



Southwest Suburban Sewer District

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COMMISSIONERS;
Tony Genzale
Scott Hilsen
William A. Tracy

June 1, 2006

Dear Customer,

We appreciate your continuing support of our efforts to repair and replace the old pipes in our system that are deteriorating and failing with age. We have accomplished a lot during the past two years and have much more to do. Listed below are some of the projects that we have completed;

- Regal Heights – Replacing 12,000 feet of 50 year old pipe
- 1st Ave South Emergency Pipe replacement project – 300 feet of disintegrating pipe.
- Miller Creek Treatment Plant – Replaced 20-year old Digester Covers.

A number of large projects are in the planning and design stage;

- Marians Park emergency pipe replacement project – involves the replacement of 2,700 feet of 53 year old pipe that is on the verge of failure - \$730,000
- Chelsea Park pipe replacement project – involves the replacement of 50 year old pipe to reduce sewer backups and reduce storm water inflow - \$4,600,000
- Seahurst Park beachline project – involves the replacement and relocation of 50 year old pipe on the beach north of Seahurst Park - \$3,800,000

In addition, we purchased new equipment that will help employees be more productive and provide additional services not previously available;

- Purchased new Video Truck to replace a 21-year old truck with a side launch camera that enables the inspection of up to 90 feet of stub and side sewer.
- Purchased new Vactor Truck with improved sewer cleaning capabilities and Hydro-excavation to avoid damaging other utilities during excavation projects.
- Install energy efficient motor controls to conserve energy and reduce power costs.
- Install energy efficient pumps and electrical equipment to conserve energy and reduce power costs.
- Install new technology pumps to reduce pump maintenance.
- Gradually replace vehicles up to 21 years old with new vehicles to reduce maintenance costs and provide more reliable vehicles.

The District has been investigating the impacts of the City of Seattle annexing the North Highline area. A recent study conducted by the District's financial consultant identified

significant financial impacts created by a Seattle annexation. The study determined that the average customer would pay \$41.01 per month for sewer service, \$21.51 more than the current rate of \$19.50 per month. The study also determined that the District customers outside the annexation could see rates increase to \$35.85 per month during the next five years due to a loss of customers to Seattle. Current rate comparison attached.

We are now approaching the rate level that we need to provide funding for the planned construction projects and the operation of the District. In 2004, the Board decided that gradual increases over five years was a better method of increasing rates than a large one time increase recommended by our Citizens Advisory Committee.

District rates are still among the lowest in King County and we plan to keep them as low as possible while still providing sufficient revenue to continue the effort to rehabilitate District facilities, so that we can continue to provide superior sewer service. The District continues to see increased costs for energy and fuel costs for the vehicles used by the District to maintain the system and emergency response.


The District is finally back up to full strength including one employee in Afghanistan and another that will be leaving for Iraq in July. We now have the manpower and equipment to provide routine maintenance of sewer lines, pump stations and treatment plants, thus reducing sewer backups and improving our ability to respond quickly when a backup does occur.


If you have a sewer problem, Please Call us First! We continue to see customers paying as much as \$20,000 to plumbing contractors instead of using approved side sewer contractors and paying much lower charges. With our new equipment, we can usually determine what the problem is, where it is, and what is needed to repair the problem without having to dig up your side sewer. Sometimes, the problem is our responsibility and the quicker we hear about the backup, the sooner we can fix the problem. Please call us, we do not charge for helping.


Please call the District staff if you have any questions concerning this letter or any of the projects identified.

Sincerely,

Southwest Suburban Sewer District


William Tracy, President and Commissioner


Tony Genzale, Vice President and Commissioner


Scott Hilsen, Secretary and Commissioner

METRO - SEWER COMPONENT AGENCIES

AGENCY:	PHONE NO.	2004 RATE	2005 RATE	2006 RATE
SEATTLE	206-684-3000	\$ 44.25	\$ 49.35	\$ 50.70
SKYWAY	206-772-7343	\$ 43.53	\$ 46.24	\$ 47.64
VASHON SEWER	206-463-9219	\$ 40.00	\$ 47.50	\$ 47.50
KIRKLAND	425-587-3150	\$ 38.25	\$ 34.60	\$ 46.75
NE SAMMAMISH	425-868-1144	\$ 41.41	\$ 45.05	\$ 45.05
WOODINVILLE	425-483-9104	\$ 40.85	\$ 43.05	\$ 44.45
MERCER ISLAND	206-236-3560	\$ 40.31	\$ 36.06	\$ 44.28
BLACK DIAMOND	253-631-0351	\$ 41.44	\$ 41.44	\$ 44.10
ISSAQUAH	425-837-3050	\$ 37.40	\$ 43.61	\$ 43.61
CEDAR RIVER W & S	425-255-6370	\$ 37.15	\$ 37.15	\$ 42.00
SAMMAMISH PLATEAU	425-392-6256	\$ 38.25	\$ 43.60	\$ 41.19
SOOS CREEK	253-630-9900	\$ 38.20	\$ 40.40	\$40.40
RENTON	425-430-6852	\$ 36.44	\$ 39.03	\$ 39.57
COAL CREEK	425-235-9200	\$ 34.30	\$ 38.51	\$ 38.51
LAKE FOREST PARK	206-368-5440	\$ 32.07	\$ 35.58	\$ 36.66
KENT	253-856-5201	\$ 31.27	\$ 31.27	\$ 36.14
BELLEVUE	425-452-2977	\$ 36.33	\$ 35.57	\$ 35.70
SHORELINE W/W MGMT. (Ronald)	206-546-2494	\$ 44.93	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.70
NORTHSHORE	425-398-4400	\$ 33.25	\$ 34.50	\$ 35.00
AUBURN	253-931-3038	\$ 32.65	\$ 34.85	\$ 34.85
REDMOND	425-556-2152	\$ 32.59	\$ 34.79	\$ 34.79
ALGONA	253-833-2741	\$ 32.52	\$ 34.72	\$ 34.72
TUKWILA	206-433-0179	\$ 30.40	\$ 32.60	\$ 33.60
VAL-VUE SEWER DISTRICT	206-242-3236	\$ 29.40	\$ 32.60	\$ 32.60
ALDERWOOD	425-743-4605	\$ 26.78	\$ 28.92	\$ 32.21
LAKEHAVEN	253-941-1516	\$ 22.46	\$ 22.46	\$ 22.46
SW SUBURBAN	206-244-9575	\$ 13.50	\$ 17.50	\$ 19.50
MIDWAY	206-824-4960	\$ 17.00	\$ 18.00	\$ 18.00
AVERAGE		\$ 34.53	\$ 36.21	\$ 37.77