

# TOWN OF WICKENBURG

## SYSTEM 1

Herschel Workman,  
Public Works Director



October 7, 2025

**Town of Wickenburg**

# AGENDA

- Public Works
- History of Rates in Wickenburg
- Why was a rate increase needed?
- Projects/Loans
- Rates
- Comparison

# BACKGROUND INFORMATION: WICKENBURG PUBLIC WORKS

- Operates 2 Water and Wastewater Systems
- Electrical Grid in town
- Sanitation Department
- Streets Department
- Parks and Facilities
- Airport



## SYSTEM 1 AND SYSTEM 2

- Enterprise Funds
- Different Needs and Challenges
  - System 1 is Older and is undergoing major equipment upgrades
  - System 2 is relatively new
  - Seasonal Spikes in usage provide unique challenges

# SYSTEM 2 TREATMENT PLANT





# SYSTEM 2 TREATMENT PLANT



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## SYSTEM 1 MAJOR COMPONENTS

- Treatment Plant
- 5 Wells
- 7 Lift Stations
- 7 Booster Stations
- 5 Water Tanks with Capacity just under 4M Gallons
- Pump 1.5 M GPD



## HISTORY OF RATES IN WICKENBURG

- Prior to 2024, the last Rate Increase in Wickenburg was in 2014.
- At that time Council chose to virtually keep rates the same as they were, over the course of 5 years, the base rates of Water and Wastewater rose approximately \$1 and \$2 dollars respectively. Usage rates remained the same.
- The authorized funding did not address the ongoing maintenance needs of the facilities or the future infrastructure upgrades.

## 2014 RATES REQUESTED VS ADOPTED

Water	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19
5/8" Meter Base Rate	\$25.00	\$35.00	\$40.00	45.00	49.00
WasteWater					
5/8" Base Rate	\$29.00	\$37.50	\$44.00	\$52.00	\$63.00
<b>Adopted 2014</b>	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19
5/8" Meter Base Rate Water	\$11.24	\$11.45	\$11.65	\$11.86	\$12.06
WasteWater					
5/8" Meter	\$11.56	\$12.08	\$12.59	\$13.11	\$13.63



## BASE RATE COMPARISONS 2014 VS. 2024

Water	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19
5/8" Meter Base Rate	\$25.00	\$35.00	\$40.00	45.00	49.00
WasteWater					
5/8" Base Rate	\$29.00	\$37.50	\$44.00	\$52.00	\$63.00
Adopted Rates	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28	28/29
5/8" Meter Base Rate Water	\$19.30	\$30.87	\$32.11	\$33.39	\$34.73
WasteWater					
5/8" Meter	\$23.85	\$31.01	\$35.66	\$36.73	\$37.83

## **WATER USAGE RATES ADOPTED IN 2024**

### **60%-60%-4%-4%-4%**

<b>Usage per 1000 GAL</b>	<b>24/25</b>	<b>25/26</b>	<b>26/27</b>	<b>27/28</b>	<b>29/30</b>
0-10,000	\$1.74	\$2.79	\$2.90	\$3.02	\$3.14
11,000- 20,000	\$2.38	\$3.81	\$3.97	\$4.13	\$4.29
21,000- 50,000	\$4.77	\$7.63	\$7.93	\$8.25	\$8.58
51,000 and over	\$5.02	\$8.04	\$8.36	\$8.69	\$9.04



## **WASTEWATER USAGE RATES ADOPTED IN 2024**

**75%-30%-15%-4%-4%**

<b>Usage per 1000 gallons</b>	<b>24/25</b>	<b>25/26</b>	<b>26/27</b>	<b>27/28</b>	<b>28/29</b>
5/8" Meter	\$3.90	\$5.07	\$5.83	\$6.01	\$6.19

# 6000 GALLON USER

- Currently paying a Water/Wastewater Bill of \$109.04 per month.
- This is \$47.61 for Water
- \$61.43 for Wastewater



## WHY DID WE NEED A RATE INCREASE?

- Demands on our current Water and Wastewater facilities will soon exceed their capacity with projected population growth over the next 10 years
- Current Infrastructure is in need of replacement and upgrades
- We have nearly \$44M worth of Capital Improvement Projects over the next 10 years to address these needs in Water and Wastewater

## WIFA LOANS

- Rate Increases assume a total of over \$44M dollars in loans taken out over a period from 2024 until 2051. These loans have a potential total debt service of \$60,625,315.



## WASTEWATER PROJECTS NEXT 5 YEARS

- More than \$11M worth of projects scheduled
- Projects designed to increase capacity of plant from 800,000 gpd to 1.6MGD
- Costs increasing every year, recent bids are more than double estimates of only 2 years ago, costs could go higher.

## WASTEWATER PROJECTS NEXT 5 YEARS

- UV Disinfection/Headworks Upgrades
- Intensification Expansion Project
- Digester Improvements
- Grit Removal
- Clarifier Rehabilitation

## **WATER PROJECTS NEXT 5 YEARS**

- More than \$7M worth of projects scheduled over next 5 years
- Projects to replace aging infrastructure as well as provide for future growth.
- Costs increasing every year, recent bids are more than double estimates of only 2 years ago



## **WATER PROJECTS NEXT 5 YEARS**

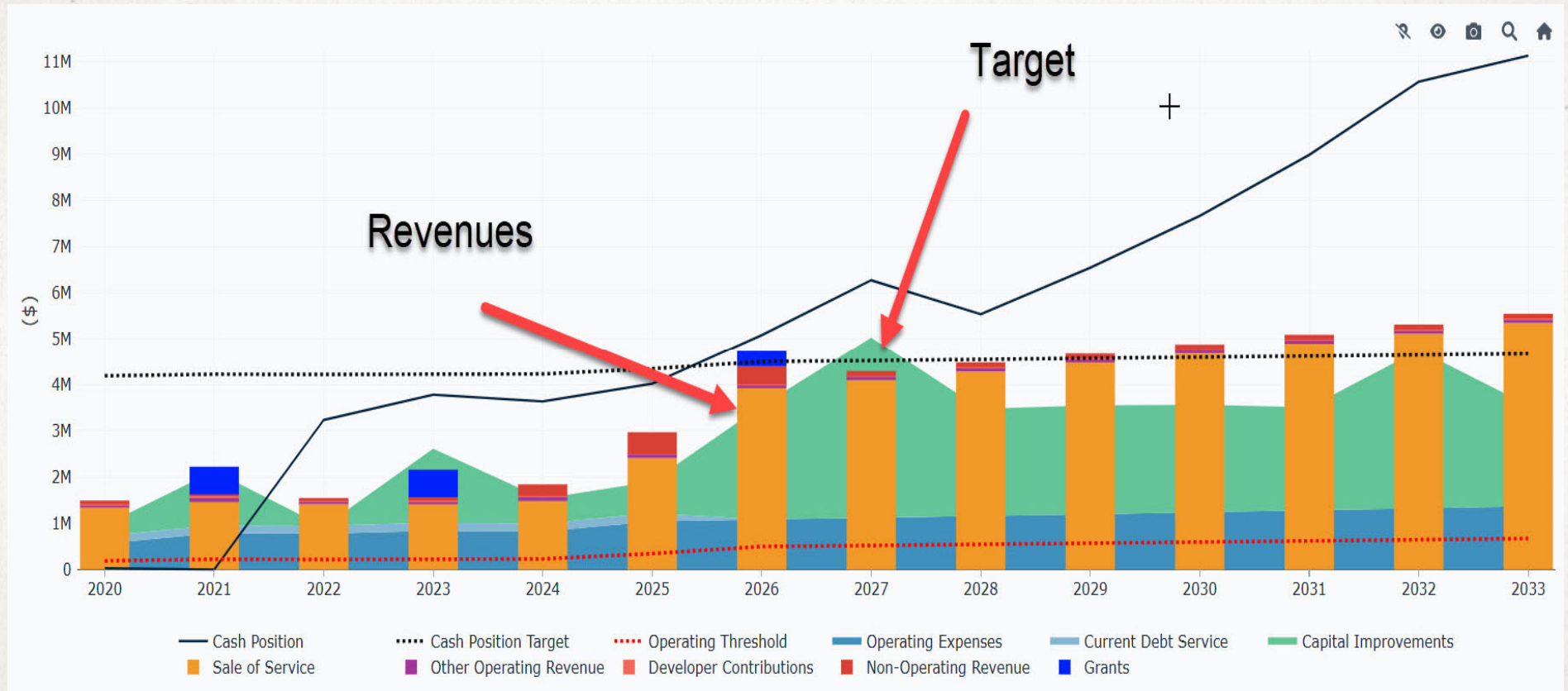
- Vulture Mine Booster Station
- Monitoring Wells
- Waterline Replacement Projects
- Mariposa Well

## WATER EXPENSES VS. REVENUES

	FY 20	FY 25
Expenses	\$699,157	\$1,022,824
Revenues	\$1,325,892	\$2,452,866

- Expenses increased more than 40% in 5 years
- The increase in revenues includes the 60% increase in both base and usage fees.
- Capital Reserve Target is \$4,000,000

# CURRENT WATER 1 FINANCIAL MODEL





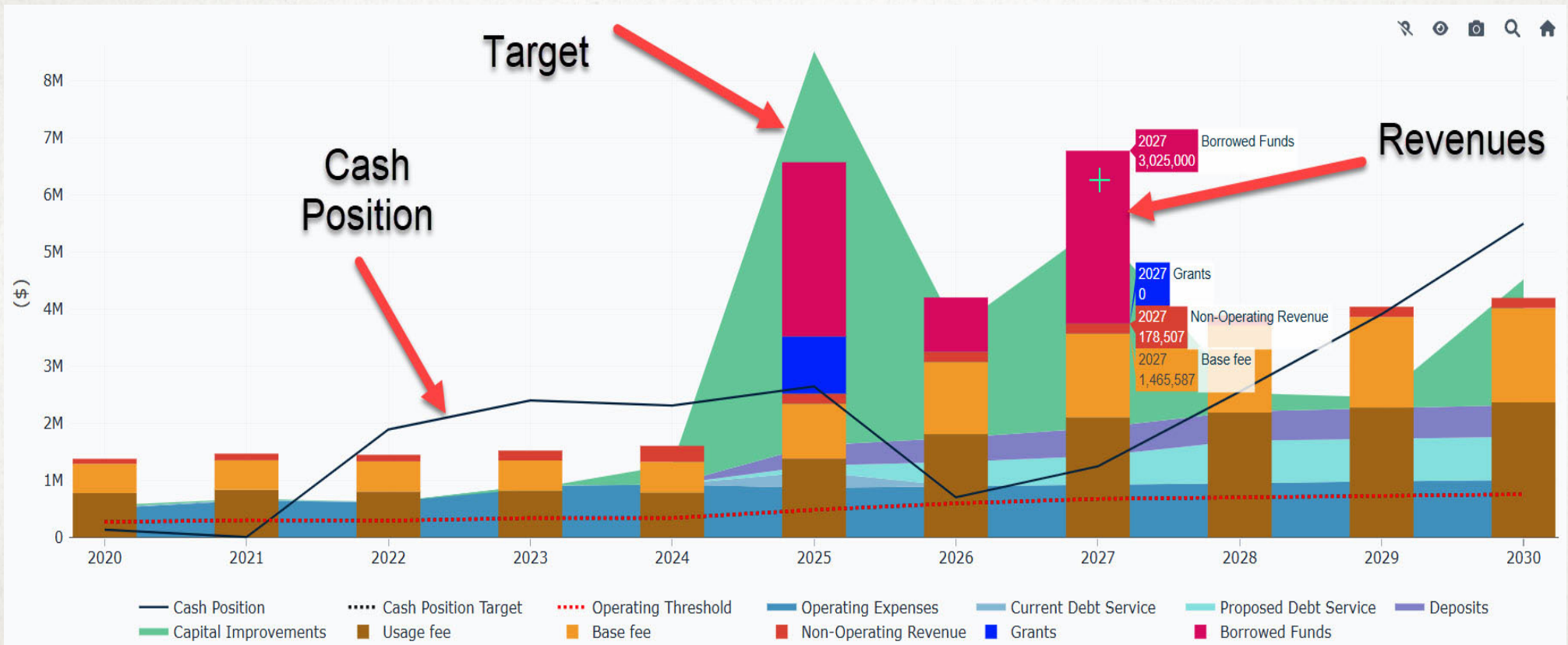
## WASTEWATER EXPENSES VS. REVENUES

	FY 20	FY 25
Expenses	\$687,411	\$1,079,315
Revenues	\$1,285,840	\$2,488,300

- Costs increased more than 40% in 5 years
- Debt Service on WIFA loans will be more than \$600,000 per year
- Capital Reserves Target is \$5,000,000
- Operating Contingency is \$500,000
- 2020 there were no Reserves or Contingency

# WASTEWATER FINANCIAL MODEL

## 75%-30%-15% INCREASES



# HOW TO READ YOUR BILL

**TOWN OF WICKENBURG**  
155 N. TEGNER ST., STE. A  
WICKENBURG, ARIZONA 85390

**UTILITY BILLING**  
(928) 668-0520  
PAYABLE AT TOWN HALL

**CURRENT CHARGES DUE AND PAYABLE 25 DAYS AFTER BILL DATE**

NAME: [REDACTED] BILL DATE: 09/18/25  
LOCATION: [REDACTED] CURRENT CHARGES DUE: 10/13/25  
ACCOUNT: [REDACTED]

PREVIOUS READ: WA 08/18/2025 # OF DAYS 28  
EL 08/18/2025

DATE READ	DESCRIPTION	METER READING		FACTOR	USAGE	CURRENT CHARGE
		PRESENT	PREVIOUS			
	Adjustment(s) and/or Balance Transfer(s)					.00
09/15/2025	ELECTRIC - Base & Usage	45811	44778	1	1033	100.53
	<b>WATER - Base Fee</b>					<b>30.87</b>
09/15/2025	<b>WATER - Usage Fee</b>	269	265	1	4	<b>11.16</b>
	<b>WASTEWATER - Usage Fee</b>					<b>20.28</b>
	<b>WASTEWATER - Base</b>				1	<b>31.01</b>
	SANITATION - Service Fee				1	27.00
	MANDATED TAX					.03
	SALES TAX					12.12
	LATE PAYMENT PENALTY					8.96
	ELECTRIC - Power Supply Adjust					22.42

**2.79**

**Gallons** This bill is for a 5/8 inch water meter

DEPOSIT APPLIED .00 **5.07**

To pay your bill online you can visit our website at [www.wickenburgaz.gov/1432/Utilities](http://www.wickenburgaz.gov/1432/Utilities) and select the pay now option.

USAGE COMPARISON	Current Yr	Prior Yr	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CURRENT CHARGES	TOTAL DUE
ELECTRIC:	1,033				
WATER:	4		179.18	264.38	443.56

**PAYMENTS RECEIVED AFTER 4:00 P.M. WILL BE POSTED ON THE NEXT BUSINESS DAY.**

The following employees are authorized to provide information about this communication:  
Revenue clerk at 928-668-0529 or Treasurer at 928-668-0520 [treas@wickenburgaz.gov](mailto:treas@wickenburgaz.gov)

LAST PYMT: 09/29/2025 443.56CR

WHEN PAYING IN PERSON, PLEASE BRING YOUR ENTIRE BILL.  
WHEN PAYING BY MAIL OR USING OUR AFTER HOURS DROP BOX,  
PLEASE REMIT THE LOWER PORTION WITH YOUR PAYMENT.

**TOWN OF WICKENBURG**  
155 N. TEGNER ST., STE. A  
WICKENBURG, ARIZONA 85390

	CURRENT CHARGES DUE	TOTAL DUE	AMOUNT REMITTED
	10/13/2025	443.56	



# **WE SAVE MONEY BY BEING EFFICIENT**

- Many employees' salaries are paid out of both systems
- Equipment costs are split between the 2 systems

# HOW CAN YOU SAVE MONEY?

- Resolve leaks (irrigation and pool) quickly
- Go on Sewer Cost Averaging
- Water your plantings less frequently
- Future Potential to Monitor Usage Remotely with Alerts

# SHOULD I INSTALL AN IRRIGATION METER?



340039901

08/21/25

09/15/25

PREVIOUS READ: WA 07/14/2025 # OF DAYS: 35

	Adjustment(s) and/or Balance Transfer(s)					.00
	WATER - Base Fee			2		48.82
08/18/2025	WATER - Usage Fee	92	90	1	2	4.62
08/18/2025	WATER - Usage Fee	193	183	1	10	23.10
	WASTEWATER - Usage Fee			2		6.04
	WASTEWATER - Base			1		72.52
	SANITATION - Service Fee			1		27.00
	MANDATED TAX					.08
	SALES TAX					6.55

DEPOSIT APPLIED

.00


To pay your bill online you can visit our website at [www.wickenburgaz.gov/1432/Utilities](http://www.wickenburgaz.gov/1432/Utilities) and select the pay now option.




Town of Wickenburg



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# QUESTIONS



**Town of Wickenburg**