## Water and Wastewater Overview

## **Financial Planning**

As part of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002, the Province of Ontario requires municipal water service providers to develop or update a long-range financial plan every five years to renew municipal drinking water licenses. In addition to satisfying provincial requirements, the Water and Wastewater Long-range Financial Plan (2021-2026) helps the Municipality provide long-term financial stability, system sustainability and community safety as it relates to our water supply. The plan also informs the budgets and rate increases submitted annually for Council approval.

Although not required by the province, the Municipality proactively includes Wastewater Services in long-range financial planning to provide a more complete and accountable picture of the water and wastewater systems and to ensure more accurate forecasting.

## Summary of 2022 Proposed Water and Wastewater Rates

The following volumetric rates and basic service charges are proposed for 2022.

Table 4. Rate Change and Forecasted Residential Bill Impact

Charges	2021	2022	Change
Water volume charge \$/cubic metre	\$1.37	\$1.42	\$0.05
Water Annual Flat Rate \$/annual	\$218.82	\$227.14	\$8.32
Wastewater volume charge \$/cubic metre	\$1.42	\$1.50	\$0.07
Wastewater Annual Flat Rate \$/annual	\$242.47	\$253.72	\$11.25

The above-proposed water and wastewater rates reflect an overall expenditure increase of 9.02 and 9.86 per cent respectively to the water and wastewater operating budgets. Internal support costs, realignment of employee compensation, operating increases to utilities and studies required for asset management, and capital reserve transfers represent the largest impacts to the water and wastewater budgets.