

SUMMARY FACT SHEET

On February 12, 2018, the Philadelphia Water Department (“Department” or “PWD”) filed a request with the Philadelphia Water, Sewer and Storm Water Rate Board (“Rate Board”) to increase water, sewer and stormwater rates and charges over three successive years beginning on September 1, 2018. The Department specifically requests an increase of approximately \$116 million in operating revenues during the period of September 1, 2018 through September 1, 2021. If the Department’s request is approved, the total monthly bill for a residential customer using 5 ccf of water per month would increase by 1.1% on September 1, 2018, by an additional 5.0% on September 1, 2019, and finally by 4.5% on September 1, 2020. Non-residential increases vary widely based on meter size, the amount of water consumed and the gross and impervious area of each parcel. A sample monthly bill for a small business customer using a 5/8 inch meter and using 6 ccf of water per month and having a 5,500 square foot lot with 4,000 square feet of impervious area will increase by 4.1% on September 1, 2018, 5.7% on September 1, 2019 and 4.8% on September 1, 2020. Examples of changes in customer bills are shown below:

Customer Type	Current Typical Monthly Bill	Proposed Monthly Bill (September 1, 2018)	Proposed Monthly Bill (September 1, 2019)	Proposed Monthly Bill (September 1, 2020)
Residential (5/8” meter, 500 cubic feet)	\$66.50	\$67.24	\$70.60	\$73.79
Senior Citizen with Discount (5/8” meter, 300 cubic feet)	\$38.54	\$39.07	\$41.11	\$43.02
Non-Residential (5/8” meter, 600 cubic feet)	\$108.48	\$112.90	\$119.29	\$125.02

The Department is requesting rate relief because it needs additional revenues to address unavoidable increases in operating costs and to continue to achieve the financial metrics necessary to maintain our financial status, in addition to ensuring current favorable bond ratings and avoiding increased borrowing costs. Absent relief, the Department’s financial results would deteriorate. This would jeopardize the Department’s ability to appropriately invest in infrastructure improvements related to water and wastewater treatment plant upgrades, clean water storage tanks, pumping stations, and water main and sewer replacements, as necessary to maintain system reliability and customer service levels.

The Department has filed the proposed new rates and charges with the Rate Board, together with written statements of witnesses and numerous schedules and exhibits containing the supporting data required by the Board’s regulations. Such documentation includes the financial, engineering and other data upon which the proposed rates and charges are based and evidence demonstrating that such rates and charges: (i) were developed in accordance with sound utility ratemaking practices; (ii) are consistent with current industry standards for such rates and charges; and (iii) are consistent with the Department’s bond covenants and other legal requirements. The proposed rates and charges and the supporting documentation may be viewed by visiting the Rate Board’s website at:

<https://beta.phila.gov/departments/water-sewer-storm-water-rate-board/>