



STORM DRAIN & STORM WATER FEES

The City's storm drain collects and carries storm water runoff directly to the ocean. A well-maintained and functional storm drain system prevents floods and sinkholes, keeps the ocean clean, and minimizes property damage. To this effect, the City maintains and operates a Stormwater Fund with the purpose of:

- Replacing or reconstructing storm drains that are identified by engineers as being at risk for collapse or failure
- Installing and maintaining devices in storm drains that capture trash and pollution before it enters the waterways, like the ocean
- Inspecting and testing storm water quality on a regular basis to ensure it meets clean water standards
- Keeping trash and pollutants off beaches, local waterways, and the ocean
- Capturing, storing and treating rainwater and storm water runoff to reuse for irrigation
- Removing pollutants, toxic chemicals and infectious bacteria from storm water runoff

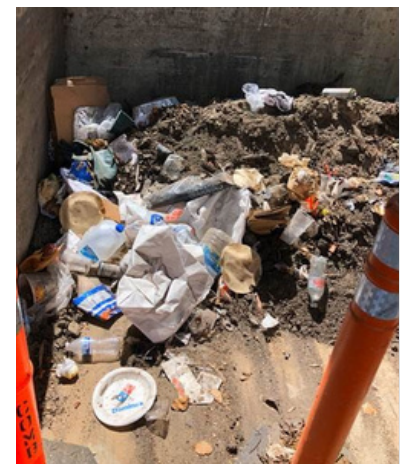
Many of the storm drains were installed over 50 years ago and are in need of repair or replacement as they are beginning to fail, creating sinkholes and flooding that damages streets and private properties. However, revenues to fund these activities remain unchanged since the adoption of the storm drain fee in 1996.

The City levies an annual Storm Drain Fee on each parcel of real property in the City, which is collected via the Los Angeles County consolidated property tax bill. Single-family residences pay an annual fixed fee of \$19.12 per parcel. The revenues from the existing Storm Drain Fee are insufficient to fully fund existing operations, maintenance, repairs, and future improvements to the storm drain system. Average Storm Drain Fee revenues are currently projected at roughly \$350,000 annually with estimated average annual expenditures of around \$2.2 million. The expenditures include \$8.4 million of capital projects over the next six years.

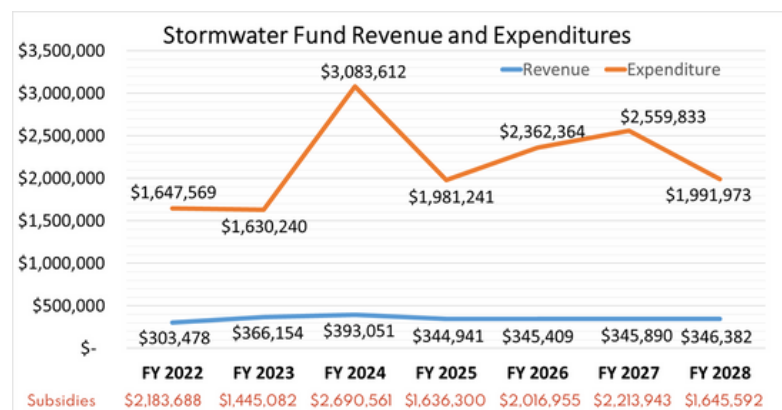
The annual shortfall has been funded through General Fund subsidies for several years. However, increased costs and projects have made subsidies an unsustainable funding option. The Stormwater Fund is currently projected to need approximately \$11.6 million of General Fund subsidies over the next six years.



Crew installing new pump at 23rd & Peck pumping station



Trash collected from storm drains





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FUNDS DEDICATED TO STORM DRAINS

Property owners will be able to vote on an increase to the Storm Drain Fee. The City is proposing the use of Los Angeles County's data for Measure W (Safe, Clean Water Program) to calculate the new user fee. Measure W was approved by voters on November 6, 2018, and uses impervious square footage to determine the fee. Impervious square footage is land on a property that cannot absorb rain. If a parcel was all land, then storm drain services are not required, since the land will absorb the storm water. However, land that has been covered creates runoff and requires storm drain services. Properties with more impervious square footage have a greater impact to storm drain services. Therefore, the new fee based on impervious square footage is structured so that the fee is proportional to parcels that impact the storm drain system the most.



Crew vacuuming trash from storm drain outfall at the beach that was flushed down a storm drain pipe

Under this new fee structure, 88% of residential property owners will pay a fee under \$200 annually. Only 7% of residents will pay an annual fee higher than \$200 due to more impervious square footage on their property and the remaining 5% accounts for commercial property.

The Proposed rate of the annual Storm Drain Fee is:

\$0.04602 per square foot of Impervious Area

Annual Storm Drain Fee = Your Impervious Square Footage x \$0.04602



THE BALLOT PROCESS

Since property owners would pay the proposed Storm Drain Fee, property owners will vote on it. There is one vote per parcel. The first step is a public hearing on November 7, 2023, where property owners can express opinion on the proposed fee.

If no majority protest is received at the conclusion of the public comment portion of the public hearing, the City will mail ballots to property owners to vote on the proposed storm drain fee increase in November. Property owners will have at least 45 days to return the ballots by mail or in-person to City Hall.

