

# **ATTACHMENT A**

## **PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF SEWER RENTS**

### **AND OTHER CHARGES**

#### **FOR 2025 – 2026**

TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THE FIXED CHARGES AND FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE ENTIRE SEWER SYSTEM IN THE CITY OF BUFFALO AND ALL OF THE BUFFALO SEWER AUTHORITY FACILITIES FOR THE CONVEYANCE, TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL OF SEWAGE AND STORM WATER OPERATED BY THE BUFFALO SEWER AUTHORITY.

#### **I. SEWER RENTS FOR PREMISES SITUATED WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF BUFFALO**

(a) \$29,900,000 shall be collected from all real property in the City of Buffalo (the “City”) by apportioning the said amount upon such property within the City as the same is set down on the last completed annual assessment roll of the City, except that no *ad valorem* sewer rent shall be assessed against real property exempt from real property taxes pursuant to subdivision one of section four hundred, sections four hundred four, four hundred six, four hundred twelve, four hundred eighteen, subdivision one section four hundred twenty, section four hundred forty-six, four hundred fifty-two, four hundred sixty-two and four hundred seventy-seven of the New York Real Property Tax Law.

(b) In the event a person, lot, parcel of land, building or premises, other than a City department, situated within the limits of the City, discharging sewage, water or other liquids into the Buffalo Sewer Authority (the “Authority”) sewer system, either directly or indirectly, is a user of water supplied by the Buffalo Water Board or from any other source, and the quantity of water used is measured by a water meter acceptable to the Authority, then in each such case, the quantity of water used, as measured by said meter, shall be used to determine the sewer charge or rental, and the charge for such use shall be as follows:

1. \$51.24 for 0 to 4,000 cubic feet of water used per quarter year, if the meter is read quarterly, and any water used in excess thereof shall bear a sewer charge or rental of \$11.76 per thousand cubic feet (\$.0118 per cubic foot).
2. \$ 17.08 for 0 to 1,333 cubic feet of water used per month, if the meter is read monthly, and any water used in excess thereof shall bear a sewer charge or rental of \$11.76 per thousand cubic feet (\$.0118 per cubic foot).

(c) **Residential Affordable Sewer Program.** Any person who is an occupant of residential premises, **situated within the limits of the City**, served by the **Authority sewer system** and who qualifies pursuant to the annual income limits and family size schedule set forth below, may apply to the Authority, by use of such applications, and procedures as may be established, and modified, from time to time by the General Manager. Upon certification by the General Manager that the applicant is qualified as (1) a Low Income consumer or user, such person shall be entitled to receive a credit not to exceed \$60.00 per year, or \$15.00 per quarter, or (2) a Very Low Income consumer or user, such person shall be entitled to receive a credit not to exceed \$90.00 per year, or \$22.50. Such credit shall be applied by the Authority, and shall be stated in the invoices and/or receipts issued by the Buffalo Water Board on behalf of the Authority for sewer service to such Low Income consumer or user or Very Low Income consumer or user, respectively. The annual income limits set forth below are subject to change each year, or whenever the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development announces any modification of such annual income limits, whereupon such change shall become immediately effective and applicable to the Authority and all residential consumers, without any further notice.

Residential Affordable Sewer Program Annual Income Limits		
<u>Family Size</u>	<u>Very Low Income</u>	<u>Low Income</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>\$33,950</u>	<u>\$54,250</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>\$38,800</u>	<u>\$62,000</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>\$43,650</u>	<u>\$69,750</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>\$48,450</u>	<u>\$77,500</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>\$52,350</u>	<u>\$83,700</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>\$56,250</u>	<u>\$89,900</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>\$60,100</u>	<u>\$96,100</u>
<u>8</u>	<u>\$64,000</u>	<u>\$102,300</u>
Income Limits based on Housing Urban Development (HUD) Income Limits.		

(d) **Senior Citizen Affordable Sewer Program.** Any person who owns and occupies residential property **situated within the limits of the City**, served by the **Authority sewer system**, who by virtue of his/her/their age is/are eligible for the real estate property tax exemption pursuant to Section 467 of the Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York, shall be entitled to receive a credit not to exceed \$106.00 per year, or \$26.50 per quarter. Such credit shall be applied by the Authority and shall be stated in the invoices and/or receipts issued by the Buffalo Water Board on behalf of the Authority for sewer service to such person.

II. SEWER RENTS FOR PREMISES SITUATED OUTSIDE THE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF BUFFALO

(a) An annual service charge for the privilege of connecting with the facilities of the Authority shall be due for any premises situated outside the limits of the City for each \$1,000 of assessed valuation as determined on the last completed annual assessment, the same rate of \$2.71239 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for 25-2026.

(b) In the event a person, lot, parcel of land, building or premises, other than a City department, situated outside the limits of the City, discharging sewage, water or other liquids into the Authority sewer system, either directly or indirectly, is a user of water supplied by the Buffalo Water Board or from any other source, and the quantity of water used is measured by a water meter acceptable to the Authority, then in each such case, the quantity of water used, as measured by said meter, shall be used to determine the sewer charge or rental, and the charge for such use shall be as follows:

1. \$51.24 for 0 to 4,000 cubic feet of water used per quarter year, if the meter is read quarterly, and any water used in excess thereof shall bear a sewer charge or rental of \$11.76 per thousand cubic feet (\$.0118 per cubic foot).
2. \$17.08 for 0 to 1,333 cubic feet of water used per month, if the meter is read monthly, and any water used in excess thereof shall bear a sewer charge or rental of \$11.76 per thousand cubic feet (\$.0118 per cubic foot).

III. GENERAL PROVISIONS

(a) In the event a person, lot, parcel of land, building or premises discharging sewage, water or other liquids into the Authority sewer system, either directly or indirectly, is a user of water supplied by the Buffalo Water Board, and the quantity of water used is not measured by a water meter acceptable to the Authority, then the sewer charge or rental for all such accounts shall be in the respective amounts (expressed in dollars) set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and made a part hereof, as the Authority determines applicable to such person, lot, parcel of land, building or premises.

(b) In addition to all other rentals and charges provided herein, a monthly drainage connection service charge shall be due for any and all persons, lots, parcels of land, building or premises, other than a City department, that discharge sewage, water or other liquids into the Authority sewer system, either directly or indirectly, as follows:

1. A monthly charge of \$6.37 shall be due for all lots, parcels, land, buildings or premises where the quantity of water used is not measured by a meter acceptable to the Authority.
2. A monthly charge in the amounts set forth below shall be due for all lots, parcels, land, building or premises where the quantity of water used

is measured by a meter acceptable to the Authority in accordance with the following meter size:

<b>Residential Users</b>		<b>Non-Residential Users</b>	
<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Charge (\$)</u>	<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Charge (\$)</u>
5/8 inch	6.37	5/8 inch	6.37
3/4 inch	6.37	3/4 inch	6.37
1 inch	6.37	1 inch	6.37
1 1/2 inch	6.37	1 1/2 inch	58.36
2 inch	6.37	2 inch	58.36
3 inch	58.36	3 inch	58.36
4 inch or larger	58.36	4 inch or larger	58.36

(c) In the event a person, lot, parcel of land, building or premises discharging sewage, water or other liquids into the Authority sewer system, which directly or indirectly, uses water obtained from a source other than the Buffalo Water Board, and the water so obtained is not measured by a water meter acceptable to the Authority, then, in each such case, the owner, user or other interested party shall, at his own expense, furnish, install, and maintain a water meter or other water or sewage measuring device acceptable to the Authority and the quantity of water used, as measured by said meter, or as otherwise determined, shall be used to determine the sewer charge or rental and there shall be charged an amount determined as set forth in paragraphs II(a), III(a) and III(b) as the case may be.

(d) In the event a person, lot, parcel of land, building or premises discharging sewage, water or other liquids into the Authority sewer system, either directly or indirectly, uses water in excess of 4,000 cubic feet per quarter year and it can be shown to the satisfaction of the Authority, that a portion of the water as measured by the water meter does not and cannot enter the Authority sewer system, then the Authority may determine in such manner as may be found practicable the percentage of metered water entering the Authority sewer system and the quantity of water used to determine the sewer charge or rental shall be that percentage, so determined, of the quantity of water measured by the water meter, or the Authority may require or permit the installation of additional meters or measuring devices in such a manner as to determine the quantity of water or sewage actually entering the Authority sewer system, in which case the quantity of water used to determine the sewer charge or rental shall be the quantity of water actually entering the Authority sewer system and so determined.

(e) In the event a person, lot, parcel of land, building or premises discharges sewage or other wastes into the Authority sewer system which, in the opinion of the Authority, contain unduly high concentrations or any substances which add to the operating costs of the Authority facilities, then the Authority may elect to establish and collect special rates of charge, based on the quantity of these substances, which rate of charge may be established and collected in such manner as the Authority may elect and such charge shall be paid to the Authority, or it may elect to exclude such sewage or other wastes from its facilities.

(f) As a condition of a Buffalo Discharge Elimination System Permit (BPDES), a user may be required to pay an industrial waste surcharge for discharging sewage or waste exhibiting a strength of sewage or waste greater than normal domestic sewage. The Industrial Waste Surcharge Formula reflecting the Treatment Plant unit costs for treatment of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD<sub>5</sub>) Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and Total Phosphate (TPO<sub>4</sub>) is as follows:

Surcharge = 8.34 QMGY (0.1751 (BOD<sub>5</sub>-250) + 0.2531 (TSS-250) + 0.0461 (TPO<sub>4</sub>-15.35))

\$ 0.1751 Cost/lb. for treatment of BOD<sub>5</sub>

\$ 0.2531 Cost/lb. for treatment of TSS

\$ 0.0461 Cost/lb. for treatment of TPO<sub>4</sub>

QMGY shall mean the annual total industrial and sanitary discharge - water retention.

BOD<sub>5</sub> shall mean the average concentration of BOD<sub>5</sub> in sewage or waste discharged to the Authority facilities.

TSS shall mean the average concentration of TSS in sewage or waste discharged to the Authority facilities.

TPO<sub>4</sub> shall mean the average concentration of TPO<sub>4</sub> in sewage or waste discharged to the Authority facilities.

Surchargeable concentrations are as follows:

BOD<sub>5</sub> - Over 250 mg/L; TSS - Over 250 mg/L; TPO<sub>4</sub> - Over 15.35 mg/L

This formula shall be applied in computing the Buffalo Industrial Waste Surcharge subsequent to July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 for all users that discharge sewage or waste exhibiting a strength of sewage or waste greater than normal domestic sewage. In addition, this formula with the above rates will be used to calculate all monthly, quarterly, semiannual, and annual accounts subsequent to July 1, 2025.

(g) Any person who violates the Sewer Regulations of the Authority or the conditions of the permits issued thereunder shall be subject to fines as specified in said regulations.

(h) Whenever sewage or other wastes result in conditions in the Authority sewer system as to cause blockage or a substantial reduction in the flow, charges for the work necessary to eliminate such blockage or reduction in flow may be made, based upon costs incurred by the Authority for labor, materials, equipment hire, insurances, and other overhead, against the owner of the property or premises that caused the discharge of such sewage or other wastes into the Authority sewer system.

(i) Where sewer facilities have been installed to serve improved and unimproved property and have been paid for in whole or in part by the Authority, a charge shall be made based on a proportionate share of the original cost, determined by the foot frontage

of the parcel served, or by the area of such parcels, or by such other method the Authority determines to be equitable, as a condition to a permit for a connection to the Authority's facilities.

(j) An application and inspection fee for sewer connection permits shall be paid as follows at the time said application is filed with the Authority:

<u>Tap Size</u>	<u>Fee (\$)</u>
4 inch	100.00
6 inch	200.00
8 inch	300.00
10 inch	500.00
12 inch	800.00
15 inch	1,200.00
18 inch	1,800.00
21 inch or greater	2,500.00

(k) An application fee of \$50.00 per 2,500 square feet or part thereof of soil disturbance or impervious area being drained, whichever is greater, shall be paid at time of plans and/or calculations are submitted to the Authority for site stormwater management review.

(l) An application fee of \$150.00 plus \$25.00 for every 100 linear feet or part thereof of new sanitary sewer pipe proposed shall be paid at the time that plans and/or calculations are submitted to the Authority for any facility proposing to discharge 2,500 gallons per day or more of additional sanitary and/or industrial flow than existing conditions.

(m) A review fee of \$100.00 per submission beyond the initial five rounds for any stormwater management, sanitary sewer pipe, or sewer connection permit.

(n) An application and inspection fee for sewer connection abandonments shall be paid at time of application in the amount of \$75.00 per tap to be abandoned.

(o) All persons owning or operating a pump truck or other transport vehicle and desiring to discharge wastes, directly or indirectly, into the Authority's facilities shall first secure a valid Truckers Discharge Permit after paying an annual permit fee of \$120.00. In addition to said permit fee, a separate charge shall be billed based upon the verified quantity or truck capacity, and character of the waste discharged and, if applicable, the point of discharge.

The following surcharge rates are hereby charged for such wastehaulers who are located outside the City:

DISCHARGE LOCATION	TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS	BOD <sub>5</sub>	TOTAL PHOSPHATE
Inlet/South Buffalo Pump	\$0.3300 /lb	\$0.2360 /lb.	\$0.0524 /lb.
Mixing Tank	\$0.2886 /lb	\$0.1496 /lb.	\$0.0524 /lb.
Thickener/Digester	\$0.3106 /lb	\$0.1597 /lb.	\$0.0524 /lb.

The above surcharge rates, along with costs incurred by the Authority when handling, testing, conveying, and administering each wastehauler, will be used to determine the cost per gallon of each wastestream. The wastehauler user charges for various wastestreams are as follows:

1. Septage and portable toilet wastes - The rate of \$0.06 per gallon discharged will be assigned to all permitted septage and portable toilet wastehaulers.
2. Grease trap wastes - The rate of \$0.06 per gallon discharged will be assigned to all permitted grease trap wastehaulers.
3. Sludge wastes - This rate will vary dependent on strength and volume. Sludge rates will be calculated using the parameter costs for the mixing tank location.
4. Miscellaneous Wastes - This rate will vary dependent on strength of waste, volume and discharge location.

These rates will be used for all permits effective July 1, 2025.

(p) In the event a person, lot, parcel of land, building or premises threatens to discharge or discharges sewage or waste into or near the Authority's publicly owned treatment works, either directly or indirectly, which in the opinion of the Authority will or is likely to bypass, upset, harm or endanger the facilities of the Authority, then such person or the owner or operator of such lot, parcel of land, building or premises shall pay to the Authority charges for any and all clean up, removal and remediation costs actually incurred by the Authority, including but not limited to labor, materials, equipment, insurances or laboratory services for the (i) containment or attempted containment of such discharge or threatened discharge, (ii) sampling and analysis of such discharge or threatened discharge, (iii) removal or attempted removal of such discharge or threatened discharge, (iv) taking of reasonable measures to prevent or mitigate damage to property, public health, safety or welfare, or (v) remediation, treatment, storage or disposal of such discharge or threatened discharge and all soils, water or structures affected by such discharge.

(q) All industrial users and wastehaulers shall pay to the Authority a charge for the actual costs of analysis incurred by the Authority for monitoring of any and all discharges of such users.

(r) Any person who is granted a temporary permit to discharge into the facilities of the Authority shall pay a permit fee of \$1,000.00 to the Authority as a condition of the issuance of such permit.

(s) Any person who is granted a temporary pump around permit to discharge directly to a manhole those flows which previously directly discharged to the Authority's system but which were disrupted by a pipe blockage, break or similar shall pay a permit fee of \$100.00 to the Authority as a condition of issuance of such permit.

(t) Except as otherwise defined herein, all terms and phrases used or contained in this schedule of sewer rents shall bear the same meaning and definition as set forth in the Authority's Sewer Use Regulations 21 N.Y.C.R.R. Part 10075 and New York Public Authorities Law Section 1175 *et seq.*

(u) Sewer rents and charges as herein provided shall be payable at the office of the Director of the Treasury for the City at Room 117, City Hall, Buffalo, New York 14202, or at such other location or address as may be set forth on the Authority's invoice, and shall become due and payable as follows:

1. So much of the sewer rents and charges as are based upon water use and the drainage connection service charge covering the respective premises, or such other charges as provided herein shall be due and payable, except as otherwise stated in this schedule or in such invoice, on the same day, one month following the month of the invoice billing date, and such invoice may be billed monthly, quarterly or as otherwise determined by the Authority; and
2. So much of the sewer rents and charges as are based upon the assessed valuation of chargeable real estate shall become due and payable from the first day of July 1938, and each year thereafter, and may be paid without interest on or before September 30th next succeeding.

(s) Such sewer rents and charges that remain unpaid after their respective due dates shall be charged interest, and such interest shall continue to be charged until such sewer rents and charges are paid in full, as follows:

1. Sewer rents based upon water use and drainage connection service charges shall be charged interest at the same rate as unpaid City taxes, to wit: four and one-half percent (4.5%) interest shall be added to amounts unpaid from the first through the thirtieth day after the due date, and thereafter one and one-half percent (1.5%) shall be added to all amounts that remain unpaid for each succeeding month;
2. Sewer rents based upon assessed valuation of chargeable real estate that remain unpaid on October 1 of each year shall be charged interest at the rate of two percent (2%), and such sewer rents that remain unpaid shall be charged two percent (2%) for each month thereafter until paid; and
3. All other sewer rents and charges of the Authority shall be charged interest at the rate of one and one-half percent (1.5%) per month if not paid by the due date stated on the invoice issued by the Authority.



(t) All persons and property served by the Authority shall be subject to paying reasonable costs and expenses, including attorney fees incurred in the collection of sewer rents and charges that remain unpaid, as may be determined by the Board of the Authority. In addition to any other remedy or provision hereof, the Authority reserves the right to engage in such collection activities, as it deems appropriate, for all accounts that remain unpaid after the due date. In consideration of such collection activities and to defray the cost thereof with respect to accounts based on water use and drainage connection service, the person or property served by the Authority may pay an additional charge of twenty-one percent (21%) of the amount of each such delinquent account, together with interest as provided herein, that remains unpaid for more than (i) one hundred twenty (120) days from the due date for metered accounts, and (ii) two hundred ten (210) days from the due date for non-metered flat rate accounts. Due date, as used herein, means the date that the Authority's sewer rent and other charges are due and payable pursuant to III (r) (1) and III (r) (2), herein, respectively.

(u) Invoice statements shall be mailed or delivered to the address of the owner or user, as the case may be, as such address appears on the Authority's records. Such mailing or delivery is a matter of convenience. Failure of an owner or user to receive an invoice statement shall not release such owner or user from the obligation to pay such invoice statement, together with any other charges and interest which may accrue on unpaid amounts.

(v) All invoices shall be paid in United States dollars and may be paid by cash, check, credit, debit or other electronic services at Room 117, City Hall, Buffalo, New York or such other location or address as may be provided on such invoice, by internet or by telephone as set forth on the invoice. All persons who pay through the City of Buffalo Website or by telephone shall pay any processing fees charged by the City of Buffalo. Multiple payments in the same transaction will be charged the convenience fee only once. The convenience fee will be added automatically to each transaction.

#### IV. LIEN OF SEWER RENT

From and after the due date thereof, such sewer rents and charges, together with any interest and collection costs shall constitute a lien upon the real property served by the facilities. Such lien shall have the same priority and superiority as the lien of the general tax of the City.

#### V. EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SCHEDULE

This schedule of sewer rents and other charges shall become effective July 1, 2025; provided, however, that the sewer rents and other charges herein set forth, applicable to water use, shall become effective on all billings on and after August 1, 2025, excepting only monthly metered accounts for July 2025, and Section "W" of the quarterly metered accounts for the period May, June, and July 2025, which shall be billed according to the schedule of rents in effect prior to July 1, 2025.

## VI. ADJUSTMENT OF THIS SCHEDULE

This schedule of sewer rents and other charges shall be subject to adjustment, as the Authority Board may determine, in its discretion, from time to time. Each year the Authority Board shall consider, as of July 1, any increases, but not decreases, based upon changes in the Consumer Price Index Northeast Urban - Class-size B/C, not seasonally adjusted, (hereinafter referred to as the Index) specified in Series Identification: CUURXI 00SA0LE, CUUSXI 00SA0LE, or comparable adjustment Index, as may be selected by the Authority Board. In the event of such increases, the Authority Board shall calculate the adjustment for each succeeding fiscal year, using the Index value determined as of June of the preceding fiscal year, which shall be subtracted from the Index value, determined as of June of the current fiscal year. The change in the Index value, if positive, but not negative, shall be multiplied by the stated percentage applied to all of the rates, fees and charges set forth herein. The product of such multiplication shall be used to adjust this schedule of rates fees and charges, together with such other factors as the Authority Board may determine prudent and appropriate, in the Authority Board's sole discretion, and in compliance with applicable law.

# Exhibit A

Stories High:	1	1 ½	2	2 ½	3	4	5
Under 25 ft	22.97	25.86	31.58	37.32	40.15	43.03	48.77
From 25 ft to 30 ft	25.86	31.58	37.32	40.15	43.04	48.77	54.49
From 31 ft to 35 ft	31.58	37.32	40.15	43.04	48.77	54.49	60.20
From 36 ft to 40 ft	37.32	40.15	43.04	48.77	54.49	60.20	63.07
From 41 ft to 45 ft	40.15	43.04	48.77	54.49	60.20	63.07	65.91
From 46 ft to 50 ft	43.04	48.77	54.49	60.20	63.07	65.91	71.68

The Following Rates Apply to More Than One Family Homes or Housekeeping:

1 Family	22.97
2 Families	45.93
3 Families	68.90
4 Families	91.87
5 Families	114.62
6 Families	137.79

Bathtubs & Showers      \*Bathtubs with attached showers are charged for only bathtubs

1 Bathtub	5.78
2 Bathtubs	11.58
3 Bathtubs	17.36
4 Bathtubs	23.14
5 Bathtubs	28.93
6 Bathtubs	34.71
7 Bathtubs	40.50
8 Bathtubs	46.29
9 Bathtubs	52.08

Toilets:	1 Family	2 Family	3 Family	4 Family	5 Family	6 Family
1 Toilet	11.53					
2 Toilets	20.32	23.05				
3 Toilets	29.11	30.91	34.58			
4 Toilets	37.90	40.63	43.37	46.11		
5 Toilets	46.68	49.42	52.16	54.90	57.64	
6 Toilets	55.48	58.22	60.96	63.70	66.42	69.16
7 Toilets	62.39	67.00	69.74	72.48	75.21	77.95
8 Toilets	73.06	75.80	78.54	81.28	84.01	86.75
9 Toilets	81.84	84.58	87.32	90.05	92.79	95.53
Each Additional Toilet	8.79					

Boarder or Roomer

1	4.38
2	8.77
3	13.13
4	17.52

Office with Water: 22.97

Office without Water: 11.53

Hot Water Heating Billed in November & February:

1	11.51
2	22.99
3	34.49
4	45.99
5	57.48
6	68.99
7	80.48
8	91.98

Car in Garage:

Garage w/out Water

Garage w/Water

1 Car	11.51	22.98
2 Cars	22.99	45.96
3 Cars	34.49	68.95
4 Cars	45.99	91.98
5 Cars	57.48	114.91
6 Cars	68.99	137.89
7 Cars	80.48	160.86
8 Cars	90.98	183.86