



Madison Water Utility Assessment Policy

Adam Wiederhoeft

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Water Assessment Policy



- Policy applicable to lands currently located within the corporate limits of the City of Madison or are otherwise permitted to receive City of Madison municipal water service.
- Generally used for properties benefitting from MWU financed water system improvements along previously unserved lands or upon application to establish Utility service to a previously unserved parcel.

Water Supply Facilities

- The construction, maintenance, repair and/or replacement of MWU owned water supply facilities are not assessed against benefitting properties.
- These are considered to be system wide costs shared among all ratepayers under the authority of the PSC of Wisconsin.



Mains 10-Inch in Diameter or greater.

- Typically, in residential areas, all costs of installing MWU financed new water main extensions 10-inches in diameter or less are subject to assessment levied against the benefitting properties.
- The portion of costs on such a project that are related to oversizing new water mains to accommodate system demand needs are not assessable expenses.
- When required or requested mains greater than 10-inches shall be assessable to those associated properties requesting/requiring the increased supply capacity, otherwise 10-inch equivalent costs remain assessable to all benefitting properties.



Water Main Extensions & Replacements

Typical Water System Improvement projects where benefitting properties are eligible for special assessment and or connection charges:

- MWU Financed Water Main Extensions
- Utility Contract with Future Assessments and Refunds
- Private Contracts

MWU financed Water Main Replacements and Repairs are not assessed against any benefitting properties currently or previously served by the MWU.



Service Lateral Installations

- Generally, any building in the City of Madison used for human habitation is required to connect to the public water system.
- All costs associated with the installation of new water service laterals are the responsibility of the property owner and or developer.
- The service lateral from main to and through the curb stop will be maintained at the expense of the MWU.
- The property owner shall maintain the service lateral from the outlet of the curb stop to the point of use.



Lead Services / Backyard Mains

- Upon discovery, any lead service lateral within the City must be replaced by the property owner.
- On MWU financed water replacement projects where the existing main is located in backyard easements and is being replaced with new street side main, the property owner is required to reconnect to the new street side water main.
- In both cases, the replacement service will be installed on the ROW / utility side at no cost to the property owner if the existing service lateral is properly sized.
- The property owner is responsible for the installation costs associated with the customer side replacements / relocations.
- MWU may offer programs to assist with financing the costs associated with both scenarios.



Determination of Assessment

- Assessments are typically based on the properties frontage and or its area, depending on its configuration.
- All benefitting properties are included in the assessable area / frontage determinations.
- Certain lands, such as State Highway ROW's and most Railroads are exempt from special assessment, and their portion of the cost is paid by the MWU.
- City owned properties, such as storm water management lands and park lands may not benefit from water system improvements, and the MWU will pay those portions of the overall cost.
- In some cases the MWU may request the Board of Public Works not to assess certain parcels (Agricultural / lands not benefitted)



Connection Charge Methodology



To be eligible for connection to the public water system, one of the following conditions must be met.

- The parcel has been previously assessed for system improvements.
- Past improvements benefiting the parcel were privately funded, contributed under private development, or were considered exempt from cost recovery
- Connection charges equivalent to assessable costs must be paid prior to establishing service to the parcel.



QUESTIONS?

