



King County Water District #90
15606 SE 128th ST.
Renton, WA 98059
(425) 255-9600
Fax: (425) 277-4128

NOTICE OF UTILITY RATE INCREASE DUE TO KING COUNTY RIGHT-OF-WAY RENTAL FEE/TAX

On November 7, 2016, the King County Council passed Ordinance No. 18403 which will result in significant increases to your utility rates. The Ordinance requires utilities, consisting of **electric, gas, water, and sewer**, to pay rent (a tax) to the County for the right to use County right-of-way (streets and roads). More information, including the draft rule to implement the rental fee/tax, and a comment form can be found at the following website: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/facilities-management/real-estate-services/public-rule-proposal.aspx>.

King County Water District No. 90 (KCWD90), providing water utility services in your area, will be commenting to King County on this regressive fee/tax and we encourage you to contact King County as well. **Comments and concerns are due to King County no later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 7, 2017.**

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How Does the County rental fee/tax impact you? Because KCWD90 owns and operates water mains within King County right -of-way, the District will be subject to this new rental fee/tax. The District's current utility rates do not include this additional fee/tax which must be passed on to the end-user. For example, if you are a District water customer, according to the County's calculations, your monthly utility bills will likely increase by a minimum of \$5 and possibly as much as \$10 per month. **Further, you should expect similar increases in your sewer, gas and electricity bills.**
2. Where will the money raised by this new rental fee/tax go? The District understands the rental fees/taxes will be deposited into the County's General Fund and may be used for other purposes such as road maintenance and funding criminal justice programs.
3. When will this new rental fee/tax take effect? The District understands this new fee will become effective in early 2018, when the County rule implementing the rental fee/tax is finalized.
4. What can you do? We strongly encourage you to comment on the draft rule at the above website. Again, comments are due no later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 7, 2017. **Written comments may also be sent to: Terri Hansen, Facilities Management Division, 500 Fourth Ave. Suite 800, Seattle, WA 98104.**
5. What if I don't live in Unincorporated King County, will the tax apply to me too? Probably not at first. However, the Cities are paying close attention to the outcome of this proposed tax and the District expects that they will soon follow suit.

Thank you for your help to keep your water utility rates as low as possible!

King County Water District No. 90 recommends contacting members of the King County Council to share your thoughts about this new fee/tax. Connect with King Council at the following emails/addresses:

King County Executive – Dow Constantine; kcexec@kingcounty.gov

Mailing Address: King County Chinook Building
401 5th Ave, Suite 800
Seattle, WA 98104

District 1 - Councilmember Rod Dembowski; rod.dembowski@kingcounty.gov.

District 2 - Councilmember Larry Gossett; larry.Gossett@kingcounty.gov.

District 3 - Councilmember Kathy Lambert; kathy.lambert@kingcounty.gov.

District 4 - Councilmember Jeanne Kohl-Welles; jeanne.kohl-welles@kingcounty.gov

District 5 - Councilmember Dave Upthegrove; dave.Upthegrove@kingcounty.gov

District 6 - Councilmember Claudia Balducci; claudia.balducci@kingcounty.gov

District 7 - Councilmember Pete von Reichbauer; pete.vonReichbauer@kingcounty.gov

District 8 – Councilmember Joe McDermott; joe.mcdermott@kingcounty.gov

District 9 – Councilmember Reagan Dunn*; reagan.dunn@kingcounty.gov

*KCWD90 is part of District 9. Councilmember Reagan Dunn has previously voted **NO** on this ordinance. Please thank Councilmember Dunn and encourage him to reach out to his fellow Councilmembers to defeat this unfair/regressive tax.

Sincerely,

Commissioner Byron Murgatroyd

Commissioner Dick Gidner

Commissioner Sam Amira

General Manager Darcey Peterson

www.kcwr90.com



King County Water District No. 90

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