



Interoffice Memorandum

November 22, 2024

TO: Mayor Jerry L. Demings
-AND-
County Commissioners

FROM: Ed Torres, M.S., P.E., LEED AP, Director
Utilities Department

**SUBJECT: December 17, 2024 – Public Hearing
Proposed Revisions to Chapter 37 (Water and Wastewater) of the Orange
County Code
Contact Person: Glenn Kramer, Manager
Utilities Fiscal & Operational Support Division
407-254-9882**

Orange County owns and operates numerous water, wastewater, and reclaimed water facilities throughout the County. These facilities are necessary to meet the growing needs of current and future residents, businesses, and guests for water, wastewater, and reclaimed water services. Capital charges authorized under Orange County Code, Chapter 37, are used to fund capital improvements to the Water and Wastewater System that are necessary to support the demands of new growth.

The County last revised the water and wastewater capital charges in 2019. As the Board has expressed its desire for a periodic review of these charges, the Utilities Department engaged its rate consultant to update the calculation of these charges.

On September 24, 2024, staff presented the updated water and wastewater capital charges to the Board. We then presented the updated results to the Development Advisory Board (DAB) on October 14, 2024. DAB voted to recommend approval for the increase in the capital charges. Staff then presented the updated charges and the proposed ordinance to the Planning and Zoning Commission (Commission) as the County's Local Planning Agency in a public hearing on November 21, 2024. The Commission made a finding of consistency with the Orange County Comprehensive Plan and recommended approval of the proposed revisions to Chapter 37 of the Orange County Code.

The final step in this process to adopt the updated capital charges is to bring the updated charges and the proposed ordinance to the Board for consideration in a final public hearing. The Orange County Attorney's Office has reviewed the proposed ordinance and finds it acceptable as to form.

Action Requested: **Approve an ordinance pertaining to land use in Orange County; amending portions of the Orange County Code relating to Reclaimed Water connection fee credits and Water capital charges and Wastewater capital charges; by amending Section 37-4 ("Connection Required; Extensions and Oversizing"); by amending Section 37-5 ("Application for Water, Wastewater, and Reclaimed Water Services"); and providing for an effective date.**

All Districts.