



Please join City leaders for a virtual community conversation about changes to water and sewer rates on June 16, 2021 at 7PM.

Since 2015

Lakewood has been confronting the major challenge of updating our unique, 100-year-old sewer system to meet the regulatory requirements of Ohio EPA and US EPA.

In 2019

The City developed an Integrated Wet Weather Improvement Plan (IWWIP), which specified eligible structural improvements to our city-wide sewer system that would cost an estimated \$274 million.

Community input during IWWIP meetings

Showed the need to prioritize affordability in paying for these improvements. An Impervious Surface Fee is considered an affordable and equitable approach for funding, and was supported in community input.



2015

Clean Water Lakewood begins



2018-2019

Public Engagement sessions were held to inform the plan and get feedback from residents



2019

Integrated Wet Weather Improvement Plan submitted to Ohio EPA

2021

ARPA funding and proposed Impervious Surface Fee to help fund infrastructure

2022

\$23 million High Rate Treatment facility completed, which working with the wastewater treatment plant can treat 70 million gallons per day.



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Visit onelakewood.com/cleanwaterlakewood

The format of the meeting will include the ability to facilitate small group discussion and to address questions.





The City of Lakewood is expecting roughly \$50 million from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).



This relief funding will help our City and its residents and businesses to overcome the damage being caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.



A large portion of ARPA funding will be eligible to be dedicated to improving the City's 100-year-old sewer system to offset our ratepayers' cost for improvements that will cost \$274 million.



ARPA funding will be a big help — but it won't cover all the needs the City has — a dedicated Impervious Surface Fee assessed to properties is being considered as an affordable and equitable solution to sustain progress towards complying with Ohio EPA's regulatory requirements.

Why does the City need an Impervious Surface Fee?

We reviewed the City's ability to pay for the required infrastructure projects and analyzed the timing and impact of these projects on our residents from an affordability and equity standpoint. Right now these projects are being paid for from the money water and sewer customers pay on their water bills, which are based entirely on the volume of potable water used.

A dedicated Impervious Surface Fee is the best approach to recover the costs associated with wet weather water management equitably, in a way that closely reflects each property's demand on the City's wet weather infrastructure. These fees are an essential component to the proper financial sustainability of modern utilities, and are a standard practice throughout many Ohio cities because it is a fair and equitable method of charging for this service.

How would an Impervious Surface Fee Work?

The Impervious Surface Fee would be a small set amount for residential (single to multi-family) properties, since residential properties in Lakewood are generally very similar across the entire city. For multifamily, commercial, industrial, and institutional properties, which are much fewer in number and more variable, the fee will be based on the amount of paved and hard surfaces each property has. Large amounts of hard surfaces like parking lots and roofs have a significant impact on the City's wet weather infrastructure during large storms.

We want to share with you our proposal for the Impervious Surface Fee structure and how we can best move forward for the benefit of all community members.

Join us for a community conversation about Lakewood's plans to advance our Clean Water Lakewood future and modernize a sustainable rate structure.

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