



# City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: City Utilities - Sewer/Stormwater

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: March 21, 2016

Re: Amending Chapter 12A of the City Code

## Executive Summary

Staff has prepared for Council consideration an ordinance amending Chapter 12A of the City Code.

## Discussion

The City of Columbia is in the process of implementing new software for the utility billing system. As part of this process, staff has been reviewing ordinances that impact utility billing. Staff has determined that there a number of changes that should be made prior to the implementation of the new utility billing system. Currently, the new system is anticipated to go-live on May 2, 2016. The proposed amendments to Chapter 12A are to clarify processes.

The following are each proposed section changes with a brief discussion of the purpose and reason of the change.

Sec. 12A-151 (d) – Currently, there is not a clear methodology to determine how buildings that have commercial operations on the ground floor and residential units in upper floors are to be charged storm water fees. This proposal provides clarity to staff in how these facilities are to be charged.

Sec. 12A-152 – This section of the code of ordinances has never been used. As it is currently defined, it would be very difficult to administer this section. The proposed change is to eliminate this section and any customer that would apply for a reduction in the storm water charge would present a specific proposal for Council approval.

## Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: No significant impact

Long-Term Impact: No significant impact

## Vision & Strategic Plan Impact

### Vision Impacts:

Primary Impact: Primary, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

### Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Primary, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary



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[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Primary, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

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|---------------------|
| Legislative History |
|---------------------|

| Date | Action |
|------|--------|
| N/A  | N/A    |

|                          |
|--------------------------|
| Suggested Council Action |
|--------------------------|

Staff recommends passage of the ordinance.

Introduced by \_\_\_\_\_

First Reading \_\_\_\_\_

Second Reading \_\_\_\_\_

Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_

Council Bill No. B 75-16

### AN ORDINANCE

amending Chapter 12A of the City Code as it relates to billing practices for the stormwater utility; and fixing the time when this ordinance shall become effective.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 12A of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, Missouri, is hereby amended as follows:

Material to be deleted in ~~strikeout~~; material to be added underlined.

Sec. 12A-151. Billing practices.

(a) *General.* The stormwater utility charge shall be billed by the city in accordance with the provisions of this section and the accounts and billings procedures set forth in chapter 27. Except as otherwise herein provided, each city utility service customer shall be billed the stormwater utility charge for the premises where the customer receives water, electric, sewage or refuse collection utility service. Where there is no city water, electric, sewage or refuse collection utility service customer for a parcel of developed land, the stormwater utility charge shall be billed to the property owner.

...

(d) *Mixed multiple-family and nonresidential use.* Where a parcel of land or single structure is developed with both multiple-family and nonresidential uses, the stormwater utility charge shall be billed to the owner or single entity representing multiple owners. The director, in determining the billing category of land to use for the monthly stormwater utility charge, shall compute the charge by comparing the total number of multiple family units charge to the total nonresidential uses charge and shall apply whichever charge is greater.

Sec. 12A-152. ~~Reduction of charge for approved runoff control~~ Reserved.

~~The stormwater utility charge shall be reduced for the occupant or owner of nonresidential property where approved runoff control measures have been implemented, provided that all such runoff control facilities are privately owned and operated. The charge~~

~~shall be reduced in proportion to the reduction in peak runoff. The director shall determine the percentage reduction in the charge, based on the ratio of peak runoff from the modified property to the peak runoff from the property without reduction in peak runoff.~~

SECTION 2. The new rates established in this ordinance shall be applied to utility bills beginning with the first complete cycle billed after April 30, 2016.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

PASSED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor and Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Counselor