# Fee and Rate Adjustments

#### 2025 Mid-Bi Budget

John Resha, Director

Finance & Asset Management Department

Lucy Liu, Director *Utilities Department* 

#### **Direction**

Consider directing staff to return at a future meeting with legislation to adopt fee and rate adjustments pertaining to:

- Utilities sewer rate
- Development Services permits and school impact fees
- Transportation wireless fees

## **Agenda**

- 1. Utilities Sewer Rate Adjustment
- 2. Development Update
- 3. Cost Recovery & Guiding Principles
- 4. Proposed Fees & Rates
- 5. School Impact Fees
- 6. Telecommunication Wireless Fees





## **Utilities Sewer Rate**

#### 2026 Sewer Rate Adjustment

2026 SEWER RATE	ADOPTED	MID-BI	INCREASE
City of Bellevue	7.6%	7.9%	0.3%

- Driver: Higher King County 2026 wastewater treatment rate, increasing from 7.0% to 7.5%
- City Policy: Wholesale costs passed through directly to Bellevue customers
- Future wholesale wastewater treatment costs will be fully evaluated during 2027-2028 budget process

# Development Services Fee Update

#### 2025 Mid-Bi Budget

Rebecca Horner, Director

Jake Hesselgesser, Assistant Director

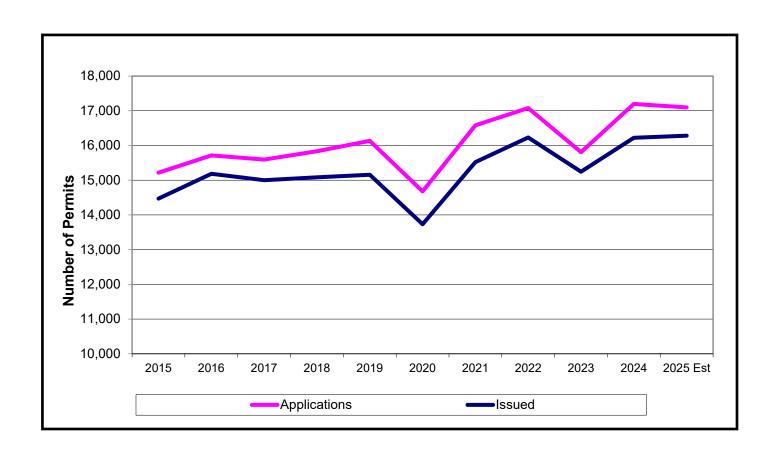
Development Services Department

Vanessa Humphreys, Assistant Director Cassie Davis, Franchise Utility Manager *Transportation Department* 

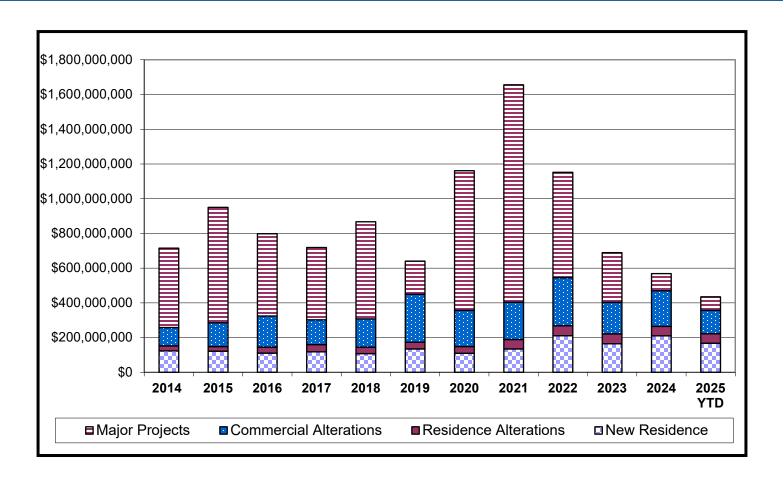


## **Development Update**

#### **Development Update**



#### **Building Valuation**



#### **Development Pipeline**

- Residential Development Building Permits
  - Single-family remains strong
  - Middle Housing interest
  - 6,100 Multi-family Units
- AH Fee Reduction Program
  - 461 Units in the Program
  - 240+ Units future Pipeline



Bridge OMFE Affordable Housing – 234 Units

#### **Process Improvements**

- Customer Feedback
  - Bellevue development committee
  - Customer experience program
- Streamline permitting
  - Small business program
  - Govstream.ai partnership
- Consistency & transparency
  - Training & system improvement
  - Publish performance dashboards



#### Council Endorsed Cost Recovery Objectives

Type of Service	DS Fee Cost Recovery Target	
Land Use Discretionary Review	100%	
Engineering Review & Inspection	100%	
Technical/Administrative Support	100%	
Pre-submittal Support & Public Information	0%	
Policy Development & Code Compliance	0%	

## Financial Management Guiding Principles

- Funding structure should support DS line of business through economic cycles
- Permit applicants should pay for services received
- Fees should be predictable and understandable to customer
- Fees should be regionally competitive

#### **Proposed Fee Adjustments**

- Update hourly rates and adjust flat fees
- Update building valuation table to 2025 and adjust Washington State modifier
- Adjust building permit fees by CPI-W (2.70%)



## **Proposed Hourly Rates**

Function	2025 Adopted	2026 Proposed	% change in rate
Land Use review	\$281	\$304	8.2%
Fire review & inspection	\$212	\$227	7.1%
Transportation review & inspection	\$243	\$264	8.6%
Utilities review & inspection	\$197	\$216	9.6%

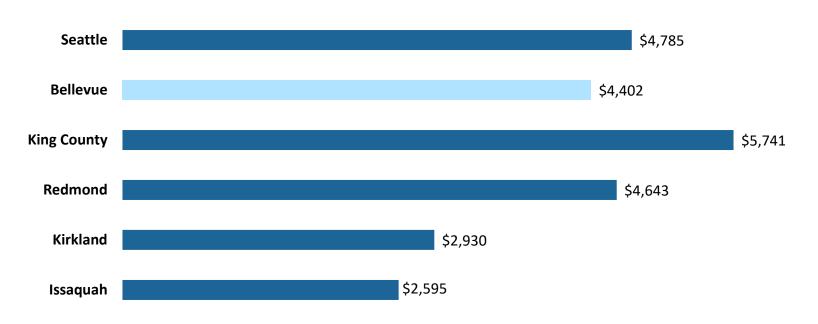
### **Proposed Fee Examples**

 Proposed flat rate adjustments include changes in hourly rates and average review/inspection time

FEE TYPE	2025	2026	Variance
FLAT FEE			
Land Use Review - Tenant Improvement	\$365	\$486	\$121
Fire Review - Tenant Improvement	\$276	\$363	\$88
VALUATION BASED			
Minor Commercial Project	\$8,340	\$8,705	\$365
Single Family 500 Sq. Ft. Addition	\$4,374	\$4,571	\$197

## **Regionally Competitive**

#### 2025 Permit Building Fee Costs \$100K Tenant Improvement





## **School Impact Fees**

### **School Impact Fee Update**

- Charged by Issaquah and Renton School Districts per BCC 22.18
- A pass-through fee applied to new residential construction located within districts. Formula is set in BCC 22.18.090
- Used to support capital programs
- Fee is collected by Bellevue at building permit and transferred to school districts



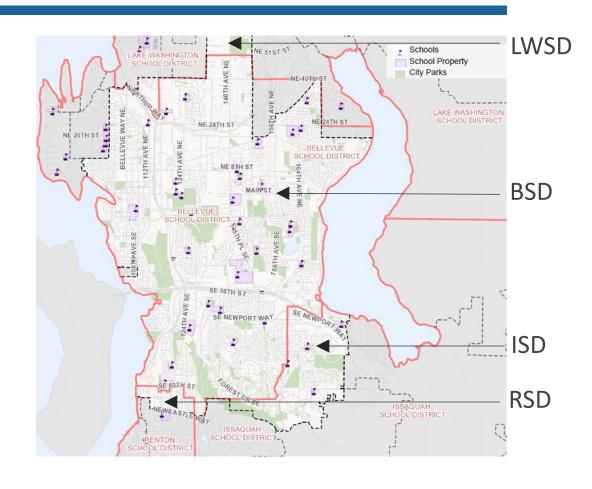
Issaquah School District – planned high school



Renton School District – new elementary school

#### **District Boundaries**

- Bellevue is served by four school districts:
  - Bellevue School District (BSD)
  - Lake Washington School District (LWSD)
  - Issaquah School District (ISD)
  - Renton School District (RSD)



## **School Impact Fees**

#### **Issaquah School District**

- Single-family impact fee is \$0 (- \$4,728)
- Multi-family impact fee is \$0 (no change)

#### **Renton School District**

- Single-family impact fee is \$0 (- \$1,003)
- Multi-family impact fee is \$0 (- \$3,268)



## Telecommunication Wireless Fees

## **Transportation Fee Ordinance**

Ordinance formally codifies existing lease fees charged for use of city assets

Authority to charge fees established by BCC Title 6 (1998) October 28, 2025: provide information on proposed fee ordinance

Publish fee schedule to city website

Fee calculation methodology established (2020-2022) Return in November to seek approval

### Wireless Facility Lease Fees

Wireless Communication Facilities (WCF)	Small Wireless Facilities (SWF)	
Annual Lease Fee: \$13,200*	City Facilities Access Fee: \$1,157.77*	
	Pole Reservation Fee: \$166.75*	

<sup>\*</sup>Values reflect 2025 rates

- WCF Annual Lease Fee: WCF ground equipment in the public right of way
- City Facilities Access Fee: Utilizing City's circuit to power SWF
- Pole Reservation Fee: Reserve streetlight for preapplication scoping

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