



Sewer Rate Increase Fact Sheet

The City’s sewer system is nearly 100 years old and requires annual maintenance and repairs. Those costs cannot be avoided if we are to provide a safe and reliable sewer service. The cost to maintain and operate our system is entirely borne by the users of the system through your sewer bill. The sewer rates pay for the cost of maintenance, repairs and upkeep to the pipes in the ground that allow us to take waste water to the city’s sewage treatment plant, and for the treatment process where the sewage is treated and safely discharged into the environment.

The average sewer customer will pay an additional **\$4.17 per month** with the increase.

You can reduce your sewer bill by reducing your water usage in the months of December, January and February.

Why is the City increasing your sewer rates?

- Several sewer emergencies occurred in 2017 all around the City, including maintenance of the sewer plant and the six sewer pump stations, that negatively impacted the budget.
- To maintain a reserve of at least 3 months of operations cost to provide for working capital and emergency reserves to pay for unanticipated sewer breaks and repairs to sewage pump stations and the treatment plant.
- To continue to invest in the sewer system. A portion of the upcoming projects include preventative maintenance of the sewer infrastructure. Preventative maintenance is very important - it’s like changing the oil in your car. If you don’t take time to change the oil you will have to eventually replace the engine.

Your 2018 Monthly Residential Sewer Charges Explained

Minimum charge per month.....\$15.14
(charged to all accounts, regardless of water usage)

User charge.....\$0.716/100 gal water
(operation, maintenance and replacement)
(based on winter months average water usage)





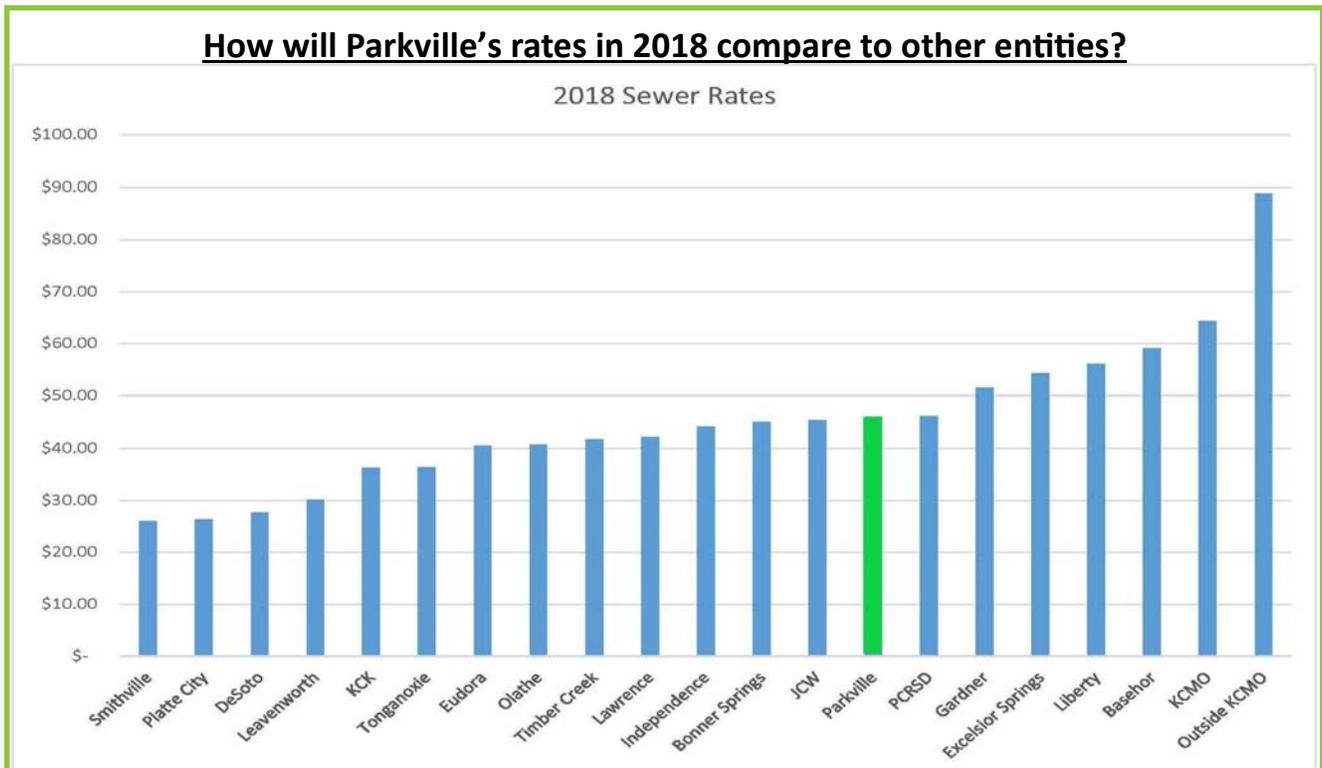
In 2017, the City raised the balance of the Sewer Fund by:

- Reducing the amount of capital improvement projects by \$50,000.
- Limiting the administrative transfer to the General Fund to only 40% of the recommended transfer.
- Increasing the connection fees for new building construction by \$500 per connection.

The average sewer bill will be \$45.92 with the 10% increase.

The 10% increase implemented in 2017 helped the City:

- Cover emergency repairs
- Provide basic preventative maintenance to the sewer system



2018 Capital Improvement Projects (\$382,000)

A portion of the upcoming sewer projects include preventative maintenance of the City's sewer infrastructure.

- S. National Pump Station: replace pumps, base elbows and rails and electrical work
- Closed-circuit televising (CCTV) of portion of 15,000 feet of sewer lines
- Downtown Manhole Reconstruction Phase 2
- Sanitary Sewer Phase 4 Repairs (from prior year CCTV)
- Wastewater Treatment Plant
 - * Headworks Screen
 - * Replace 3 RAS pumps
 - * Rebuild 2 clarifier drives
 - * Purchase new lab equipment