



City of Delta
COUNCIL REPORT
Regular Meeting

To: **Council**

From: **Finance Department**

Bylaw No(s): **8537, 8538, 8539**

Date: **November 5, 2025**

2026 Utility User Rates

The following report has been reviewed and endorsed by the City Manager's Office.

▪ **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- A. THAT Delta Water Service Bylaw No. 7441, 2016 Amendment Bylaw No. 8537, 2025 be given first, second and third readings.
- B. THAT Delta Sewer Rates Bylaw No. 5782, 2000 Amendment Bylaw No. 8538, 2025 be given first, second and third readings.
- C. THAT Delta Garbage Collection & Regulation Bylaw No. 4273, 1988 Amendment Bylaw No. 8539, 2025 be given first, second and third readings.

▪ **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this report is to present the 2026 Utility User Rates bylaws for three readings. This will allow Delta to recover the costs of providing utilities to Delta residents and businesses.

▪ **BACKGROUND:**

The proposed utility rates in this report were presented to Council at the October 6, 2025 Regular Meeting and at the Draft 2026 Financial Plan workshops on October 29 and 30, 2025. At the workshops, there was general consensus to move forward with the proposed rates.

Utility user rates are set based on the costs of providing the specific utility. Major costs include the purchase of services from Metro Vancouver (MV), contractual costs for garbage and recycling programs, contribution to capital for water and sewer distribution system improvements, and operating costs to maintain the systems. These costs are funded through user fees.

Council Policy:

The water, sewer and solid waste rates are reviewed and amended by Council each year as required.

▪ **DISCUSSION:**

This report proposes an increase to the 2026 flat rate utility bill by a total of \$51 or 3.2%; from \$1,607 for a single family home in 2025, to \$1,658 in 2026. The following table summarizes the 2026 proposed flat rates for water, sewer, and solid waste (garbage collection and recycling) for a single family home:

Flat Rate Utility Fees	2026 \$	2025 \$	Increase \$	
Water	752	730	22	
Sewer	662	633	29	
Solid Waste	244	244	-	
Total	\$1,658	\$1,607	\$51	3.2% ↑

Flat Rate Utility Fees - By Month	\$138	\$134	\$4
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Metro Vancouver Regional District

Delta is a member municipality of the Metro Vancouver Regional District, from which the City purchases water supply and liquid waste management services. MV’s services to its member municipalities include ensuring the safety and sustainability of regional water supply, wastewater infrastructure and liquid waste conveyance and treatment. MV costs account for a significant portion of the City’s water and sewer budget. Of the \$51 flat rate utility fee increase, approximately 80%, or \$41 is attributable to MV cost increases for water purchases and liquid waste levy.

The utility rate amendment bylaws are provided in Attachments A, B and C. With Council’s approval of the 2026 Utility Rate Amendment Bylaws, the 2026 flat rate utility notices would be mailed in February, and payment due on March 31, 2026.

Water User Rates (Bylaw No. 8537)

The water utility provides a water distribution system for Delta residents and businesses and is funded by flat rate utility fees, metered charges and water service fees. The flat water rates for a single family home will increase by 3% or \$22, from \$730 in 2025 to \$752 in 2026. Metered user water rates, including for agricultural users, are proposed to increase by a similar percentage as the flat water rate.

The 2026 irrigation flat rate charge, on each folio with farm classification, is proposed to increase at a similar rate as past years from \$740 to \$800. The irrigation flat rate helps fund the irrigation system’s operating costs.

The water service connection fees are determined using historical average costs to provide that service connection. Other service fees are proposed to have an inflationary increase or to be in line with peer comparators.

Sewer User Rates (Bylaw No. 8538)

The sewer utility provides a sanitary system for Delta residents and businesses and is funded by flat rate utility fees, metered charges and sewer service fees. The flat sewer rate for a single family home is proposed to increase by 5% or \$29, from \$633 in 2025 to \$662 in 2026. Metered sewer rates are proposed to increase to a similar percentage as the flat sewer rate.

The sewer service connection fees have been determined using historical costs to provide that service connection. Other service fees are proposed to have an inflationary increase or to be in line with peer comparators.

Solid Waste User Rates (Bylaw No. 8539)

The solid waste utility provides Delta residents with services for the disposal of garbage, yard waste, green waste and the collection of recyclable materials. The combined solid waste is proposed to remain at the 2025 rate of \$244. An increase in revenues from Recycle BC has offset the contractual increases for curbside collection of garbage, green waste, recycling and other net cost increases.

Implications:

Financial Implications – The 2026 Utility User Rates bylaws will allow Delta to recover the costs of providing utilities to Delta residents and businesses.

▪ **CONCLUSION:**

This report recommends Council give three readings to the 2026 Utility User Rates bylaws. The utility rate amendment bylaws are provided in Attachments A, B and C.



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Department submission prepared by: Nancy Hudson, Manager, Revenue Services
NH/eg

This report has been prepared in consultation with the following listed department.

Concurring Department		
Department	Name	Signature
Engineering	Steven Lan	SL

▪ **ATTACHMENTS:**

- A. Bylaw No. 8537
- B. Bylaw No. 8538
- C. Bylaw No. 8539