

# 2019 RATES AND FEES STUDY VOLUME 2 OF 2 SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT FEES

Prepared by Castle Rock Water Business Solutions

**Final Report** 

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# Table of Contents

Executive Summary	6
Methodology	6
Equity Buy-In Approach	6
Incremental Cost (Improvement) Approach	6
Combined Approach	6
Capacity Definitions	7
Equivalency Schedule	7
Table 1: Hydraulic Capacity Equivalency Ratios	8
Table 2: Calculated Meter Equivalency Ratios	9
2019 Adopted vs 2020 Proposed SDFs by Fund	9
Table 3: Water Fund 2019 Adopted vs 2020 Proposed SDFs	10
Table 4: Water Resources Fund 2019 Adopted vs 2020 Proposed SDFs	11
Table 5: Wastewater Fund 2019 Adopted vs 2020 Proposed SDFs	11
Table 6: Stormwater Fund 2019 Adopted vs 2020 Proposed Development Impact Fees	12
Proposed SDFs for 2020 Through 2024	12
Table 7: Water Fund Proposed System Development Fees 2020-2024	13
Table 8 Water Resources Fund Proposed System Development Fees 2020-2024	13
Table 9: Wastewater Fund Proposed System Development Fees 2020-2024	14
Table 10 Stormwater Fund Proposed Development Impact Fees 2020-2024	14
Study Purpose	15
System Development Fee Overview	15
Figure 1: System Development Fee Methodology	15
System Development Fees Methodology	16
Equity Buy-In Approach	16
Incremental Cost (Growth) Approach	16
Combined Approach	16
Valuation Approaches	17
Original Cost Approach	17
Book Value Approach	17
Replacement Cost New Approach	17
Replacement Cost New Less Depreciation Approach	17
Capacity Definitions for Buy-In Component	18

Multi-Purpose Project Cost Allocations	
Capacity Definitions for the Improvement Component	
Assessment Schedule Development	
Equivalency Schedules	19
Table 11 Hydraulic Meter Equivalent Ratios	20
Water System Development Fees	
Equity Buy-In Component	
Fixed Asset Valuation	20
Table 12: Water Fund RCNLD System Value by Function	22
Capacity Definition	22
Table 13: Water Fund System Component Capacities	23
Buy-In Component Calculation	23
Table 14: Water Fund Calculation of Buy-In Totals	24
Table 15: Water Fund Calculation of Buy-In Component per SFE	24
Improvement Component	
Table 16 Water Fund CIP Costs 2020-2055	25
Multi-Purpose Project Allocations	25
Table 17 Water Fund Growth-Related CIP Costs for Improvement Component	26
Capacity Definition	26
Table 18: Water Fund System Capacities for System Improvements	26
Improvement Component Calculation	27
Table 19: Water Fund Improvement Fee Component per SFE	27
Results and Proposed Water SDF for 2020	
Assessment Schedule	27
Table 20: Water Fund 2020 Proposed SDF by Meter Size	28
Water Resources System Development Fees	
Equity Buy-In Component	
Fixed Asset Valuation	28
Table 21: Water Resources Fund RCNLD System Value by Function	29
Capacity Definition	29
Table 22: Water Resources Fund System Component Capacities	30
Buy-In Component Calculation	30
Table 23: Water Resources Fund Calculation of Buy-In Totals	31

Table 24: Water Resources Fund Calculation of Water Buy-In Component per SFE	31
Improvement Component	
Table 25 Water Resources Fund CIP Costs 2020-2055	32
Multi-Purpose Project Allocations	32
Table 26: Water Resources Fund Growth-Related CIP Costs for Improvement Component	33
Capacity Definition	33
Table 27: Water Resources Fund System Capacities for System Improvements	33
Improvement Component Calculation	33
Table 28: Water Resources Fund Improvement Fee Component per SFE	34
Results and Proposed Water Resources SDF for 2020	
Assessment Schedule	34
Table 29: Water Resources Fund Proposed SDF by Meter Size	35
Wastewater System Development Fees	
Equity Buy-In Component	
Fixed Asset Valuation	35
Table 30: Wastewater Fund RCNLD System Value by Function	36
Capacity Definition	36
Table 31: Wastewater Fund System Component Capacities	37
Buy-In Component Calculation	38
Table 32: Wastewater Fund Calculation of Buy-In Totals	38
Table 33: Wastewater Fund Calculation of Water Buy-In Component per SFE	39
Treatment Fee Component	
Table 34: Wastewater Fund Treatment Fee per SFE	39
Improvement Component	
Table 35: Wastewater Fund CIP Costs 2020-2055	40
Multi-Purpose Project Allocations	40
Table 36: Wastewater Fund Growth-Related CIP Costs for Improvement Component	40
Capacity Definition	40
Table 37: Wastewater Fund System Capacities for System Improvements	41
Improvement Component Calculation	41
Table 38: Wastewater Fund Improvement Fee Component per SFE	41
Results and Proposed Wastewater SDF for 2020	
Assessment Schedule	42

Table 39: Wastewater Fund Proposed SDF by Meter Size	
Stormwater Development Impact Fees	
Stormwater Development Impact Fee Data	
Table 40: Stormwater Fund Capital Improvement Cost Allocations	43
Table 41: Stormwater Fund Acreage to be developed	44
Table 42: Stormwater Fund Percentage of Imperviousness by Acre	44
Stormwater Development Impact Fee Equation	
Steps to Calculate the Stormwater Fee	45
Step 1: Proportionate Share of Capital Costs	45
Table 43: Stormwater Fund Allocation Factor of Capital Costs	
Table 44: Stormwater Fund Capital Cost by Class	
Step 2: Capital Costs per Acre	46
Table 45: Stormwater Fund Capital Cost per Acre	47
Step 3: Stormwater DIF per Unit	47
Table 46 Stormwater Fund number of Units per Acre	
Table 47: Stormwater Fund DIF per Unit	
Summary	
Recommended SDFs for 2020-2024	
Recommendations	49
Appendix A	
List of Acronyms	
Appendix B	51
Definitions	51
Appendix C	
Stantec Consulting Services Inc. Study Review Letter	

# **Executive Summary**

On an annual basis, Castle Rock Water (CRW) conducts a comprehensive rates and fees study for the water, water resources, wastewater, and stormwater funds. The purpose of this study is to provide the Town with a comprehensive and updated review of System Development Fees (SDFs) and the underlying assumptions used to calculate the 2020-2024 fees.

For the third year in a row, CRW contracted with Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. to provide oversight and guidance with the study. Stantec was chosen based on the company's knowledge and experience in the industry and the ability to provide industry best practices. They have reviewed our models and reports and provided their recommendations for the study.

# Methodology

For calculating SDFs, there are two commonly accepted methodologies. They are the equity buy-in approach and the incremental cost (or improvement) approach. A third approach acknowledged by the American Water Works Association (AWWA) and the Water Environment Federation (WEF) is the combined or hybrid approach. The hybrid method is used to calculate CRW's water, water resources and wastewater SDFs.

For stormwater, the incremental cost approach is used to identify additional capacity needed to serve growth. It is assumed that CRW's existing infrastructure and replacements are specifically serving existing developments and capital improvements are needed to provide runoff capacity for new customers.

## **Equity Buy-In Approach**

The equity buy-in approach is most appropriate in situations where new customers can be served by the existing system. Under this method, new customers pay a proportionate share of the value of the existing infrastructure. AWWA recommends the equity method within systems that have adequate capacity to serve both existing and future customers without major system expansions.

## **Incremental Cost (Improvement) Approach**

The incremental cost approach is most appropriate when the existing system is at or near its maximum capacity and when new customers are not being served without significant investment in infrastructure. Under the incremental cost approach, new customers pay a proportionate share of the expansion related costs of the new infrastructure.

# **Combined Approach**

The combined approach often is the most appropriate approach because new customers tend to use capacity available in the existing infrastructure (buy-in) as well as new capacity that the utility must build in order to accommodate growth and the additional units to be served

(incremental cost). This method best conforms to "growth pays for growth" policies, which is also the Town's policy. The SDF is calculated using capital improvement plans (CIPs) developed in CRW's master planning process.

With the combined approach, the equity buy-in method and incremental cost method are essentially combined so that new customers of the utility pay for their share of the existing system equity as well as their share of the capacity expansion costs. The equity portion of the connection fee is called the buy-in component and the incremental cost portion of the fee is referred to as the improvement component.

The combined approach as follows for water, water resources and wastewater SDFs complies with the criteria for impact fees required in the Colorado Revised Statutes (CRS) 29-20-104.5. This statute requires that SDFs and impact fees are as follows:

- Legislatively adopted
- Applied to a broad class of property
- Recover the costs imposed by proposed development

The incremental cost approach for the stormwater development impact fees also complies with CRS 29-20-104.5.

## **Capacity Definitions**

Defining capacity in both the existing infrastructure and new capital improvements is a critical step in determining SDFs. Moreover, defining capacity required by a single-family equivalent user is required for each of the SDFs and the stormwater development impact fee. For CRW, the following assumptions on capacity definitions apply:

- 1. A single-family equivalent (SFE) is a measure of the amount of water/wastewater flow required to meet potential demand of a single-family detached residence.
- 2. For the water and water resources systems, one SFE is assumed to require 400 gallons per day (gpd).
- 3. For the wastewater systems, one SFE is assumed to require 220 gpd of flow capacity.
- 4. For stormwater capacity, one SFE equals 3,255 square feet (sq. ft.) of impervious area.

## **Equivalency Schedule**

Out of the various available equivalency schedules, CRW chooses two different schedules to look at in order to establish its rates and fees. The first is the hydraulic capacity method which is based on the relative capacity of different meter sizes and meter types utilized to deliver water. These can also be based on the relative potential demands of different customers. Based on the characteristic hydraulic demands, a single family meter size of <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" is designated as the base for one SFE. The maximum flow rate or water through the meter in gallons per minute (gpm) becomes the unit of comparison. The maximum flow rate demanded by new customers is compared to the base demand in order to determine the equivalency ratio. For example, if the

base single family residential customer requires 30 gpm and a commercial customer requires 200 gpm, the equivalency ratio equals 6.67 (200/30=6.67). These are shown in Table 1 below.

The second method is the actual use equivalency schedule, which is based on the relative average monthly water usage of CRW's customers. Average monthly use per account by meter size was calculated using a 2016 to 2018 three-year average of monthly consumption data from the customer characteristics analysis, which was obtained from the core billing system. The average usage of a single family residential meter size is designated as the base. The average usage of larger meter sizes is divided by the base usage to calculate equivalency ratios. Estimating existing demands on CRW's systems determines remaining capacity to serve new customers, therefore, the actual use equivalency schedule is what was used to calculate existing SFEs for the water, water resources and wastewater SDFs. These ratios are shown in Table 2 below.

Table 1Hydraulic Capacity Equivalency Ratios			
Meter Size Equivalent Meter Rat			
5/8" x ¾"	0.67		
3/"	1.00		
1"	1.67		
1.5"	3.33		
2" C2	6.67		
2" T2	8.33		
3" C2	16.67		
3" T2	21.67		
4" C2	33.33		
4" T2	41.67		
6" C2	66.67		
6" T2	83.33		

Table 2 Calculated Meter Equivalency Ratios				
Meter Size	Equivalent Meter Ratios			
5/8" x ¾"	0.76			
3/4"	1.00			
1"	4.06			
1.5"	9.30			
2" C2	9.93			
2" T2	29.12			
3" C2	17.26			
3" T2	42.52			
4" C2	66.96			
4" T2	78.55			
6" C2	97.10			

# 2019 Adopted vs 2020 Proposed SDFs by Fund

Castle Rock Water's 2019 adopted versus proposed SDFs for 2020 are listed below in Tables 3 through 6. For water, water resources and wastewater the primary drivers of the SDF calculations include:

- Changes in net fixed asset value and construction work in progress.
- Updated capacity in existing and future facilities.
- Growth in SFEs.
- Updated capital improvement plans.
- Included the capital cost and capacity increase of Phase 2 treatment plant expansion at Plum Creek Water Reclamation Authority (PCWRA)

Stormwater development impact fees are assessed based on impervious area by development type. The costs for stormwater capital improvements for new development are proportioned across the planned developments by type:

- Single Family Detached
- Single Family Attached
- Multifamily
- Commercial (Retail/Office)

The stormwater fees are also split for properties located within the Cherry Creek Basin and the Plum Creek Basin.

Updates to the stormwater fees calculations include:

- Decrease in the number of developable acres by land use type.
- Updated costs for the stormwater capital improvement plan.

Single family and multifamily development impact fees are per dwelling unit. Units for commercial (retail/office) development are per 1,000 square feet of building space.

Table 3 Water Fund 2019 Adopted vs 2020 Proposed SDFs				
Meter Size	2019 Adopted SDFs	2020 Proposed SDFs		
5/8" x ¾"	\$2,383	\$2,455		
3/4"	\$3,557	\$3,664		
1"	\$5,940	\$6,119		
1.5"	\$11,845	\$12,201		
2" C2	\$23,725	\$24,439		
2" T2	\$29,630	\$30,521		
3" C2	\$59,295	\$61,079		
3" T2	\$77,080	\$79,399		
4" C2	\$118,555	\$122,121		
4" T2	\$148,220	\$152,679		
6" C2	\$237,145	\$244,279		
6" T2	\$296,405	\$305,321		

Table 4 Water Resources Fund 2019 Adopted vs 2020 Proposed SDFs				
Meter Size	2019 Adopted SDFs	2020 Proposed SDFs		
5/8" x ¾"	\$11,411	\$11,810		
3⁄4"	\$17,031	\$17,623		
1"	\$28,442	\$29,437		
1.5"	\$56,713	\$58,698		
2" C2	\$113,597	\$117,573		
2" T2	\$141,868	\$146,833		
3" C2	\$283,907	\$293,844		
3" T2	\$369,062	\$381,979		
4" C2	\$567,643	\$587,511		
4" T2	\$709,682	\$734,521		
6" C2	\$1,135,457	\$1,175,198		
6" T2	\$1,419,193	\$1,468,865		

Table 5 Wastewater Fund 2019 Adopted vs 2020 Proposed SDFs				
Meter Size	2019 Adopted SDFs	2020 Proposed SDFs		
5/8" x ¾"	\$2,695	\$2,695		
3⁄4"	\$4,023	\$4,023		
1"	\$6,718	\$6,718		
1.5"	\$13,397	\$13,397		
2" C2	\$26,833	\$26,833		
2" T2	\$33,512	\$33,512		
3" C2	\$67,063	\$67,063		
3" T2	\$87,178	\$87,178		
4" C2	\$134,087	\$134,087		
4" T2	\$167,638	\$167,638		
6" C2	\$268,213	\$268,213		
6" T2	\$335,237	\$335,237		

Table 6 Stormwater Fund 2019 Adopted vs 2020 Proposed Development Impact Fees				
Plum Creek Basin	2019 Adopted DIFs	2020 Proposed DIFs		
Single Family Detached	\$1,317	\$1,357		
Single Family Attached	\$880	\$906		
Multifamily	\$798	\$822		
Commercial (Retail/Office) per 1,000 sq. ft.	\$594	\$612		
Cherry Creek Basin	2019 Adopted DIFs	2020 Proposed DIFs		
Single Family Detached	\$843	\$868		
Single Family Attached	\$563	\$580		
Multifamily	\$511	\$526		
Commercial (Retail/Office) per 1,000 sq. ft.	\$380	\$391		

# Proposed SDFs for 2020 Through 2024

CRW reviews the SDFs each year and adjusts based on the updated CIP and fixed asset costs. As new projects are added to serve growth and as projects are completed the SDF is adjusted accordingly. Costs for capital improvements are maintained at 2019 dollars. In order to maintain SDF revenues to match increases in capital costs over time, the SDFs and development impact fees are escalated for the study period 2020-2024, using 2020 as the base year and escalating at an average of 3.13% per year beginning in 2021 for wastewater and based on an equal increase in the other funds matching the increase from 2019 to 2020. The escalation represents future costs escalation expectations based on the average Engineering News Record (ENR) index using the Construction Cost Index (CCI) from first quarter 2019. Tables 7 through 10 show the projected system development fees for 2020 through 2024.

Table 7 Water Fund Proposed System Development Fees 2020-2024					
Meter Size	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024
5/8" x ¾"	\$2,455	\$2,532	\$2,611	\$2,693	\$2,777
3⁄4"	\$3,664	\$3,779	\$3,897	\$4,019	\$4,145
1"	\$6,119	\$6,311	\$6,508	\$6,712	\$6,922
1.5"	\$12,201	\$12,583	\$12,977	\$13,383	\$13,802
2" C2	\$24,439	\$25,204	\$25,993	\$26,806	\$27,645
2" T2	\$30,521	\$31,476	\$32,462	\$33,478	\$34,525
3" C2	\$61,079	\$62,991	\$64,962	\$66,996	\$69,093
3" T2	\$79,399	\$81,884	\$84,447	\$87,090	\$89,816
4" C2	\$122,121	\$125,943	\$129,885	\$133,951	\$138,143
4" T2	\$152,679	\$157,458	\$162,386	\$167,469	\$172,711
6" C2	\$244,279	\$251,925	\$259,810	\$267,942	\$276,329
6" T2	\$305,321	\$314,878	\$324,733	\$334,897	\$345,380

Table 8 Water Resources Fund Proposed System Development Fees 2020-2024					
Meter Size	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024
5/8" x ¾"	\$11,810	\$12,180	\$12,561	\$12,954	\$13,360
3⁄4"	\$17,623	\$18,175	\$18,743	\$19,330	\$19,935
1"	\$29,437	\$30,359	\$31,309	\$32,289	\$33,300
1.5"	\$58,698	\$60,535	\$62,430	\$64,384	\$66,399
2" C2	\$117,573	\$121,253	\$125,048	\$128,962	\$132,999
2" T2	\$146,833	\$151,429	\$156,169	\$161,057	\$166,098
3" C2	\$293,844	\$303,041	\$312,526	\$322,308	\$332,397
3" T2	\$381,979	\$393,935	\$406,265	\$418,981	\$432,096
4" C2	\$587,511	\$605,900	\$624,864	\$644,422	\$664,593
4" T2	\$734,521	\$757,511	\$781,221	\$805,674	\$830,891
6" C2	\$1,175,198	\$1,211,982	\$1,249,917	\$1,289,039	\$1,329,386
6" T2	\$1,468,865	\$1,514,840	\$1,562,255	\$1,611,153	\$1,661,582

Table 9 Wastewater Fund Proposed System Development Fees 2020-2024					
Meter Size	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024
5/8" x ¾"	\$2,695	\$2,779	\$2,866	\$2,956	\$3,049
3/4"	\$4,023	\$4,149	\$4,279	\$4,413	\$4,551
1"	\$6,718	\$6,928	\$7,145	\$7,369	\$7,599
1.5"	\$13,397	\$13,816	\$14,249	\$14,695	\$15,155
2" C2	\$26,833	\$27,673	\$28,539	\$29,432	\$30,354
2" T2	\$33,512	\$34,561	\$35,643	\$36,758	\$37,909
3" C2	\$67,063	\$69,162	\$71,327	\$73,559	\$75,862
3" T2	\$87,178	\$89,907	\$92,721	\$95,623	\$98,616
4" C2	\$134,087	\$138,284	\$142,612	\$147,076	\$151,679
4" T2	\$167,638	\$172,885	\$178,296	\$183,877	\$189,632
6" C2	\$268,213	\$276,608	\$285,266	\$294,195	\$303,403
6" T2	\$335,237	\$345,730	\$356,551	\$367,711	\$379,221

Table 10 Stormwater Fund Proposed Development Impact Fees 2020-2024					
Plum Creek Basin	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024
Single Family Detached	\$1,357	\$1,399	\$1,443	\$1,488	\$1,535
Single Family Attached	\$906	\$934	\$964	\$994	\$1,025
Multifamily	\$822	\$848	\$874	\$902	\$930
Commercial (Retail/Office)	\$612	\$631	\$651	\$671	\$692
Cherry Creek Basin	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024
Single Family Detached	\$868	\$895	\$923	\$952	\$982
Single Family Attached	\$580	\$598	\$617	\$636	\$656
Multifamily	\$526	\$542	\$559	\$577	\$595
Commercial (Retail/Office)	\$391	\$403	\$416	\$429	\$442

# **Study Purpose**

The purpose of the water, water resources and wastewater system development fees and stormwater development impact fee study update is to provide CRW with a thorough review of its SDFs and the underlying assumptions. The intent is to update assumptions from prior years and provide updated fees for 2020-2024.

# **System Development Fee Overview**

The term system development fee (SDF) is used interchangeably with other similar terms in the water and wastewater utility industry to describe any fee or charge that recovers capital costs associated with system growth. Also known as tap fees, impact fees, system investment charges, plant investment fees and other terms; these fees are designed to recover the capital costs of growth from those causing the growth to occur, rather than from the utility's existing customer base. Figure 1 below details the combined SDF methodology.



When properly designed, an SDF should be a one-time charge to new connections to the system that recovers the utility's investment to provide capacity to new growth, either as a capital improvement or an infrastructure expansion. At any given moment, a utility will have a certain amount of capacity in its system that is available to serve new customers while at the same time, it will have plans for new capital improvements and/or facilities expansions to serve anticipated growth in demand. To the extent that the system has available capacity, it can be said that the utility has already made an investment in new capital improvements and/or facilities expansions whose cost remains unrecovered.

Without recovering investments in new capital improvements/facilities expansion, the utility would effectively be subsidizing growth at the expense of existing rate payers. For this reason, both existing and proposed investments in capacity are examined in calculating SDFs. The

rational nexus for such fees is always the unrecovered investment in available capacity, whether that capacity is existing or proposed.

In charging new customers for both past and new investments in capacity, the SDF, like other such fees, promotes a concept in utility rate making called intergenerational equity. The term intergenerational equity means that existing customers do not subsidize new customers and vice versa. In many communities this is often referred to as "growth pays for growth." SDFs can be designed to avoid the subsidization of new growth. If such a policy is desired by a community, the SDF can include two components: a buy-in component for past investments in system capacity that remains available to serve the new connections and an improvement component for planned future investments to make additional capacity available to serve new customers. Deficiency remediation or in-kind replacement in the existing system should not be included in the fee calculations.

# System Development Fees Methodology

There are a number of ways to calculate SDFs. The American Water Works Association (AWWA) describes two methodologies for calculation of such fees, called the equity buy-in approach and the incremental cost approach. The AWWA also acknowledges that a hybrid of both approaches may be most appropriate which is referred to as the combined method.

# **Equity Buy-In Approach**

The equity buy-in method is most appropriate in situations where new customers can be served by the existing system. Under this method, new customers pay a proportionate share of the value of the existing facilities. The buy-in method determines the value of the existing system assets and divides it by the current total single family equivalents (SFEs) that can be served by the system. The result is one SDF per SFE. The AWWA recommends that the buy-in approach is best employed within systems that have adequate capacity to serve both existing and future customers without major system expansions and where existing facilities are not scheduled for replacement and/or upgrades in the short term.

# Incremental Cost (Growth) Approach

The incremental cost method is most appropriate when the existing system is at or near its maximum capacity and new customers cannot be accommodated without significant investment in facilities. Under the incremental cost method new customers pay a proportionate share of the expansion related costs of the new facilities. The system investment charge is calculated using capital improvement programs (CIPs) maintained by staff. Total CIP dollars for growth are divided by total new SFEs able to be served to calculate the system investment charge per SFE.

# **Combined Approach**

The combined approach can be the most appropriate method because new customers tend to use capacity available in the existing facilities (buy-in) as well as new capacity that the utility

must build in order to accommodate growth and the additional units or service (incremental cost). This method best conforms to "growth pays for growth" policies. To calculate the combined SDF per SFE, a weighted average of the fee calculated under the buy-in method and the fee calculated under the incremental cost is computed. This is the approach used for this study.

# **Valuation Approaches**

The first step in developing the SDF under the equity buy-in method is to calculate the amount of existing system equity. Equity, as defined by generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), is equal to total assets minus total liabilities of the system. However, because the accounting convention typically depreciates the system's long-term assets (i.e. utility plant in service) under various depreciation techniques and because those techniques sometimes have little bearing on the actual condition or value of the utility's assets, questions arise as to what is a fair valuation of the system's existing assets.

Several approaches exist to estimate the value of the utility's assets.

# **Original Cost Approach**

The original cost approach is taken straight from the utility's asset records. The original cost is that price paid for the asset at the time it was acquired and placed into service. The original cost is not adjusted for inflation or market revaluation.

## **Book Value Approach**

The book value approach is also a direct descendant of the asset record. Book value is the value of the asset that remains once it has been adjusted for depreciation. Accumulated depreciation is deducted from the original cost of the asset to determine its book value as reported on the utility's balance sheet.

## **Replacement Cost New Approach**

The replacement cost new approach (RCN) revalues the original cost of the assets at today's value, this taking into account inflation and market forces. To calculate the replacement cost of assets, the construction cost index (CCI) and, where applicable, the building cost index (BCI) provided by the Engineering News Record (ENR) database may be used instead of more exhaustive engineering studies. These indices are commonly used within the industry to restate the value of existing assets in current dollars. To use the CCI index, divide the current year index value by the index value for the year the particular asset was placed into service.

#### **Replacement Cost New Less Depreciation Approach**

The last method used is the replacement cost new less deprecation approach, or RCNLD. Under the RCNLD method, the replacement cost, calculated as described above, is adjusted for accumulated depreciation. The accumulated depreciation used in the RCNLD method is not the same amount as that used in the net book value method described earlier. Instead, accumulated depreciation is expressed as a percentage of net book value such that the percentage of remaining asset value under RCNLD is equivalent to the percentage of remaining asset value as reported under the net book value method. This approach is used for the Town's study to reflect the value of the existing assets in today's dollars while acknowledging the depreciation that has occurred in the system.

# **Capacity Definitions for Buy-In Component**

In the buy-in method, the next step is to define the capacity in the existing system. Typically, this is represented in million gallons per day (mgd) or similar measure. The capacity is then converted into the number of SFEs that can be served by the existing system. SFEs are defined based on the utility's policies. Total SFEs that can be served by the existing system less current SFEs actually using the system equals the capacity available for growth or new SFEs.

For purposes of this study, the existing users in the system were updated by utility staff to reflect changes in requirements in the existing system. Please see the individual sections for the assumptions used in this year's study.

# **Multi-Purpose Project Cost Allocations**

When calculating the improvement component of the SDF, the first step is to review the CIP and allocate the project costs between growth and non-growth.

A portion of any utilities capital improvement is planned for replacements and betterments to the existing utility plant. Capital improvements that benefit existing customers are not considered necessary for construction or expansion of facilities to serve new customers, and therefore are not properly included in the improvement portion of the SDF. To separate those improvements required for system growth and those that benefit only the existing utility customers, the utility has to allocate its CIP into growth-related portions.

# **Capacity Definitions for the Improvement Component**

Unlike the calculation of existing SFEs for the buy-in portion, the improvement component focuses only on new utility connections. In order to project new utility connections, it is necessary for the utility to make an engineering assessment to determine the new capacity available to the system once the growth-related CIP projects are placed into service.

For purposes of this report, new SFEs able to be served by the growth-related CIP are based on Master Plan assumptions of capacity requirements per SFE and capacities of individual projects.

# **Assessment Schedule Development**

SDFs are normally assessed based on the number of equivalent units a new customer represents. An equivalent unit equates different hydraulic demands, often represented by different sizes and types of meters, to a common denominator. For this study the common denominator is rated maximum flow of 30 gpm. Other demands calculated for new customers are used to calculate the appropriate number of SFEs by dividing those demands by the 30 gpm.

An assessment schedule based on this calculation of SFEs is used for this study. CRW may adjust its approach to match a particular meter size with a known hydraulic capacity. For this study, the assessment schedules for water, water resources and wastewater SDFs are presented for a set of meter sizes and types that are based on maximum manufacturer rated flow for those particular meters. Any different assumptions on hydraulic capacity will change the calculated SDF.

# **Equivalency Schedules**

Equivalency schedules are used to determine the number of SFEs represented by different meter sizes. Equivalency schedules are used for several purposes, such as for calculating SDFs and monthly service charges by meter size. This section defines the equivalency schedules used in this study. Equivalency schedules are established to determine the water, water resources, and wastewater SDFs a new connection must pay, based on their representative SFE requirement for new capacity.

# **Schedule for SFEs**

Water meters are sized to deliver a maximum amount of water. Therefore, the water meter hydraulic capacity reflects the potential demands a customer may place on the system. The actual use equivalency is calculated based on the average use per account by meter size for 2016-2018 three year average of monthly consumption data. The calculation of existing SFEs for assessing SDFs for this study is based on the ratio of the actual use equivalency. The capacity required by a new connection is determined by a fixture count for residential connections and engineering calculations for commercial and irrigation connections.

Review of fixture counts for the typical single-family residential property indicates that the hydraulic capacity required is, on average, 30 gallons per minute (gpm) for a <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" meter size. Since 2010 it has been determined that one SFE equals 30 gpm of maximum flow. The hydraulic equivalency method is used to determine the new SDF amounts per meter size and is presented in Table 11 below.

	Table 11Hydraulic Meter Equivalency Ratios			
Meter Size	Equivalent Meter Ratios			
5/8" x ¾"	0.67			
3/4"	1.00			
1"	1.67			
1.5"	3.33			
2" C2	6.67			
2" T2	8.33			
3" C2	16.67			
3" T2	21.67			
4" C2	33.33			
4" T2	41.67			
6" C2	66.67			
6" T2	83.33			

# Water System Development Fees

This section outlines the steps and assumptions used to calculate the water SDFs using the combined approach, which was described above.

# **Equity Buy-In Component**

The buy-in component is based on the equity buy-in approach and requires three steps:

- 1. Fixed Asset Valuation
- 2. Capacity Definition
- 3. Assessment Schedule Development

## **Fixed Asset Valuation**

The value of the water fixed assets is based on an estimate of RCNLD, including construction work in progress for the current year that have capacity remaining to serve new customers. An estimate of the value of assets contributed by developers was excluded from the SDF calculation. In addition, the value was adjusted by the amount of principal on outstanding debt.

Existing debt will be repaid through rates and therefore is ineligible for repayment with water system development fees.

CRW's system is designed to meet the needs of its customers and provide safe and reliable water service throughout its service area. The system consists of individual components that serve a specific function. The model uses 11 different functions that each asset is assigned to. These include:

- 1. Source of supply
- 2. Treatment
- 3. Pumping
- 4. Transmission
- 5. Distribution
- 6. Storage
- 7. Buildings/Improvements
- 8. Administration
- 9. Tools/Equipment
- 10. Exclude from SDF
- 11. Meters/Services

Table 12 summarizes the asset values attributed to each function. Based on the analysis, the total value of the water system assets including construction work in progress for SDF purposes in fiscal year ending 2018 is \$264.6 million. Many assets used in the distribution system are typically contributed by developers and thus excluded from the calculation of the buy-in component. To explicitly show the value of the excluded assets, the value of assets assigned to this function that is estimated to be contributed by developers was reassigned to the Exclude from SDF function. Of the total RCNLD value, \$158.3 million is excluded from the SDF. The water system value, net of outstanding debt, used to calculate the buy-in component of SDFs is \$106.3 million.

Table 12Water FundRCNLD System Value by Function		
Function	RCNLD	
Source of Supply	\$47,397,067	
Treatment	\$19,043,009	
Pumping	\$3,660,005	
Transmission	\$7,350,852	
Distribution	\$12,220,234	
Storage	\$12,713,803	
Buildings/Improvements	\$3,553,338	
Administration	\$171,448	
Tools/Equipment	\$217,650	
Exclude from SDF	\$158,273,121	
Meters/Services	\$17,273	
Total	\$264,617,801	

#### **Capacity Definition**

The next step in determining the buy-in component is to define the system capacity. Under this approach the capacity is based on the unused capacity of the system for each function identified above. This data is provided by CRW engineers.

Table 13 lists the current capacities of each water system function. It also presents an estimate of the total capacity in the existing system and the unused capacity in the existing system that is available for growth. The assumption in this table is that one SFE requires 400 gallons of water per day for source of supply, treatment and storage on an average day basis and 540 gallons of water per day for pumping, transmission and distribution. Building capacities are based off of total square footage. Capacity in SFEs includes assumptions of peaking factors provided by the Engineering Manager and Public Works Design Guidelines. Peak day requirements are 2.2 times the average requirements of 400 gpd. Peak hour requirements are 5.5 times the average of 540 gpd. Used capacity is calculated by taking the actual max day for supply, treatment and storage and peak hour for pumping, transmission and distribution and calculating the used SFEs using the same peaking factors. Unused capacity is the projected total available capacity minus the used capacity.

Table 13   Water Fund   System Component Capacities						
Function	Capacities	Unit	Projected SFEs Available	Used Capacity (SFEs)	Unused Capacity (SFES)	Remaining Capacity
Source of Supply	16.83	MGD	19,125	19,051	74	0.39%
Treatment	21.61	MGD	24,557	19,051	5,506	22.42%
Pumping	45.86	MGD	15,441	15,005	436	2.83%
Transmission	81.96	MGD	27,596	15,005	12,591	45.63%
Distribution	81.96	MGD	30,951	15,005	15,946	51.52%
Storage	36.10	MG	41,023	19,051	21,972	53.56%
Buildings/Improvements	48,218	SQ FT	37,436	26,567	10,869	29.03%
Administration	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	0.00%
Tools/Equipment	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	0.00%
Exclude from SDF	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	0.00%
Meters/Services	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	0.00%

## **Buy-In Component Calculation**

The total costs to be recovered from the buy-in component of the water SDF are based on the percentage of remaining capacities by function calculated in Table 13 and the total system asset values shown in Table 14. Table 15 represents the total buy-in amount by function. The total amount attributable to the buy-in component is \$22.0 million. Table 15 also calculates the buy-in component per SFE at \$1,415.

It is important to note that each of the two components of the water SDF assumes a weighted average of the system capacities by function. To calculate the buy-in component, the dollars by function were divided by the sum of the capacities of the existing system and capital improvements. The purpose of weighting the cost by the sum of capacities available is to calculate the combined fee. A new customer pays for one unit of capacity, rather than one unit of existing capacity and one unit of new capacity, hence the weighted average calculation.

Table 14 Water Fund Calculation of Buy-In Totals				
Function	System Value RCNLD	Remaining Capacity	Cost of Available Capacity RCNLD	
Source of Supply	\$47,397,067	0.39%	\$183,055	
Treatment	\$19,043,009	22.42%	\$4,269,476	
Pumping	\$3,660,005	2.83%	\$103,432	
Transmission	\$7,350,852	45.63%	\$3,353,996	
Distribution	\$12,220,234	51.52%	\$6,296,028	
Storage	\$12,713,803	53.56%	\$6,809,457	
Buildings/Improvements	\$3,553,338	29.03%	\$1,031,683	
Administration	\$171,448	0.00%	\$0	
Tools/Equipment	\$217,650	0.00%	\$0	
Exclude from SDF	\$158,273,121	0.00%	\$0	
Meters/Services	\$17,273	0.00%	\$0	
Total	\$264,617,801		\$22,047,127	

Table 15 Water Fund Calculation of Buy-In Component per SFE				
Cost of Available   Total Capacity     Function   Capacity RCNLD   Available (SFEs)   Buy-In per SFE				
Source of Supply	\$183,055	9,574	\$19	
Treatment	\$4,269,476	5,506	\$775	
Pumping	\$103,432	10,595	\$10	
Transmission	\$3,353,996	44,032	\$76	
Distribution	\$6,296,028	25,270	\$249	
Storage	\$6,809,457	29,358	\$232	
Buildings/Improvements	\$1,031,683	19,308	\$53	
Total	\$22,047,127	143,642	\$1,415	

# **Improvement Component**

The improvement component is based on CRW's updated CIP for the 2019 study. The total CIP from 2020 through 2055 for the water fund is approximately \$221.5 million as shown in Table 16.

Table 16 Water Fund CIP Costs 2020-2055		
Function	CIP Costs 2020-2055	
Source of Supply	\$27,000,000	
Treatment	\$0	
Pumping	\$4,600,000	
Transmission	\$17,461,000	
Distribution	\$2,478,000	
Storage	\$9,850,000	
Buildings/Improvements	\$1,741,344	
Administration	\$0	
Tools/Equipment	\$0	
Exclude from SDF	\$158,374,000	
Total	\$221,504,344	

To calculate an improvement component based on the incremental cost approach, the following three tasks must be completed:

- 1. Multi-Purpose Project Allocations
- 2. Capacity Definitions
- 3. Assessment Schedule Development

#### **Multi-Purpose Project Allocations**

Allocating the costs of multi-purpose projects is an integral part of calculating an improvement fee. A multi-purpose project is an improvement that will serve both growth and address existing needs. Few projects are designed and built exclusively to serve growth or solve an existing deficiency. Rather, projects are designed to maximize economies of scale in design and construction. Therefore, projects serving both growth and rehabilitation/upgrade (i.e., multi-purpose projects) are allocated to growth and non-growth.

In some cases, two or more capital projects are part of an improvement of a particular system function. To avoid potential double-counting of added capacities, all projects were first assigned to functions and then grouped into a project group. Table 17 shows the results of determining only the growth-related costs of the CIP after this project allocation step. Out of the \$221.5 million CIP, \$60.5 million is included in the improvement component calculation.

Table 17 Water Fund Growth-Related CIP Costs for Improvement Component		
Function	Cost of New Capacity	
Source of Supply	\$27,000,000	
Pumping	\$3,424,408	
Transmission	\$17,461,000	
Distribution	\$2,244,253	
Storage	\$9,850,000	
Buildings/Improvements	\$505,585	
Exclude from SDF	\$0	
Total	\$60,485,245	

#### **Capacity Definition**

Table 18 summarizes the system capacities added for growth-related CIP projects by function. It also represents the estimated number of SFEs available for growth by function.

Table 18 Water Fund System Capacities for System Improvements				
Function	New Capacities Added	Unit	Added SFEs	
Source of Supply	8.36	MGD	9,500	
Pumping	30.17	MGD	10,158	
Transmission	93.38	MGD	31,441	
Distribution	27.69	MGD	9,323	
Storage	6.50	MG	7,386	
Buildings/Improvements	10,869.34	SFE	8,439	

#### **Improvement Component Calculation**

The improvement component is calculated based on the cost of the growth-related capital projects and the total available capacities estimated by these processes. As with the buy-in fee component, the additional capacities have been calculated by summing the capacities from the existing system and the capital improvements by function. Table 19 summarizes the improvement component by system function. Based on the CIP developed by CRW in 2019, the improvement component per SFE is \$3,990.

Table 19 Water Fund Improvement Fee Component per SFE			
Function	Cost of New Capacity	Total Capacity Available (SFEs)	Improvement per SFE
Source of Supply	\$27,000,000	9,574	\$2,820
Treatment	\$0	5,506	\$0
Pumping	\$3,424,408	10,595	\$323
Transmission	\$17,461,000	44,032	\$397
Distribution	\$2,244,253	25,270	\$89
Storage	\$9,850,000	29,358	\$336
Buildings/Improvements	\$505,585	19,308	\$26
Total	\$60,485,245	143,642	\$3,990

# **Results and Proposed Water SDF for 2020**

As shown in Tables 15 and 19, the total buy-in and improvement components are calculated to be \$1,433 and \$3,758 per SFE respectively, for a total water SDF of \$5,191 per SFE for 2020, which is a 45.9% increase from 2019. CRW plans to propose to take a 3% increase in 2020 which equals a \$107 increase for a total SDF of \$3,664.

#### **Assessment Schedule**

The final step in calculating the SDF for both the buy-in component and the improvement component is to determine the schedule of fees by meter size using hydraulic equivalencies as presented in Table 1. Table 20 represents the existing and proposed schedule of SDFs including both components by meter size.

	Table 20 Water Fund 2020 Proposed SDF by Meter Size				
Meter Size	Adopted 2019 SDF	Proposed 2020 SDF			
5/8" x ¾"	\$2,383	\$2,455			
<sup>3</sup> /4"	\$3,557	\$3,664			
1"	\$5,940	\$6,119			
1.5"	\$11,845	\$12,201			
2" C2	\$23,725	\$24,439			
2" T2	\$29,630	\$30,521			
3" C2	\$59,295	\$61,079			
3" T2	\$77,080	\$79,399			
4" C2	\$118,555	\$122,121			
4" T2	\$148,220	\$152,679			
6" C2	\$237,145	\$244,279			
6" T2	\$296,405	\$305,321			

# Water Resources System Development Fees

This section outlines the steps and assumptions used to calculate the water resources SDFs using the combined approach, which was described above in the water fund sections.

# **Equity Buy-In Component**

The buy-in component is based on the equity buy-in approach and requires the same three steps as described above in the water system development fees section.

## **Fixed Asset Valuation**

The fixed assets for water resources is based on the same calculation as the water system development fees above, including the same 10 functions. Table 21 summarizes the asset values attributed to each function. Based on the analysis, the total value of the water resources system assets including construction work in progress for SDF purposes in fiscal year ending 2018 is \$195.1 million. Assets used in the system that are contributed are excluded from the buy-in calculation. The value of assets to be contributed by developers was assigned to the Exclude from SDF function. Of the total RCNLD value, \$59.8 million is excluded from the SDF calculation. For the buy-in component, the RCNLD value is approximately \$135.2 million.

Table 21Water Resources FundRCNLD System Value by Function		
Function	RCNLD	
Source of Supply	\$49,363,752	
Treatment	\$36,659,036	
Pumping	\$0	
Transmission	\$1,750,579	
Distribution	\$111,190	
Storage	\$45,328,103	
Buildings/Improvements	\$1,353,149	
Administration	\$673,274	
Exclude from SDF	\$59,834,393	
Total	\$195,073,502	

## **Capacity Definition**

The next step is to define system capacity based on the same functions used for fixed assets. Table 22 lists the current capacities of each water resources system function. It also presents an estimate of the capacity in the existing system that is available for growth. One assumption used in the table is that one SFE requires 400 gallons of water per day on an average day basis. The peak day factor used is 2.2 and was derived by CRW's Engineering Manager and Public Works Design Guidelines. These numbers are both true for source of supply, treatment, pumping and transmission capacities. The amount of storage required per SFE is 0.45 acre feet per day, which is derived from the Town's Public Works Design Guidelines. Storage capacity is represented as acre feet (AF) in the table.

Using the assumptions and the capacities for each function summarized in Table 22, the number of SFEs that can be served by each function is calculated. Subtracting the number of SFEs currently served by the utility generates the number of SFEs available for growth. A fundamental assumption regarding the SFEs currently served and the SFEs available for growth is that the original allocation of these components was to existing customers and future customers based on an assumption that these components would ultimately serve 105,000 people. At the present time, 67 percent of the SFEs that can be served (approximately 70,000 people) are existing users and 33 percent are new users. This assumption was established in the initial water resources SDF study and is still valid based on the capacity calculations for projects that were completed and were in the original water resources program. CRW determined its renewable water resources program was to be allocated based on the proportion of the then-existing SFEs to the expected SFEs in 2055 and that this ratio would carry forward

into the future for those completed projects as the existing to future customers shifted. Projects that have not been completed but are part of the original water resources program are allocated in the same manner under the improvement component of the SDF.

Table 22 Water Resources Fund System Component Capacities						
Function	Capacities	Unit	Projected SFEs Available	Used Capacity (SFEs)	Unused Capacity (SFES)	Remaining Capacity
Source of Supply	4.10	MGD	4,648	3,098	1,549	33.3%
Treatment	6.00	MGD	6,818	4,545	2,273	33.3%
Transmission	14.60	MGD	16,591	11,061	5,530	33.3%
Storage	8,701	AF	19,336	12,890	6,445	33.3%
Buildings/Improvements	48,218	SQFT	37,436	26,567	10,869	29.0%

In order to assess SDFs, the number of SFEs a new customer represents is determined by an assessment of that customer's potential capacity needs using the hydraulic equivalencies identified in Table 1.

## **Buy-In Component Calculation**

The total costs to be recovered from the buy-in component of the water resources SDF are based on the percentage of remaining capacities by function calculated in Table 22 and the total system asset values shown in Table 23. Table 24 represents the total buy-in amount by function. The total amount attributable to the buy-in component is \$44.8 million. Table 24 calculates the buy-in component per SFE for each of the functions. The total capacity number in Table 24 is the sum of existing and new capacities which is used for purposes of weighing the buy-in and improvement components in the calculations. The total buy-in component per SFE is \$3,142.

Table 23 Water Resources Fund Calculation of Buy-In Totals			
Function	System Value RCNLD	Remaining Capacity	Cost of Available Capacity RCNLD
Source of Supply	\$49,363,752	33.3%	\$16,454,584
Treatment	\$36,659,036	33.3%	\$12,219,679
Pumping	\$0	0.0%	\$0
Transmission	\$1,750,579	33.3%	\$583,526
Distribution	\$111,190	0.0%	\$0
Storage	\$45,328,103	33.3%	\$15,109,377
Buildings/Improvements	\$1,353,149	29.0%	\$392,876
Administration	\$673,274	0.0%	\$0
Exclude from SDF	\$59,834,393	0.0%	\$0
Total	\$195,073,502		\$44,760,041

Table 24 Water Resources Fund Calculation of Buy-In Component per SFE			
Function	Cost of Available Capacity RCNLD	Total Capacity Available (SFEs)	Buy-In per SFE
Source of Supply	\$16,454,584	11,954	\$1,376
Treatment	\$12,219,679	76,607	\$160
Pumping	\$0	4,767	\$0
Transmission	\$583,526	25,623	\$23
Storage	\$15,109,377	9,668	\$1,563
Buildings/Improvements	\$392,876	19,308	\$20
Total	\$44,760,041		\$3,142

# **Improvement Component**

The improvement component is based on the updated water resources CIP from the updated planning process in 2019 and the review of renewable water supply projects. The total CIP from 2020-2055 is approximately \$470.7 million as shown in Table 25.

Table 25 Water Resources Fund CIP Costs 2020-2055		
Function	CIP Costs 2020-2055	
Source of Supply	\$173,889,399	
Treatment	\$133,086,021	
Pumping	\$33,339,960	
Transmission	\$93,235,832	
Storage	\$36,339,094	
Buildings/Improvements	\$779,017	
Total	\$470,669,323	

To calculate an improvement component based on the incremental cost approach, the following three tasks must be completed:

- 1. Multi-Purpose Project Allocations
- 2. Capacity Definitions
- 3. Assessment Schedule Development

## **Multi-Purpose Project Allocations**

Similar to the water system, the water resources capital improvement projects were first assigned to functions and then grouped into project groups. Table 26 shows the result of determining only the growth-related costs of the CIP after this project allocation step. Out of the \$470.7 million CIP, \$259.6 million is included in the improvement component calculation. For projects that were part of the original water resources program the split between existing and future customers is the same as it is for the buy in component. For projects that are new and are structured to serve a population beyond 105,000, the full cost is allocated to the improvement component of the SDF.

Table 26 Water Resources Fund Growth-Related CIP Costs for Improvement Component		
Function Cost of New Capacity		
Source of Supply	\$149,114,870	
Treatment	\$65,554,825	
Pumping	\$6,406,145	
Transmission	\$27,879,467	
Storage	\$10,445,047	
Buildings/Improvements	\$175,607	
Total	\$259,575,961	

#### **Capacity Definition**

Table 27 summarizes the system capacities added for growth-related CIP projects by function. It also represents the estimated number of SFEs available for growth by function.

Table 27 Water Resources Fund System Capacities for System Improvements		
Function	Added SFEs	
Source of Supply	10,405	
Treatment	74,334	
Pumping	4,767	
Transmission	20,092	
Storage	3,222	
Buildings/Improvements	8,439	
Total	121,259	

#### **Improvement Component Calculation**

The improvement component is calculated based on the cost of the growth-related capital projects and the total available capacities estimated for these processes, both existing and new. Table 28 summarizes the water resources system improvement component by system function. Based on the CIP, the improvement component per SFE is \$16,851.

Table 28 Water Resources Fund Improvement Fee Component per SFE			
Function	Cost of New Capacity	Total Capacity Available (SFEs)	Improvement per SFE
Source of Supply	\$149,114,870	11,954	\$12,474
Treatment	\$65,554,825	76,607	\$856
Pumping	\$6,406,145	4,767	\$1,344
Transmission	\$27,879,467	25,623	\$1,088
Storage	\$10,445,047	9,668	\$1,080
Buildings/Improvements	\$175,607	19,308	\$9
Total	\$259,575,961		\$16,851

# **Results and Proposed Water Resources SDF for 2020**

As shown in Tables 24 and 28, the total buy-in and improvement components are calculated to be \$3,142 and \$16,851 per SFE respectively, for a total water resources SDF of \$19,993 per SFE for 2020, which CRW plans on taking equally over a 5 year period with an annual increase of \$592 or 3.5%. This equates to a new fee of \$17,623 for 2020.

#### **Assessment Schedule**

The buy-in component and the improvement component portion of the proposed SDF is based on meter size using the hydraulic equivalencies identified in Table 1.

Table 29 represents the existing and proposed schedule of SDFs by meter size. A 3.5% change in the water resources SDF is proposed for 2020.

Table 29 Water Resources Fund Proposed SDF by Meter Size			
Meter Size	Adopted 2019 SDF	Proposed 2020 SDF	
5/8" x ¾"	\$11,411	\$11,810	
3/4"	\$17,031	\$17,623	
1"	\$28,442	\$29,437	
1.5"	\$56,713	\$58,698	
2" C2	\$113,597	\$117,573	
2" T2	\$141,868	\$146,833	
3" C2	\$283,907	\$293,844	
3" T2	\$369,062	\$381,979	
4" C2	\$567,643	\$587,511	
4" T2	\$709,682	\$734,521	
6" C2	\$1,135,457	\$1,175,198	
6" T2	\$1,419,193	\$1,468,865	

# **Wastewater System Development Fees**

This section outlines the steps and assumptions used to calculate the wastewater SDFs using the combined approach, which was described previously.

# **Equity Buy-In Component**

The buy-in component is based on the equity buy-in approach and requires the same three steps as described above in the water system development fees section.

#### **Fixed Asset Valuation**

The fixed assets for wastewater are based on the same calculation as the water system development fees above.

The wastewater system is designed to collect wastewater from its customers and provide safe and reliable wastewater service throughout its service area. It is Plum Creek Water Reclamation Authority's (PCWRA's) responsibility to treat the wastewater for CRW. CRW's wastewater system includes individual components that serve 8 specific functions. To estimate the value of assets related to each function, the RCNLD value of each asset is allocated to one or more of these functions, typically referred to in wastewater systems as unit processes. However, note that the PCWRA Treatment Plant component is handled separately. In this step to calculate the buy-in component for the wastewater component, assets considered under the Treatment Plant unit process are CRW's share of cash-funded improvements at the Treatment Plant. The wastewater unit processes are:

- 1. Collection System
- 2. Interceptor System
- 3. Treatment Plant
- 4. Lift Station
- 5. Buildings/Improvements
- 6. Administration
- 7. Tools/Equipment
- 8. Exclude from SDF

Table 30 summarizes the asset values attributed to each unit process. The total value of the wastewater system assets including construction work in progress for SDF purposes in fiscal year ending 2018 is \$101.5 million. Many assets used in the collection system are typically contributed by developers and thus included in the exclude from SDF section of the buy-in component. Of the total RCNLD value, the majority or \$74.5 million is excluded from the SDF. For establishing a buy-in SDF, the Town's wastewater system, net of outstanding debt is valued at approximately \$27.0 million.

Table 30 Wastewater Fund RCNLD System Value by Function		
Unit Process	RCNLD	
Collection System	\$17,244,017	
Interceptor System	\$5,520,047	
Treatment Plant	\$12,677	
Lift Station	\$2,072,829	
Buildings/Improvements	\$2,019,627	
Administration	\$73,807	
Tools/ Equipment	\$94,546	
Exclude from SDF	\$74,456,473	
Total	\$101,494,022	

# **Capacity Definition**

The next step is to define system capacity based on the same functions used for fixed assets. Table 31 lists the current capacities of each wastewater system function, excluding PCWRA's treatment component. This table also represents an estimate of the capacity in the existing system that is available for growth. The interceptor system capacity required per SFE is approximately 220 gallons per day on a wet-weather peak capacity basis. This value is derived from CRW's master plan and the aggregate gpd peaking factor of 2.1 for interceptors. Using these assumptions and the capacities for each function summarized in Table 31, the number of SFEs that can be served by each unit process is calculated. Subtracting the number of SFEs currently served generates the number of SFEs available for growth. A description of how the number of SFEs currently served by the wastewater system is estimated is shown below.

Table 31 Wastewater Fund System Component Capacities						
Image: Second systemImage: Second systemUnusedUnusedUnit ProcessCapacitiesUnitAvailable(SFEs)(SFES)Capacity						
Interceptor System	8.8	MGD	19,071	17,143	1,929	10.11%
Treatment Plant	4.6	MGD	20,714	18,091	2,623	12.66%
Lift Station	11.55	MGD	10,504	2,691	7,813	74.38%
Buildings/Improvements	48,218	SFE	37,436	26,567	10,869	29.03%

The number of SFEs currently using the wastewater system is based on different approaches depending on the system component.

The currently used capacity for the Interceptor System and Lift Station components are determined based on actual flow data obtained from CRW's Engineering Manager.

The capacities have been reviewed for the wastewater system to ensure that the values used are appropriate.

- 1. The collection system capacity is set at 0 since these are contributed assets and have no available capacity to absorb additional growth.
- 2. The interceptor system is split between the two primary interceptors that receive wastewater from the collection system and convey it to the water reclamation facility for treatment. The Plum Creek Interceptor conveys approximately two-thirds of the wastewater generated by the Town for treatment. This interceptor serves all parts of Town in the Plum Creek basin except for the Meadows. Capacity is a function of pipe diameter, pipe material and slope of the pipe, and this interceptor capacity is rated at 6.23 mgd based on the critical reach in this pipeline. The Meadows Interceptor conveys approximately one-third of the wastewater generated by the Town for treatment. This interceptor capacity is rated at 2.58 mgd based on the critical reach in this pipeline.

- 3. Lift station capacity is the sum of all the individual lift station capacities and is collectively rated at 11.55 mgd. Used capacity reflects the sum of maximum daily flows observed in the lift stations.
- 4. Treatment system capacity is based on the Town's capacity in the PCWRA and the Pinery. PCWRA is rated for 4.6 mgd. The Town will add an additional 3.00 mgd of capacity to meet growth demands thru the plant expansion in 2019. CRW will add an additional capacity through the phase II plant expansion in 2040.

#### **Buy-In Component Calculation**

The total costs to be recovered from the buy-in component of the wastewater SDF are based on the percentage of remaining capacities by functions calculated in Table 32 and the total system asset values shown in Table 32. Table 33 represents the total buy-in amount by function. The total amount attributable to the buy-in component is \$2.7 million. Table 33 calculates the buy-in component per SFE for each of the functions. The total buy-in component per SFE is \$228.

Table 32 Wastewater Fund Calculation of Buy-In Totals			
Unit Process	System Value RCNLD	Remaining Capacity	Cost of Available Capacity RCNLD
Collection System	\$17,244,017	0.00%	\$0
Interceptor System	\$5,520,047	10.11%	\$558,207
Treatment Plant	\$12,677	12.66%	\$1,605
Lift Station	\$2,072,829	74.38%	\$1,541,794
Buildings/Improvements	\$2,019,627	29.03%	\$586,382
Administration	\$73,807	0.00%	\$0
Tools/ Equipment	\$94,546	0.00%	\$0
Exclude from SDF	\$74,456,473	0.00%	\$0
Total	\$101,494,022		\$2,687,988

Table 33 Wastewater Fund Calculation of Buy-In Component per SFE			
Unit Process	Cost of Available Capacity RCNLD	Total Capacity Available (SFEs)	Buy-In per SFE
Collection System	\$0	13,182	\$0
Interceptor System	\$558,207	73,963	\$8
Treatment Plant	\$1,605	0	\$0
Lift Station	\$1,541,794	7,813	\$197
Buildings/Improvements	\$586,382	24,869	\$24
Total	\$2,687,988		\$228

### **Treatment Fee Component**

Part of the existing wastewater system serving CRW's customers is the treatment process and associated assets provided by PCWRA. The calculation of the treatment fee component was updated in 2018 to reflect all debt issues obtained by PCWRA for treatment plant improvements, costs associated with the cash payment for Ditch Number 3 and the two PCWRA capacity expansions and Ditch 3 at PCWRA. Table 34 represents the calculation and shows the total principal on debt for the treatment plant expansions. Capacity for new customers allows for approximately 26,392 SFEs. By dividing the cost of expansion-related capacity by 26,392 SFEs, the treatment fee component calculates to be \$3,732 per SFE.

	Table 34 Wastewater Fund Treatment Fee per SFE				
Unit Process	Cost of PCWRA Treatment Plant	Growth Percentage	Growth Portion of Treatment Cost	Added SFEs	Treatment Component per SFE
Treatment Component	\$101,516,795	97.03%	\$98,497,900	26,392	\$3,732

# Improvement Component

The improvement component is based on the updated CIP from an engineering review in 2019. The total CIP through 2055 is approximately \$164.6 million as shown in Table 35.

Table 35 Wastewater Fund CIP Costs 2020-2055		
Unit Process	CIP Costs 2020-2055	
Collection System	\$845,000	
Interceptor System	\$6,699,950	
Treatment Plant	\$35,069,973	
Buildings / Improvements	\$729,853	
Exclude from SDF	\$121,230,898	
Total	\$164,575,674	

To calculate an improvement component based on the incremental cost approach the same steps are taken as in water and water resources and are shown below.

#### **Multi-Purpose Project Allocations**

Similar to the water system, only growth-related portions of projects can be included in the calculation. Projects were allocated serving both growth and rehabilitation/upgrade (i.e., multipurpose projects) as either growth or non-growth. Out of \$164.6 million of capital improvements, only \$2.9 million is included in the improvement component calculation. The treatment plant CIP costs of \$35.1 million are included in the Treatment fee component calculation in Table 36 rather than the improvement fee component.

Table 36Wastewater FundGrowth-Related CIP Costs for Improvement Component		
Unit Process Cost of New Capacity		
Collection System	\$510,521	
Interceptor System	\$2,228,676	
Buildings / Improvements	\$164,524	
Total	\$2,903,721	

#### **Capacity Definition**

Table 37 summarizes the system capacities added by function. It also represents the estimated number of SFEs available for growth by unit process.

Table 37 Wastewater Fund System Capacities for System Improvements			
Unit Process	New Capacities Added	Units	Added SFEs
Collection System	2.90	MGD	13,182
Interceptor System	33.28	MGD	72,035
Treatment Plant	2.50	MGD	5,286
Lift Station	0.00	MGD	0
Buildings / Improvements	10,869	SQFT	14,000
Total			104,898

#### **Improvement Component Calculation**

The improvement component is calculated based on the cost of the growth related capital projects and the total available capacities estimated for these processes. Table 38 summarizes the wastewater system improvement component by system unit process. Based on the CIP, the improvement component per SFE is \$75.

Table 38 Wastewater Fund Improvement Fee Component per SFE			
Cost of NewTotal CapacityImprovement perUnit ProcessCapacityAvailable (SFEs)SFE			
Collection System	\$510,521	13,182	\$39
Interceptor System	\$2,228,676	73,963	\$30
Lift Station	\$0	7,813	\$0
Buildings / Improvements	\$164,524	24,869	\$7
Total	\$2,903,721	119,827	\$75

# **Results and Proposed Wastewater SDF for 2020**

As shown in Tables 33, 34 and 38, the total buy-in, treatment and improvement components are calculated to be \$228, \$3,732 and \$75 per SFE respectively, for a total wastewater SDF of \$4,036 per SFE for 2020.CRW plans to keep the SDF for 2020 the same as it was in 2019, which is \$4,023. Increases are anticipated in the SDF in 2021 and beyond.

### Assessment Schedule

As with the buy-in component, the improvement component portion of the proposed SDF is based on meter size using the hydraulic equivalencies in Table 1. Table 39 represents the existing and proposed schedule of SDFs by meter size using the hydraulic equivalencies.

	Table 39 Wastewater Fund Proposed SDF by Meter Si	ze
Meter Size	Adopted 2019 SDF	Proposed 2020 SDF
5/8" x ¾"	\$2,695	\$2,695
<sup>3</sup> /4"	\$4,023	\$4,023
1"	\$6,718	\$6,718
1.5"	\$13,397	\$13,397
2" C2	\$26,833	\$26,833
2" T2	\$33,512	\$33,512
3" C2	\$67,063	\$67,063
3" T2	\$87,178	\$87,178
4" C2	\$134,087	\$134,087
4" T2	\$167,638	\$167,638
6" C2	\$268,213	\$268,213
6" T2	\$335,237	\$335,237

# **Stormwater Development Impact Fees**

Stormwater development impact fees (DIFs) were developed differently than the previous SDFs. The nature of stormwater improvements is such that with existing system improvements it is difficult to identify remaining capacity to serve growth; therefore, the incremental or improvement cost method was applied in the analysis. Additional capacity to serve growth also varies by drainage basin in CRW's service area. Values are presented for both Cherry Creek Basin and Plum Creek Basin.

The assessment of stormwater DIFs also differs from the other funds. Stormwater flow is based on runoff and impervious area; therefore assessment of stormwater DIFs is based on assumptions of runoff characteristics for different development types, i.e., single family detached, single family attached, multifamily, and commercial.

# **Stormwater Development Impact Fee Data**

Four data elements are essential to calculating stormwater DIFs following the incremental cost methodology:

- 1. Capital Improvement Program (CIP)
- 2. Developable acres
- 3. Percent imperviousness by acre
- 4. Units per acre

The most recent assumptions of capital projects from the stormwater planning process in 2019 are used in this analysis. These improvements are divided among non-growth related, growth related and developer's contribution costs. The value of improvements included in the stormwater DIF is \$42.8 million and is represented in Table 40.

Table 40 Stormwater Fund Capital Improvement Cost Allocations			
Item	CIP Costs 2020-2055		
Total Non-Growth Related Cost	\$43,261,150		
Total Growth Related Improvement Costs	\$42,789,417		
Developer's Contribution	\$19,979,305		
Total Capital Improvement Costs	\$106,029,872		
Growth Related Improvement Costs			
Total Cherry Creek Basin	\$9,621,798		
Total Plum Creek Basin	\$33,167,618		
Total Growth Related Improvement Costs	\$42,789,417		

Acres available to be developed by land use type were reduced to reflect construction anticipated through 2019. Table 41 represents developable acreage by land use type.

Table 41   Stormwater Fund   Acreage to be Developed			
Land Use Type	Cherry Creek Basin	Plum Creek Basin	
Single Family Detached	838	2,091	
Single Family Attached	18	47	
Multifamily	254	995	
Commercial (Retail/Office)	252	1,166	
Open Spaces	460	1,601	
Total	1,824	5,900	

Imperviousness percentages by land use type were based on the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District (UDFCD) Criteria Manual. For single family residential detached units, the percent imperviousness was determined based on the following assumptions:

- Density of 3 units per acre
- Typical two-story homes
- Average home size of 2,100 square feet (sq. ft.)

Using these assumptions and Figure RO-5 from the UDFCD Criteria Manual, single family residential detached percentage imperviousness was estimated to be 33 percent.

Table 42   Stormwater Fund   Percentage of Imperviousness by Acre				
Land Use Type	Cherry Creek Basin	Plum Creek Basin		
Single Family Detached	33%	33%		
Single Family Attached	75%	75%		
Multifamily	80%	80%		
Commercial (Retail/Office)	80%	80%		
Open Spaces	2%	2%		

Units per acre are needed to determine the actual stormwater DIF per unit. Single family detached, single family attached and multifamily DIFs are assessed per dwelling unit, whereas commercial and industrial DIFs are assessed per 1,000 sq. ft. of building space. The units per acre were obtained from:

• Single family residential detached density of 3 units per acre from the water design criteria section of the Town of Castle Rock-public Works Regulations-February 12,1999

- Actual density in the Town as of July 2010 for single family residential attached (townhomes) and multifamily land use types
- Average Floor Area Ratio (FAR) for office space in Castle Rock from the Douglas County Community Planning and Sustainable Development Department for commercial/industrial land use. FAR is defined as a measure of development density. It is calculated as the building square footage divided by the building lot square footage.

# **Stormwater Development Impact Fee Equation**

The equation below represents the calculation of stormwater DIFs:

 $C = \underline{[(DA*IMP)/TIA]*CIP}$ 

DA

 $\mathsf{DIF} = \mathsf{C}/\mathsf{U}$ 

Where:

C = Stormwater Capital Cost per Acre

DIF = Stormwater Development Impact Fee per Unit

DA = Developable Acres

IMP = Percent Imperviousness

TIA = Total Impervious Acres

CIP = Growth-Related Capital Improvement Plan Costs

U = Units per Acre

### **Steps to Calculate the Stormwater Fee**

#### **Step 1: Proportionate Share of Capital Costs**

The first step in the fee calculation is to determine each land use type's proportionate share of capital costs. Developable acres by land use type and percent imperviousness are used to estimate the impervious acreage by land use type. The cost of stormwater improvements for new development is then apportioned across land use types by the percentage share of total impervious are of development. Tables 43 and 44 demonstrate the allocation of capital costs across land use types.

Table 43   Stormwater Fund   Allocation Factor of Capital Costs						
	Impervious Acreage		Proportionate Share			
Land Use Type	Cherry Creek Basin	Plum Creek Basin	Cherry Creek Basin	Plum Creek Basin		
Single Family Detached	277	690	39.25%	27.76%		
Single Family Attached	14	35	1.97%	1.42%		
Multifamily	203	796	28.83%	32.02%		
Commercial (Retail/Office)	202	932	28.65%	37.51%		
Open Spaces	9	32	1.31%	1.29%		
Total	705	2,486	100.00%	100.00%		

Table 44 Stormwater Fund Capital Cost by Class					
Land Use Type	Cherry Creek Basin	Plum Creek Basin			
Single Family Detached	\$3,776,555	\$9,207,057			
Single Family Attached	\$189,100	\$470,425			
Multifamily	\$2,773,783	\$10,621,072			
Commercial (Retail/Office)	\$2,756,697	\$12,441,830			
Open Spaces	\$125,663	\$427,235			
Total	\$9,621,798	\$33,167,618			

#### Step 2: Capital Costs per Acre

The next step in the fee calculation is to calculate the capital cost per acre by land use type. The allocated costs by land use type are divided by the developable acres for this step. Table 45 shows the result of this step.

Table 45 Stormwater Fund Capital Cost per Acre					
Land Use Type	Cherry Creek Basin	Plum Creek Basin			
Single Family Detached	\$4,505	\$4,403			
Single Family Attached	\$10,238	\$10,007			
Multifamily	\$10,920	\$10,674			
Commercial (Retail/Office)	\$10,920	\$10,674			
Open Spaces	\$273	\$267			

#### Step 3: Stormwater DIF per Unit

The last step in the fee calculation is to calculate the stormwater development impact fee per unit of development. A unit is defined as a residential dwelling unit or 1,000 sq. ft. of retail/office/industrial development. The capital cost per acre for each land use type is presented in Table 48. The dollar amounts allocated to each land use type are divided by the number of units per acre to determine the fee per unit for each development type.

Single family detached and single family attached units per acre are 3 and 10, respectively. Multifamily development in the Town average 12 units per acre. For commercial/industrial development, the FAR from the Douglas County database shows that one acre of development has an average FAR of 0.37. This average FAR was verified with the projected non-residential development data from the Town's Development Services Department. Applying the average FAR is the most conservative approach to minimizing the overall increases to the stormwater development impact fees.

By multiplying one acre (43,560 square feet) by the FAR of 0.37, the result is 16,117 sq. ft. for each commercial/industrial building. The development impact fee for commercial and industrial development is based on each 1,000 sq. ft. of building space; therefore, the number of units per acre for commercial/industrial development is 16.1. Dividing the capital cost per acre for each land use type by the number of units per acre results in the stormwater development impact fee per unit.

Table 46 shows the units per acre assumed for each land use type. Table 47 presents the recommended DIF per unit by land use type. CRW recommends increasing the DIFs in 2020 by 3% for each basin. This results in an increase in the Cherry Creek basin of \$25 and an increase of \$40 for the Plum Creek basin.

Table 46   Stormwater Fund   Number of Units per Acre					
Land Use Type	Cherry Creek Basin	Plum Creek Basin			
Single Family Detached	3	3			
Single Family Attached	10	10			
Multifamily	12	12			
Commercial (Retail/Office)	16,117	16,117			

Table 47 Stormwater Fund DIF per Unit					
Land Use Type	Cherry Creek Basin	Plum Creek Basin			
Single Family Detached	\$868	\$1,357			
Single Family Attached	\$580	\$906			
Multifamily	\$526	\$822			
Commercial (Retail/Office)	\$391	\$612			

# Summary

The purpose of this study was to provide CRW with a thorough review of its SDFs and the underlying assumptions and provide updated fees for 2020 through 2024. The review is based on development fee approaches that are acceptable to the industry and to the State of Colorado's impact fee legislation. An annual review of growth, capital improvements and use of revenues from SDFs continue to be made to allow CRW to proactively make changes if needed.

### Recommended SDFs for 2020-2024

The report shows how the fixed assets and CIP costs were calculated to determine the needed SDFs and DIFs for the funds for 2020-2024. Costs for capital improvements were maintained at 2019 dollars. In order to maintain SDF revenues to match increases in capital costs over time, the SDFs for water, water resources and wastewater are escalated for the study period 2020-2024. It is recommended that the stormwater DIFs for the Plum Creek and Cherry Creek basin each have an increase in 2020. See the charts in the executive summary for these amounts and recommendations.

For a copy of the supporting data analysis, please contact Castle Rock Water at 720-733-6000.

#### Recommendations

As part of the 2019 Rates and Fees Study, Stantec Consulting Services Inc. reviewed CRW's methodology and findings and recommends Castle Rock Water do the following:

- Implement the proposed 2020 SDFs for water, water resources, and wastewater as well as stormwater DIFs. The proposed water and water resources SDFs are less than the calculated fees; however, CRW reviews its SDFs annually and will make adjustments if needed in subsequent years.
- Consider including the financing amount on the growth-related cost for Treatment Fee Component calculations. CRW customers pay principal and interest for debt incurred by PCWRA for plant improvements. The growth-related financing costs are currently borne by existing customers and could be reasonably added to the fee calculations. In addition, CRW's buy-in component assumes replacement costs less depreciation for its assets. The Treatment Fee Component holds constant at the value of principal payments. Including interest payments would allow for the recovery of costs due to inflation.
- Continue routine updates of customer characteristics data and apply average actual usage by meter size to accurately assess capacity available to serve new customers. Continue to use hydraulic capacity meter ratios in assessing SDFs that reflect the potential demands by meter size and type.
- Consider maintaining the SDFs and DIFs constant from 2021 2024 and update if necessary, during the annual rates and fees study. Evaluate future length of capital improvement programs to include in the SDFs and DIFs calculations. Consider aligning CIP length with customer growth projections and quality of cost information. As better cost information is available for future projects, the time period of the CIP to be included in the fee calculations can be adjusted.

Please see Appendix C for study review letter from Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.

# **Appendix A**

# List of Acronyms

The following provides a list of acronyms used throughout the report and its meaning:

- AF: Acre Feet
- CIP: Capital Improvement Program
- DIF: Development Impact Fee
- ENR: Engineering News Record
- FAR: Floor Area Ratio
- FY: Fiscal Year
- GPD: Gallons Per Day
- GPM: Gallons Per Minute
- I&I: Inflow and Infiltration
- KGAL: Thousand (1,000) Gallons
- O&M: Operations and Maintenance
- PCWRA: Plum Creek Water Reclamation Authority
- PCWPF: Plum Creek Water Purification Facility
- RCNLD: Replacement Cost New Less Depreciation
- SDF: System Development Fee
- SFE: Single Family Equivalent
- Sq. Ft.: Square Feet

# **Appendix B**

# Definitions

The following are definitions used in this study:

- SDFs are one-time fees charged to new customers that are intended to recover the costs of investments in infrastructure and projects designed to provide capacity for new customers. These fees are calculated in a manner consistent with the Colorado Revised Statute (CRS) 29-20-104.5.
- SFEs or single-family equivalents define the relative size or demand of a specific account. One residential account equals one SFE. A multi-family or commercial account represents a multiple of residential accounts or SFEs, typically defined by water demand or wastewater flow. Town Municipal Code 13.02.10 defines an SFE as a relative measure of demand placed on the water, sewer and/or irrigation capital plant by an average single-family residential unit.
- Equivalency schedules are a set of calculated ratios, based on a <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" Meter being 1 SFE, which help to define how many SFEs are represented by the different meter sizes. Equivalency schedules are also used to calculate the monthly service charges for water, water resources and wastewater service.
- Hydraulic equivalency schedules are based on the relative capacity of different meter sizes and meter types utilized to deliver water. Hydraulic equivalencies can also be based on relative potential demands of different customers. Based on characteristic hydraulic demands, a single-family meter size of <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" x <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" is designated as the base for one SFE. The maximum flow rate of water through the meter in gallons per minute (gpm) becomes the unit of comparison. The maximum flow rate demanded by new customers is compared to the base demand in order to determine the equivalency ratio. For example, if the base single-family residential customer requires 30 gpm and a commercial customer requires 200 gpm, the equivalency ratio equals 6.67.
- Actual use equivalency schedules are based on the relative average monthly water usage of the Town's customers. Average monthly use per account by meter size was calculated using a 2016 to 2018 three-year average of monthly consumption data. The average usage of a single-family residential meter size is designated as the base. The average usage of larger meter sizes is divided by the base usage to calculate equivalent ratios.

# Appendix C

Stantec Consulting Services Inc. Study Review Letter



Stantec Consulting Services Inc. 370 Interlocken Boulevard Suite 300, Broomfield CO 80021-8012

August 28, 2018

Attention: Anne Glassman, Business Solutions Manager Castle Rock Water 175 Kellogg Ct. Castle Rock, CO 80109

Dear Anne,

#### Reference: Stantec Financial Review Services for Castle Rock Water's 2019 Rates and Fees Study, Volume 2 of 2, System Development Fees

As part of the 2019 Rates and Fees Study, Stantec Consulting Services Inc. (Stantec) was engaged by Castle Rock Water (CRW) as a third-party reviewer of CRW's methodology and findings. In preparing review comments and recommendations, Stantec has relied on the information and data presented by CRW without independent verification. The intent of our review was to provide an outside perspective of CRW's work products and models, as well as financial policies, based on our experience and best practices in the industry.

The approaches followed by CRW in calculating the water, water resources, and wastewater system development fees (SDFs), and the stormwater development impact fee (DIF), adhere to industry best practices. Both the American Water Works Association (AWWA) and Water Environment Federation (WEF) endorse these methods as acceptable approaches to calculating growth-related fees. By applying the hybrid approach for the three SDFs (water, wastewater, and water resources), CRW ensures new connections are paying for their share of existing available capacity (buy-in approach), in addition to paying for capital projects intended to provide additional capacity for new connections (incremental approach). This approach achieves intergenerational equity by placing new and existing customers on even footing in terms of equity in CRW's systems. This approach also complies with the Colorado Revised Statutes on impact fees (CRS 29-20-104.5).

CRW has followed a consistent approach to calculating its SDFs and DIFs for many years. In determining the Treatment Fee Component of the Wastewater SDF, the methodology has used the growth-related component of investments made in the Plum Creek Water Reclamation Authority (PCWRA) treatment plant. These investments are based on borrowed funds to expand and improve the system and are adjusted only when new investments are made to expand or improve the plant. The Treatment Fee Component for 2019 includes new expansion-related costs planned for PCWRA. While the most recent expansion was not financed, CRW may wish to include growth-related financing costs of previous investments in future calculations of the Treatment Fee Component as a means to recover inflationary costs of the plant.

In the past, Stantec has advised that utilities apply an escalation factor to calculated SDFs to account for increases in costs of materials and other inputs to the construction of capital improvements. Given that CRW completes a thorough annual review of its SDFs, Stantec recommends that the SDFs are not escalated; rather, adjust the fees if necessary, during the annual rates and fees study when material changes are made to CRW's fixed assets and/or capital improvement program (CIP).

August 28, 2018 Anne Glassman, Business Solutions Manager Page 2 of 2

Reference: Stantec Financial Review Services for Castle Rock Water's 2019 Rates and Fees Study, Volume 2 of 2, System Development Fees

Stantec also recommends that CRW evaluate the future length of capital improvement programs to include in the SDFs and DIFs calculations. Utilities throughout the industry follow different guidance for CIP length and projects for SDF calculations, whether it is 10 years or 20 years, or longer. CRW currently includes growth-related CIP projects expected through 2057, or projected build-out. CRW can align the projects included in SDF calculations with shorter-term customer growth projections and quality of cost information available for projects. As better cost information is available for future projects, the time period of the CIP to be included in the fee calculations can be adjusted.

Finally, CRW's routine update of the Customer Characteristics report continues to provide clarity as to appropriate meter equivalency factors, thereby promoting intraclass equity.

Stantec's specific recommendations for CRW's SDFs and DIF are found in the Summary of the Volume 2 of 2 System Development Fees Report.

We enjoyed the opportunity to work with you and your staff on this study. Please contact me at (330) 271-9125 if you have any questions.

Regards,

Carol F. Malesky

Carol Malesky Principal, Financial Services

Phone: 330-271-9125 carol.malesky@stantec.com