

COUNCIL AGENDA
NEW BUSINESS ITEM

TO: The Mayor and Members of City Council

DATE: March 20, 2009

COUNCIL

DATE: April 2, 2009

RE: Water Rates for Extreme Users

RATIONALE:

A small number of water customers disregard the shortage of water, causing Tampa Bay Water to seek ever more expensive sources of additional water. As an example, the water from the desal plant costs 3.5 times more than the water pumped out of the ground. The result is that additional water usage raises the cost of water for EVERYONE.

St. Petersburg has an inverted water rate structure so that the average household using 6,000 gallons per month pays the lowest rate of \$1.14 per thousand gallons up to 5,600 gallons. Our rate structure stop increases at 2.5 times the average use or 15,000 gallons. My proposal is to ramp up the rates for the citizens who exceed 20,000 gallons which is about 3.3 times the average user.

Current Rates - Single Family dwelling:	Per 1,000 Gallons
First 5,600 Gallons:	\$1.14
Next 2,400 Gallons:	\$1.87
Next 7,000 Gallons	\$3.17
Over 15,000 Gallons	\$4.79

Proposed rates - Single Family Dwelling:	Per 1,00 Gallons
First 5,600 Gallons:	\$1.14
Next 2,400 Gallons	\$1.87
Next 7,000 Gallons	\$3.17
Next 5,000 Gallons	\$4.79
Next 5,000 Gallons	\$6.50
Next 5,000 Gallons	\$8.50
Over 35,000 Gallons	\$10.00

ACTION DESIRED:

Respectfully requesting this item be referred to the Public Services & Infrastructure Committee and request staff to draft an ordinance to implement higher rates for customers who use larger volumes.

Karl Nurse
City Council Member

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