



**Meeting Type** City Council – Regular Meeting

**Meeting Date** May 21, 2025

## Agenda Request Form City of Cape Coral

### Title

Resolution 140-25 Public Input

### Ordinances and Resolutions

#### WHAT THE RESOLUTION ACCOMPLISHES:

A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Cape Coral, Florida, amending Resolution 222-24 to increase irrigation service rates commencing October 1, 2025 and October 1, 2026. (Brought forward by City Management)

Department: Utilities

Fund: Water & Sewer Fund

**Requested Action** Approve or Deny

### Summary Explanation and Background

On October 16, 2024, the City Council approved the purchase of 1,202 acres of vacant land with a Reservoir in Charlotte County for \$38 million with a closing date of May 21, 2025, following due diligence on the property. Prior to this resolution, City staff briefed the City Council on the purchase and provided financing options. The land purchase was not included in the rate plan the City Council approved earlier in Calendar Year 2024 that went into effect October 1, 2024. This acquisition would require a rate adjustment to support the purchase. Staff recommended a change to the irrigation rate from \$9.50 to \$13.40 with changes to other irrigation rates for multi-family and non-residential.

On January 30, 2025, on the second day of the Winter Workshop, City staff provided an update on the Utilities Master Plan. The last six slides of which discussed the reservoir acquisition, the proposed rate adjustment options, and staff's recommendation. The City Council discussed the issue and, by consensus, directed staff to move forward with the irrigation adjustment which equates to the following:

Irrigation Service Rates	Current Rates	New Rates as of October 1, 2025	Adjustment
Single Family Residential and Duplex Flat Rate per month	\$ 9.50	\$ 13.40	\$ 3.90
Metered Multi-Family (3+ Units) and Non-Residential rate per thousand (1,000) gallons	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.71	\$ 0.21
Non-Metered Multi-Family (3+ Units) and Non-Residential Square Footage Charge per square foot	\$ 0.0012	\$ 0.0017	\$ 0.0005

On April 16, 2025, the City Council approved Resolution 119-25, memorializing the direction provided by City Council during the budget workshops on January 29 and January 30.

The purchase date is May 21, 2025. This rate resolution is scheduled for May 21, 2025. The City will look to issue the debt for this acquisition as well as the construction of the pump station and irrigation line from the reservoir to Gator Slough prior to the fiscal year end using these rate changes as well as existing rates for the pipes and pump station that were included in the rate plan.

On October 30, 2024, the City Council approved a reimbursement resolution relating to the acquisition of the 1,202 acres of land including a reservoir. This allows for the recoupment of any design, acquisition, and construction costs in advance of the debt issuance for the land acquisition and construction on the pump station and pipeline.

### **Strategic Plan Alignment**

Is this a Strategic Decision? YES

If No, will it harm the intent or success of the Strategic Plan? Choose an item.

If Yes, Priority Goals Supported are listed below:

- ☒ CITY SERVICES AND AMENITIES: DELIVER EXCEPTIONAL CITY SERVICES AND HIGH-QUALITY AMENITIES
- ☐ COMMUNICATION: CULTIVATE AN ENGAGED AND INFORMED COMMUNITY AND WORKFORCE
- ☐ ECONOMY, EDUCATION, AND WORKFORCE: CREATE A COMMUNITY OF PROSPEROUS RESIDENTS, THRIVING NEIGHBORHOODS, AND SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSES
- ☒ FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY: MAINTAIN A FINANCIALLY SOUND GOVERNMENT AND HIGH-PERFORMING ORGANIZATION
- ☒ INFRASTRUCTURE: INVEST IN RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE
- ☐ ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY: PRESERVE CAPE CORAL'S NATURAL RESOURCES FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS

Is this a Consultant recommendation? NO

Is this contained in a Master Plan? YES

If yes to either question, please provide details of the name of Consultant or name of the Master Plan when applicable: Utilities Master Plan

### **Recommendations**

Approve Resolution 140-25

### **Source of Additional Information**

Mark Mason, Assistant City Manager

### **Fiscal Impact/Funding Sources(s)/Budget Consideration**

The rates will be effective 10/1/2025.

Will this action result in a Budget Amendment? NO

Prepared By