



# 2019 Rate Changes

**2019 Residential Base Rates:**  
Water: \$30.48 (inside city)  
Sewer: \$58.41

2019 Usage Rates for Non-Residential/Commercial	
Flow Surcharge	\$0.033
<b>BOD Surcharge</b>	
Low	\$0.000
Medium	\$0.013
High	\$0.026
Very High	\$0.052

Category	BOD Strength	Types of Typical Users
Low	<300mg/L	Public Facilities, Hotel/Motel w/o Restaurant, General Retail, Office Space, Industrial w/o Process Discharge
Medium	301-600 mg/L	Hotel/Motel w/Restaurant, School w/Cafeteria, Laundromat, Nursing Home, Hospital
High	600-2,000 mg/L	Grocery Store, Bakery, Restaurant, Coffee Shop
Very High	>2,000 mg/L	Food Production, Brewery, Distillery, Cider Production, Dairy, Industrial w/Process Discharge

# Mayor's Message

This has been an exciting first year as mayor. As highlighted in this newsletter we have some achievements to be proud of in 2018.

I'd like to share with you one of the most exciting events from 2018.

The city council, city staff and I held a City of Stevenson Strategic Planning Retreat in 2018. As part of the process, we discovered we have similar goals and ambitions for Stevenson. This realization made for a much more productive session, as we could then spend time on a roadmap to achieving these goals and ambitions. Most importantly, we worked on SMART goals - Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound. It is exciting to have a roadmap for the next five years – and beyond. This allows for the City to move forward with a focused approach. Another great realization from our session is the idea human development and community development are the foundations which support economic development – NOT the other way around. This precept is evident in some of the goals we have set – workforce development; available, affordable housing and homes; a thoughtful downtown plan to revitalize and fully utilize our gem of a downtown; and a broadband plan which will enhance the availability and utilization of broadband for all citizens.

Yes, we do have the daunting tasks of planning and financing the waste water treatment plant upgrades and a new firehall.

And now we have the focus to move forward with a vision that prioritizes our citizens and our community.

I look forward to another year, and the possibilities it holds.

Scott



## Senior Citizen Discounts Available

If you are over 60 years old, and are single and have an income less than 25% of the median income for a family of four in Washington State or if you have a multi-person household and your income is less than 40% of the median income for a family of four in Washington State you may be eligible for 50% off you water and sewer base billings. Call (509-427-5970), email ([utilities@ci.stevenson.wa.us](mailto:utilities@ci.stevenson.wa.us)) or stop by City Hall for more information.

## Connected to City Sewer?

You may face charges if your downspout or sump pump is connected to city sewer.  
Call or email City Hall to avoid these charges.

509-427-5970 or [utilities@ci.stevenson.wa.us](mailto:utilities@ci.stevenson.wa.us)



## 2018 Year in Review

Happy New Year! The city has been hard at work to meet the needs of its citizens and plan for the future. Some of the accomplishments over the past year include:

- Installation of new LED streetlights throughout the city-paid for 100% by a state grant and estimated to save us over 25%, around \$5,000, per year in energy costs.
- Russell Ave. Project received Surface Transportation Program Grant funding for over 86% of the costs. The 2019 project for lower and middle Russell will include new sidewalks, utility undergrounding, repaving, cross walk bump-out and other aesthetic improvements.
- Secured funding from TIB (Transportation Improvement Board) to chipseal the streets around the Shepard Ave neighborhood
- Approved a 10-year Water System Plan
- Replaced the roof at Base Reservoir
- New SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system online which monitors and controls the water system's reservoirs, pump stations and water plant for \$60k less than budgeted
- Conducted analysis at the water treatment plant for optimization



## 2018 Year in Review (Cont.)

- Successful 2017 audit
- Updated and submitted the Critical Areas Ordinance
- Updated and submitted the Shoreline Management Program
- Held the first meeting of the Broadband Action Team
- Conducted more testing to evaluate sources and more accurately identify amounts of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) loadings at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP)
- Held a Value Planning Workshop to find alternatives to the current WWTP design
- Received a grant to analyze the feasibility of alternatives from the Value Planning workshop
- Hired new WWTP operator - Ian Lofberg
- Hired Deputy Clerk/Treasurer I Position - Mary Corey (replacing Candace Ford-retired after 22 years)
- Hired Deputy Clerk/Treasurer II Position – Kristy Arnett (replacing Carla Cosentino-retiring after 29 years)

## Strategic Plan for 2019 - 2024

The City Council also held a retreat in October to create a strategic plan for the next 5 years. The 2019 budget works to advance the plan and we will report on the status periodically to council. The goals are summarized below:

- **Wastewater Upgrades:** The city will continue working toward lifting the commercial sewer connection moratorium, building efficient, sustainable and affordable wastewater system upgrades with added BOD capacity by the end of 2021.
- **Fire Hall:** The city will partner with Skamania County Fire District 2 and the Skamania County Department of Emergency Management to build a new fire hall that meets the needs of the agencies, is affordable to the community and is a valued asset of Rock Creek Drive by the end of 2020.
- **Downtown Planning:** The downtown corridor will be thoughtfully planned to encourage utilization of the entire downtown, allow for safe and easy flow of traffic, and support mixed-use development. A traffic study will be completed by the end of 2019 and the master plan will be completed by the end of 2024.
- **Unimproved Street Plan:** The city will develop an unimproved street plan to include funding mechanisms and opportunities by the end of 2019 and begin construction on at least one project by the end of 2021.
- **Housing Affordability:** The city will work with private and public partners to increase the availability of attainable housing by 20 units, reduce the unhoused population by 20% and increase temporary shelter availability by 75% by the end of 2024.
- **Russell Ave Rebuild:** Russell Avenue will be rebuilt from the Waterfront to Vancouver Ave to underground utility lines, improve pedestrian safety and enhance the experience by installing landscaping with irrigation to include trees and planter boxes, benches and wayfinding signs and have a completed maintenance plan by the end of 2024.



## Strategic Plan for 2019 – 2024 (Cont.)

- **Aggressive Conduit Plan/Undergrounding:** The city will take charge of the visual blight associated with the power and communications lines throughout town. All new projects will include conduit for future utilities and place existing utilities underground.
- **City Owned Facilities, Rights of Way (ROW), Roads and Streets Continued Maintenance/Improvements:** The city will be a leader in aesthetic improvements and maintain facilities, property and ROW.
- **Collaborative Meetings:** Set up a meeting for twice a year with elected representatives from the Skamania PUD, Skamania County, Stevenson-Carson School District, Skamania County EMS, Port of Skamania and City Council to begin in 2019.
- **Exploring Industrial Sites:** Apply for a Community Economic Revitalization Board (CERB) grant to evaluate the feasibility of additional industrial sites away from the Waterfront by the end of 2019.
- **Broadband:** Create a strategic plan to ensure Stevenson stays on the right side of the urban-rural divide for high speed internet service.
- **Waterfront Development-**The City will work with the Port of Skamania to develop a waterfront development plan by the end of 2021.
- **City Property Security** - The city will evaluate security needs at all city facilities and begin implementing security enhancements in 2019.
- **Water System Continued Maintenance**
- **Parks Plan** Develop a park plan to include maintenance of current parks and standards by the end of 2020.
- **Improve Financial Software System** Research new software options and ways to maximize current software with a recommendation to council by the end of 2019.
- **Develop Deliberate Growth Strategy** by the end of 2020.
- **Partner with the School District on Workforce Education Development** by the end of 2021.
- **Road Diet** – Study, review and revise road standards to reduce required rights of way for street development by the end of 2020.
- **Communication Plan** – Include a communication plan for projects going forward and ensure it includes multiple medias - newspaper, website, Facebook, flyers, etc.
- **Develop Youth Leadership Process** to include honorary student councilmembers by the end of 2020.
- **Internship Program** –Annually reach out to universities and the high school regarding internship opportunities to work on projects that further the goals of the city.
- **Post Office/Home Delivery** – Work with the post office to evaluate the options for expansion of home delivery and possible relocation of the post office by the end of 2024.
- **Remodel City Hall** – Remove surplussed items by the end of 2019, reduce and organize city records by the end of 2022 to optimize the usable space for a remodel of city hall by the end of 2024.
- **Work with the Stevenson Downtown Association, Stevenson Business Association, and Skamania Economic Development Council to Create a Guide for Businesses/Outside Resources** by the end of 2021.