



## AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

<b>Agenda Date</b>	October 14, 2025
<b>Requested Action</b>	Discussion on Stormwater Utility and Rate Structure
<b>Contact Person</b>	Jeffrey Carroll – Engineering & Mobility Director
<b>Background Information</b>	<p>The City of Boerne Stormwater Drainage Utility is responsible for managing the City’s stormwater drainage system, including the installation, operation, and maintenance of drainage infrastructure throughout Boerne. The Utility was established by City Council in response to growing drainage needs, increasing development, and the rising costs of maintaining and improving drainage infrastructure.</p> <p>The Stormwater Drainage Utility plays a critical role in protecting public health, safety, and property by reducing flooding risks, maintaining water quality, and ensuring compliance with state and federal stormwater management requirements. These services directly support the community’s quality of life, environmental protection, and long-term resilience.</p> <p>In 2019, the City Council approved a schedule of stormwater utility rates based on a project list identified and the cost of providing drainage services. The Stormwater Fee, which took effect on January 1, 2021, is assessed on both residential and commercial properties according to the amount of impervious cover (such as rooftops, driveways, and parking areas) that contribute to stormwater runoff. Fees are collected monthly through Boerne Utility bills and appear as the “Stormwater Fee.”</p> <p>Revenues from the Stormwater Drainage Utility are dedicated funds—used only for services and improvements that directly support stormwater operations. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Capital infrastructure projects that manage stormwater runoff and reduce flooding;</li><li>• Street sweeping and channel mowing to maintain conveyance and water quality;</li><li>• Drainage infrastructure inspection, maintenance, and repair;</li><li>• Natural drainageway restoration and debris removal.</li></ul>

	<p>Like other Texas cities, Boerne’s stormwater utility provides a stable and equitable funding source for drainage services, ensuring that those who generate more runoff contribute proportionally to system maintenance and improvement. This approach aligns with statewide best practices and helps the City plan for long-term capital needs, regulatory compliance, and infrastructure sustainability.</p> <p>The Stormwater Drainage Utility is administered by the City’s Engineering &amp; Mobility Department, which oversees program operations and infrastructure planning.</p> <p>The City’s current stormwater utility fee is \$4 per month per Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU). This rate was established from the City’s initial stormwater rate study, which identified a list of priority drainage projects at that time. Residential properties are in a 4 tier system based upon there impervious cover for their property.</p> <p>Since then, the completion of the City’s Drainage Master Plan has identified over \$60 million in potential drainage projects needed for design and construction to address flooding, erosion, and infrastructure improvements across the community.</p> <p>The current fee structure generates approximately \$650,000 per year to fund stormwater maintenance and capital improvements. Across Texas, monthly stormwater fees range from \$1 to \$32, with a regional average of about \$6.90 per month, placing Boerne’s rate below the statewide average.</p> <p>As the City continues to address aging infrastructure and implement high-priority projects identified in the Master Plan, future adjustments to the stormwater utility fee may be necessary to ensure adequate funding for design, construction, and long-term system maintenance. These adjustments would help maintain reliable drainage service, protect public safety, and support responsible community growth.</p>
<b>Strategic Alignment</b> <i>(Example: C2 – Customer Feedback, B1 – Data Driven Decision)</i>	<p>F2 – Investing in and maintaining high-quality infrastructure systems and public assets.</p> <p>B2 – Advancing master plan recommendations.</p>
<b>Financial Considerations</b>	<p>A stormwater utility provides the City with a dedicated and reliable funding source for drainage management that is separate from the General Fund. Unlike general tax revenues, which must support many competing city services, stormwater utility fees are restricted for use solely on drainage-related programs and infrastructure.</p>

<b>Citizen Input/Board Review</b>	Na.
<b>Legal Review</b>	Na.
<b>Alternative Options</b>	Na.
<b>Supporting Documents</b>	Na.