.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**: that this Resolution shall not take effect until such time as the electors of the City of Middleton approve a referendum containing the following referendum question:

**RESOLVED**, that due to the devastating impact of the August 20, 2018 storm, the City of Middleton Storm Water Utility shall be permitted to charge customers of the Storm Water Utility an annual charge of up to \$45 per equivalent runoff unit from each property, for the years 2019 through 2024 only, to fund the repairs to the Pheasant Branch Creek Corridor, Tiedeman Pond, Stricker Pond and other storm water management features that were damaged by the August 2018 flood, without reducing the levy limit for the charges of the Storm Water Utility.



A "yes" answer means you support the City of Explanation: Middleton's increase in Storm Water Utility fees to repair the substantial damage from the August, 2018 storm spread over all property owners producing storm water runoff for a period of 5 years in the City of Middleton beyond maximum property tax revenue levy limits. A "no" answer means that the City of Middleton may continue to maintain its annual charge of \$15 per equivalent runoff unit to support storm water maintenance projects outside of property taxes.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Common Council of the City of Middleton hereby directs the City Clerk to place the above referendum question on the April 2, 2019 ballot.

The above and foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Middleton on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

#### **CITY OF MIDDLETON**

By:\_\_\_\_\_ Gurdip Brar, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lorie J. Burns, City Clerk Vote: Aves: Noes: Adopted:

#### **CERTIFICATION**

Lorie J. Burns, being first duly sworn on oath, does hereby certify that the above and foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Common Council of the City of Middleton on the \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_, 2019

Lorie J. Burns, City Clerk

Name:\_\_\_\_

Appendix D

Stormwater Utility System Maps











	107	Legend <sup>s</sup>		
BLACKHAWK		Parks Maintenance Area		СШ
	_	Public Works Maintenance Area		
		Ponds (Navigable)		
		Detention/Infiltration/ Sedimentation Basin		
		Private Areas		
		Wetlands		
		No Mow Area		
			Public Stormwater Facilities Map Date: January 31, 2024	ormwater es Map
			CITY OF MIDDLETON DANE COUNTY, WISCONSIN No Scale	Public St Facilitie

# **Appendix E**

# **Regulatory Compliance**

**Public Education and Outreach:** Through the pooled resources of MAMSWaP, the City has developed an ongoing program to help inform its citizens on stormwater management issues and how to reduce stormwater pollution. The program includes public information techniques such as brochures, websites, demonstration projects, and use of other media. The MAMSWaP group has funded a part-time coordinator to efficiently prepare and distribute public education material to the member cities. The City also hires a consultant to present two stormwater management lectures annually to Middleton High School Students as a part of the Biology curriculum.

**Public Involvement and Participation:** The City provides opportunities for the public to participate and comment on the development of policies and direction of the program. This mainly takes place through the open meeting requirements of City government, and receiving public comments at Council meetings or other sessions. Through MAMSWaP, the City also promotes other activities such as the "Adopt-a-Storm Drain" program, rain barrel sales, and "Plant Dane" which makes native seedlings available for purchase.

**Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination:** City Public Works staff manages a program that investigates regulated storm sewer outfalls and identifies dry weather flows. These dry weather flows are then tested for common pollutants and, if determined not to be groundwater, are "tracked" upstream to determine the source. The City has the legal authority to prohibit illegal discharges into the municipal stormwater conveyance system. Examples of illicit discharges include: cross connections between sanitary and storm sewers, and dumping paint, garbage, oil, grass clippings, and other waste into storm sewer inlets. The City hires a consultant to perform these annual inspections and prepare a summary report. Dane County Public Health staff is also available to inspect and troubleshoot potential illicit discharges on an on-call basis.

**Construction Site Erosion Control:** City Ordinance Chapter 28 meets the technical criteria defined in Wis. Adm. Code NR 151. This ordinance is aimed at reducing sediment runoff during construction processes at development sites. The City must review erosion control plans prepared by a developer, and to regularly inspect the site during the construction process to ensure that erosion control measures are in place and functioning. The City hires Dane County staff to perform the bulk of these review and inspection services, and those consulting fees are passed along to the developer. Public Works staff also spends significant time on this effort. Erosion Control permit fees collected by Public Works are not currently considered Stormwater Utility revenue.

**Post-Construction Stormwater Management:** City Ordinance Chapter 26 meets the technical criteria defined in Wis. Adm. Code NR 151. The City's Ordinance regulates stormwater pollution, flow rates, and other factors from the post-constructions conditions of new land development

and re-development sites. The ordinance requires the City to review stormwater management plans prepared by the developer, and to inspect the implemented measure to make sure the permanent management structures are installed according to the plan and continue to function properly in perpetuity. The City hires Dane County staff to assist with these review services, and those fees are passed along to the developer. However, Public Works staff also spends significant time on this effort. Stormwater permit fees collected by Public Works are not currently considered Stormwater Utility revenue.

As mandated by Wis. Adm. Code NR 216, Chapter 26 requires each developer to enter into a maintenance agreement with the City, promising to maintain the privately-owned stormwater management practices in perpetuity. The City requires a developer to submit a certification at the completion of construction, and on a two-year cycle thereafter. There are currently 159 maintenance agreements in place (and growing), and the efforts to collect and review the initial certifications, and the subsequent bi-annual inspection reports that follow, are borne by Public Works staff.

**Pollution Prevention:** This requirement encompasses a variety of actions to be taken by the City to meet pollution reduction levels established in Wis. Adm. Code NR 151. The actions include proper management of municipal facilities to minimize stormwater pollution, and operational measures such as street sweeping, de-icing chemical management, leaf and yard waste pickup, and fertilizer management. An assessment of stormwater management program performance is also required (last updated by the City in 2016).

**Other Stormwater Permit Costs:** The MS4 permit also requires the City to prepare a detailed annual report to the WDNR. The report documents all of the activities and task conducted by the City over the previous year. A stormwater system map must be maintained and updated annually. The City must also pay an annual fee to WDNR for the permit. These efforts are performed by Public Works staff.

Adaptive Management: The bulk of the City's watersheds (approximately 4,300 acres which drain to Lake Mendota) are subject to the requirements of the Rock River Total Maximum Daily Load Study (TMDL), which sets more stringent performance requirements for reductions to Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and Total Phosphorus (TP) within the City's stormwater discharges. The TMDL's performance requirements will be extremely difficult to achieve. The regulations allow the City to partner with the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) in their Adaptive Management program, within which the City pays MMSD an annual fee, and in exchange, MMSD seeks opportunities for TP reductions in upstream areas of the watershed. Within the agreement the City is essential paying for TP reduction credits, and the annual fee is based upon our performance shortfall. Opportunities for TP reduction are generally sought within agricultural lands, where stormwater controls can theoretically be installed more economically. The Adaptive Management program was initiated in 2016 and envisioned as a 20-year program. The City's annual fee is currently \$61,912.

# Appendix F

# **Operations and Maintenance**

**Street Sweeping:** Street sweeping costs are not currently funded through the Stormwater Utility, but are an eligible program cost. Street sweeping removes pollutants and debris from the streets which would otherwise be washed into the storm sewers. The pollutant reduction performance provided by street sweeping is included within the City's Stormwater Quality Master Plan. The City owns one mechanical sweeper which is operated by the Streets Department essentially full time, except during the winter months. Debris from the sweeping operation is hauled to the Dane County Landfill. Annual street sweeping program costs are approximately \$120,000 for wages and benefits, equipment fuel and maintenance, and disposal fees.

**Catch Basin Sump Cleaning:** The City owns thousands of storm sewer manholes and inlets. Of these, approximately 350 are fitted with sumps. The sumps collect sand and sediment which washes off the pavement, and periodically this collected material must be removed and hauled away in order for the sump to function. Debris from sump cleaning is hauled to the Dane County Landfill. Sump cleaning is the responsibility of the Streets Department and is performed only intermittently as time and other responsibilities allow. Hence, pollutant reductions attributable to catch basin sump cleaning are NOT included within the City's Stormwater Quality Master Plan.

A \$5,000 cost for vactor rental to perform this intermittent work has occasionally been funded by the SWU. An effective catch basin sump cleaning program would clean each sump on a fiveyear cycle, and these costs are eligible to be funded through the SWU. Program costs for wages, benefits, and disposal fees are estimated to be \$12,000 annually. Additionally, staff has identified an equipment need for a combination vactor/leaf picker to be utilized for catch basin sump cleaning, yard waste collection, and other Streets Division duties such as utility locates and installation of sign posts. 85% of the equipment costs would be allocated to the Stormwater Utility under this scenario. Equipment needs are discussed further in the Equipment Needs section below.

**Yard Waste Collection:** The City's yard waste collection program is the responsibility of the Streets Department. Yard waste is collected from street terraces in the Fall and hauled to the Purple Cow recycling facility off of Hwy. Q, where it is processed into compost. The program costs for yard waste collection including wages and benefits, and processing fees total approximately \$130,000 annually. Additionally, staff has identified an equipment need for a combination vactor/leaf picker to be utilized for catch basin sump cleaning, yard waste collection, and other Streets Division duties such as utility locates and installation of sign posts. 85% of the equipment costs would be allocated to the Stormwater Utility under this scenario. Equipment needs are discussed further in the Equipment Needs section below.

**Storm Inlets and Curb and Gutter:** Storm sewer inlets and curb and gutter are typically considered a part of stormwater management infrastructure. The Streets Department repairs and rebuilds storm sewer inlets that are in need of repair; or need to be relocated or adjusted as a part of a street reconstruction project. Curb and gutter repair work is not typically undertaken by City crews. Labor and equipment costs for the storm inlet work totaled \$73,500 in 2022 and \$59,050 in 2023. These storm inlet repair costs are not currently funded, but are eligible to be funded through the Stormwater Utility.

**Storm Sewer Maintenance and Repair:** Storm sewers are typically considered a part of stormwater management infrastructure. The Streets Department performs minor repairs on storm sewers and culverts. \$50,000 is typically allocated to these efforts within the Public Works Operating budget under the "Storm Sewers" line item, and that funding is also used for outside services such as City Attorney fees related to stormwater. These storm sewer maintenance and repair costs are not currently funded, but are eligible to be funded through the Stormwater Utility.

**Mowing:** For Public Works maintained stormwater infrastructure, current vegetation management practice consists of mowing up to three times annually. Mowing of stormwater management facilities is a low priority for the Streets Department, such that mowing is rarely accomplished three times annually. Equipment limitations and weather conditions also play a role in the timing and frequency of mowing operations. It is also anticipated that mowing practices may be adjusted in the future, dependent on both staff allocations and planned adjustment of maintenance practices for some facilities to promote and maintain native vegetation instead of mowed grass.

For purposes of this rate study, mowing program costs are estimated based on mowing twice annually, and those labor and equipment costs total approximately \$35,000 (system-wide). Increased program costs for establishment and maintenance of native vegetation are discussed further below under the Vegetation Management section. Mowing costs are not currently funded, but are eligible to be funded through the stormwater utility.

Similar to the issues with inadequate staff to perform the necessary mowing operations, staff has identified an equipment need for an additional tracked skid steer which would be dedicated to stormwater management program use. This equipment can operate in wetter, softer soil conditions, and would provide added capabilities for hauling materials and mowing within detention basins and ditches. It would also be used, along with occasional rental of specialized attachments, for clearing and grubbing of woody vegetation. See the Equipment Needs section below.

**Ditch Maintenance:** In addition to mowing operations, regular ditch maintenance to remove woody vegetation (clearing and/or grubbing), remove built-up sediments (dredging), and repair areas of scour in order to maintain adequate conveyance capacity and reduce erosion. Maintaining stable ditches to limit sediments carried downstream is a requirement of the City's MS4 permit, and this includes natural and navigable stream corridors such as Pheasant Branch.

Primary responsibility for maintaining the Pheasant Branch corridor lies with the Parks Department and is not funded through the Stormwater Utility, but is eligible to be. Small ditching projects have been accomplished with Streets Department staff (currently funded through the "Storm Sewers" line item in the Public Works operating budget), while more major ditching projects have been funded through the Stormwater Utility.

There is a significant backlog of deferred ditch maintenance waiting to be performed. These deferred maintenance program costs (estimated to total \$365,000 if performed in house) are divided over a four-year period and included in the Capital Improvements Plan provided in Appendix G. After the deferred maintenance is completed, annual program costs necessary for ditch maintenance will be reduced. Staff recommends allocating \$20,000 annually for the ongoing program costs. Also see the Equipment Needs section below.

**Vegetation Management:** As discussed above, for certain detention basins and conveyances, vegetation management practices could be adjusted to promote and manage the establishment of native grasses and forbs. Native vegetation can enhance stormwater infiltration, reduce erosion, and provide better habitat. This is a more expensive proposition and outside services would be required to accomplish most of the work. These outside services would generally include an initial start-up phase including assessment, planning, eradication of undesirable species and re-establishment of natives. After initial establishment, more hands-on field work including visual inspection, spot mowing, spot herbicide application would be required for the first several years, after which these efforts could potentially decrease. Although occasional mowing would still be required, burning every 1.5 to 2 years would become the preferred management method.

Four major stormwater management facilities (Hidden Oaks system, Misty Valley system, Spring Hill Basin, and Tribeca Basin #2) are planned to be planted with native vegetation following upcoming rehabilitation projects. For these projects, the initial native vegetation establishment phase costs will be a part of the capital project costs. The cost differential for ongoing native vegetation maintenance as opposed to standard mowing practices is estimated to be \$11,000 annually for these four sites. The increased costs for only these four sites are included within the Eligible Stormwater Program Costs summarized in Section 4.

Staff estimates that it would generally cost four to five times more to maintain a site in native vegetation as opposed to the current practice of mowing standard ditch grasses. Increased costs for system-wide changes are not included in this report. For some areas, staff would not recommend native vegetation due to concerns with conveyance capacity, difficulty with conducting burns, and other reasons. If the City desires to expand the native vegetation maintenance areas in the future, staff recommends planning in consultation with Parks and Recreation Department. Efforts should be focused on a watershed or corridor basis which will include areas maintained by both departments.

**Outfall / Culvert Maintenance:** Outfall/Culvert maintenance includes removal of sediment or repairing areas of scour at outfall locations, ensuring culvert outfalls and entrances are kept open and clear to maintain conveyance capacity, and correcting structural deficiencies with outfalls such as separated pipe joints. The Streets Division is responsible to perform this work (currently funded under the "Storm Sewers" line item in the Public Works Operating budget).

There is a significant backlog of deferred outfall/culvert maintenance waiting to be performed. If performed in house, these deferred maintenance program costs are estimated to total \$130,000. These program costs are divided over a four-year period and included in the Capital Improvements Plan provided in Appendix XX. After the deferred maintenance is completed, annual program costs necessary for outfall/culvert maintenance will be reduced. Staff recommends allocating \$5,000 for these program costs.

**Equipment Needs:** As described above, staff has identified equipment needs for a combination vactor/leaf picker and a tracked skid steer loader. 85% of the vactor/leaf picker costs would be allocated to the Stormwater Utility. Estimated costs for the vactor/leaf picker include a \$385,000 purchase price and annual maintenance and fuel costs of \$12,500, which work out to annual estimated costs of \$38,125. 100% of the tracked skid steer would be allocated to the Stormwater Utility. Estimated skid steer (and hauling trailer) include a purchase price of \$98,000 and annual maintenance and fuel costs of \$4,500, which work out to annual estimated costs of \$20,833.

**Tiedeman Pond Lift Station:** Tiedeman Pond has no gravity outlet and stormwater which drains to the pond must be periodically pumped out. Public Works operates a lift station adjacent to Gammon Rd. to accomplish the necessary pumping. The volume of the pumped discharge and the pollutant concentrations of TSS and TP it contains must be monitored and reported to the WDNR per the requirements of the City's MS4 permit. Operational costs including power and telecommunications; and water sampling, testing, reporting and associated labor are estimated to be \$20,000 annually. These costs do not include the 20-yr. replacement cost of the lift station itself. These lift station costs are not currently funded through the SWU, but are an eligible program cost.

Stormwater Capital Improvements Plan February 2024													
Major Maintenance Project	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033			
Defensed Ditch Maintenance		ć72.000	ć72.000	672.000	ć72.000	ć72.000							
Deferred Ditch Maintenance		\$73,000 \$26,000	\$73,000	\$73,000	\$73,000 \$26,000	\$73,000							
	¢165.000	Ş20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	ş20,000	\$26,000							
Spring Hill Pasin	\$105,000												
Spring fill basin Graber Bond Outlet	\$190,000												
Graber Pond Outlet	\$150,000	¢400.000											
Nisty Valley Stormwater System	\$60,000	\$400,000 \$200,000											
Ridden Oaks Stormwater System	\$40,000	\$300,000											
	\$20,000	¢20.000	¢125.000										
Greenway Bivo. Greenway		\$20,000	\$125,000	¢20.000	¢1 000 000								
Aiment Diteb Projects			625 000	\$30,000	\$1,000,000								
Airport Ditch Projects		67F 000	\$25,000	\$200,000									
South Pond Dredging		\$75,000	\$1,000,000	¢200.000									
Esser Pond Dredging			\$50,000	\$300,000	605 000	¢200.000							
Schoepp (Hwy 12) Pond Dredging					\$25,000	\$200,000	6425 000						
Pheasant Branch Ridge West Basin Dredging						\$25,000	\$125,000						
Greenview Drive Basin Dredging						\$25,000	\$200,000						
Tribeca Basins #1 Dredging						\$40,000	\$400,000						
Shorecrest Basin Rehabilitation						\$25,000	\$150,000						
Lakeview Pond Dredging							\$25,000	\$200,000					
Business Park/Quisling Basin Dredging							\$40,000	\$300,000					
MRD Remove Dredging Spoils								\$30,000	\$200,000				
Confluence Pond Dredging								\$50,000	\$50,000	\$1,500,000			
TOTAL - Major Maintenance	\$625,000	\$894,000	\$1,299,000	\$629 <i>,</i> 000	\$1,124,000	\$414,000	\$940,000	\$580,000	\$250,000	\$1,500,000			
Stormwater Improvements Project													
Confluence Dand Main Madification		¢40.000	¢150.000										
		Ş40,000	\$150,000 \$150,000	ća 500.000									
South Pond Expansion			\$150,000	\$2,500,000	¢150.000	62 F00 000							
				¢50.000	\$120,000 ¢450,000	\$3,5UU,UUU							
South Fork Culvert Improvements				\$50,000	\$450,000	¢150.000	¢2,000,000						
FIODA REDUCTION PROJECT I BD	<b> </b>					\$150,000	\$2,000,000						
TOTAL - Stormwater Improvements	\$0	\$40,000	\$300,000	\$2,550,000	\$600,000	\$3,650,000	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0			