

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



SYSTEM 2 TREATMENT PLANT



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
Adopted 2014	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					
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%

Usage per 1000 GAL	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28	29/30
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%

Usage per 1000 gallons	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28	28/29
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

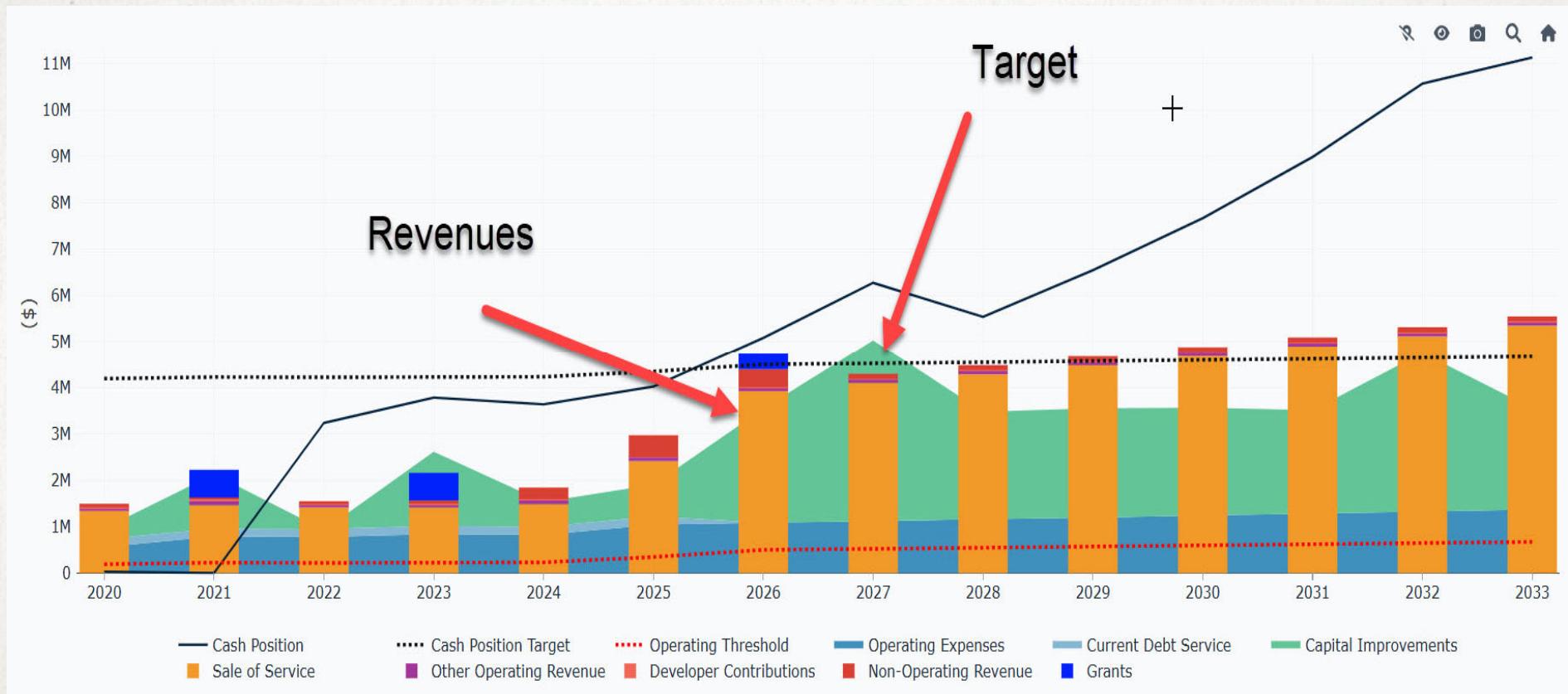
- Vulture Mine Booster Station
- Monitoring Wells
- Waterline Replacement Projects
- Mariposa Well

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



Town of Wickenburg

HOW TO READ YOUR BILL

TOWN OF WICKENBURG		UTILITY BILLING (928) 648-0500 PAYABLE AT TOWN HALL		
CURRENT CHARGES DUE AND PAYABLE 25 DAYS AFTER BILL DATE				
NAME:	BILL DATE 09/18/25			
LOCATION:	CURRENT CHARGES DUE 10/13/25			
ACCOUNT:	PREVIOUS READ: WA 08/18/2025	EL 08/18/2025	# OF DAYS 28	
	METER READING	FACTOR	USAGE	
	PRESENT	PREVIOUS	CURRENT CHARGE	
Adjustment(s) and/or Balance Transfer(s)				
09/15/2025	ELECTRIC - Base & Usage	45811	44778 1 1033 100.53 00	
09/15/2025	WATER - Base Fee		30.87	
	WATER - Usage Fee	269	265 1 4 11.16	
	WASTEWATER - Usage Fee		20.28	
	WASTEWATER - Base		31.01	
	SANITATION - Service Fee			
	MANDATED TAX		27.00	
	SALES TAX		.03	
	LATE PAYMENT PENALTY		12.12	
	ELECTRIC - Power Supply Adjust		8.96	
			22.42	
2.79				
Gallons This bill is for a 5/8 inch water meter				
DEPOSIT APPLIED		.00		
To pay your bill online you can visit our website at www.wickenburgaz.gov/1432/Utilities and select the pay now option.				
5.07				
USAGE COMPARISON Current Yr Prior Yr		PREVIOUS BALANCE	CURRENT CHARGES	TOTAL DUE
ELECTRIC: 1,033		179.18	264.38	443.56
WATER: 4				
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: Barrett Clark at 928-648-0529 or Deonica At 928-648-0526 wickenburgt@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?

[REDACTED]
340039901

08/21/25

09/15/25

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

Adjustment(s) and/or Balance Transfer(s)						
08/18/2025	WATER - Base Fee					.00
08/18/2025	WATER - Usage Fee	92	90	1	2	48.82
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

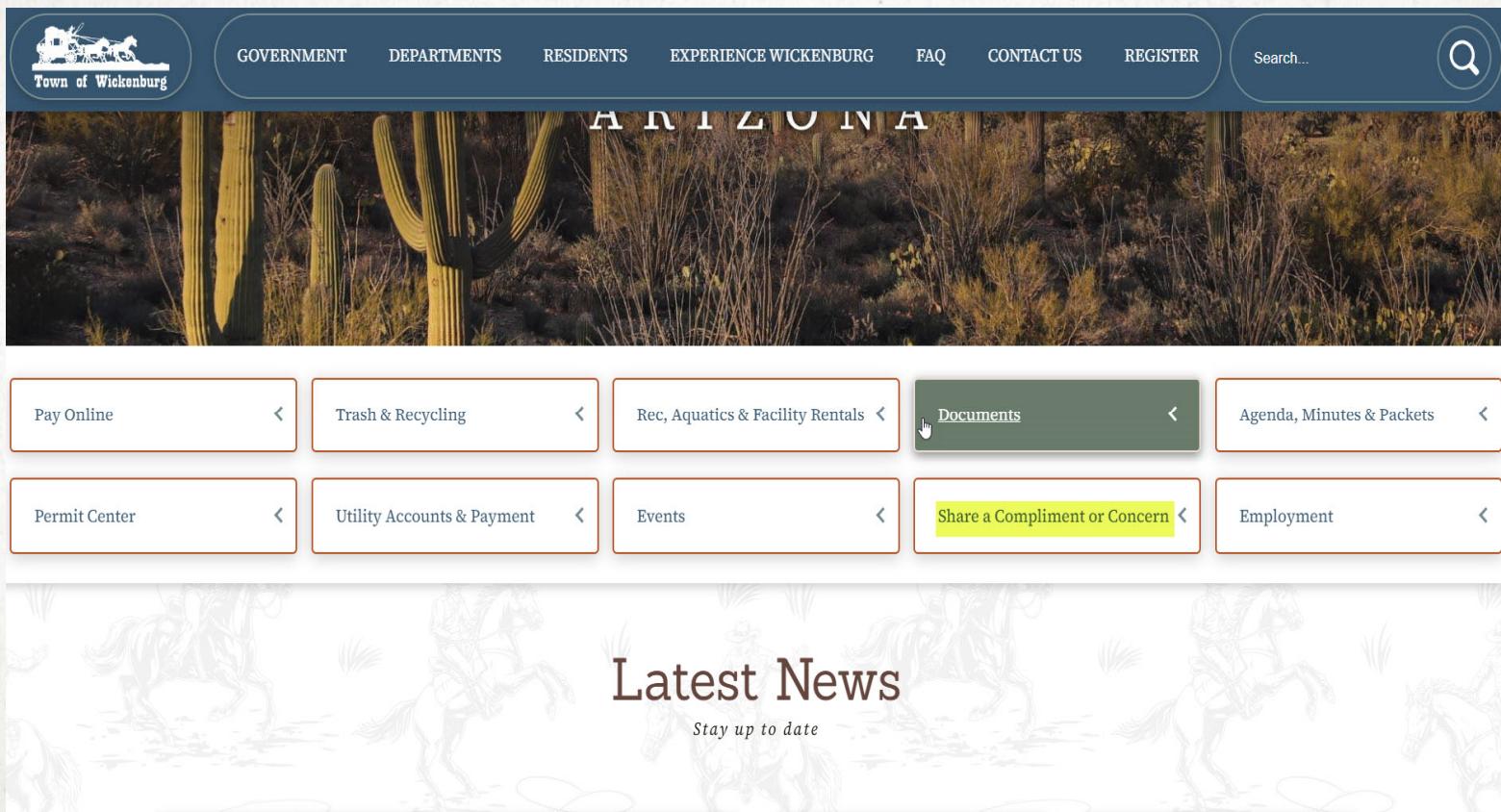
DEPOSIT APPLIED

.00

To pay your bill online you can visit our website at www.wickenburgaz.gov/1432/Utilities and select the pay now option.



HOW TO REPORT AN ISSUE



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Town of Wickenburg website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for GOVERNMENT, DEPARTMENTS, RESIDENTS, EXPERIENCE WICKENBURG, FAQ, CONTACT US, and REGISTER. A search bar is also present. The main content area features a large image of a desert landscape with saguaro cacti. Below the image, there is a grid of buttons for various services. The 'Documents' button is highlighted with a green background and a hand cursor icon, indicating it is the active or selected option. The other buttons are white with orange borders and icons: Pay Online, Trash & Recycling, Rec, Aquatics & Facility Rentals, Agenda, Minutes & Packets, Permit Center, Utility Accounts & Payment, Events, Share a Compliment or Concern, and Employment. The 'Share a Compliment or Concern' button is highlighted with a yellow background and a hand cursor icon. At the bottom, there is a decorative banner with a repeating horse and rider pattern, featuring the text 'Latest News' and 'Stay up to date'.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS RESIDENTS EXPERIENCE WICKENBURG FAQ CONTACT US REGISTER

Search...

Town of Wickenburg

Pay Online < Trash & Recycling < Rec, Aquatics & Facility Rentals < **Documents** < Agenda, Minutes & Packets <

Permit Center < Utility Accounts & Payment < Events < Share a Compliment or Concern < Employment <

Latest News
Stay up to date



QUESTIONS



Town of Wickenburg