

NEWSLETTER Summer 2015



Kitsap County Public Works | Sewer Utility



Sewer Utility staff use a closed circuit TV camera to inspect condition of sewer pipes



The Sewer Utility maintains 58 pump stations throughout Kitsap County



New digester gas cogeneration system at Central Kitsap Treatment Plant

PROPOSED 5-YEAR SEWER RATE PLAN

Strong financial planning is good for sewer rates

Sewer rates for Kitsap County are projected based on a 20-year planning horizon that guides each five-year rate schedule. Several variables are considered when planning sewer rates, such as population, condition of infrastructure, regulations and new technologies. Combining long term planning and short term planning provides for a stable financial plan.

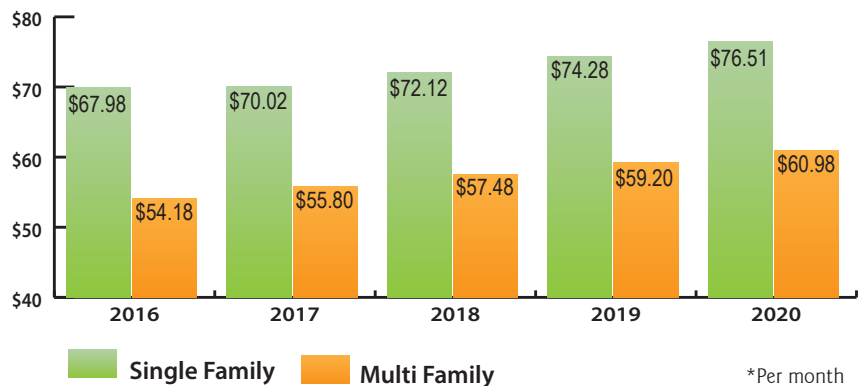
The next proposed five year rate plan includes a 3% annual increase. This is significantly lower than the 6-7% increase projected in 2010. Why the lower increase? The Sewer Utility financial picture is in good standing with an AA Standard & Poor's rating. Better ratings leads to lower interest rates on bonds for sewer projects. Fewer funds are needed to repay construction debts, which allows for a lower increase in rates over the next five years.

Why do we pay sewer fees?

The Sewer Utility is solely supported by its customers. Fees collected are the only source of revenue to keep the sewer systems in good working order. Funds pay for operations and maintenance of sewer pipes, pump stations and wastewater treatment facilities. Any remaining funds go toward reserves to pay for improvements and upgrades to our sewer system.

County Code 13.14.080 mandates monthly sewer fees to cover the maintenance, operation and replacement of sewer systems. Washington State law RCW 36.94.140 requires sewer utilities to charge customers an amount that will cover any debt, operational expenses and maintenance costs.

PROPOSED 5-YEAR SEWER RATE PLAN*



72%

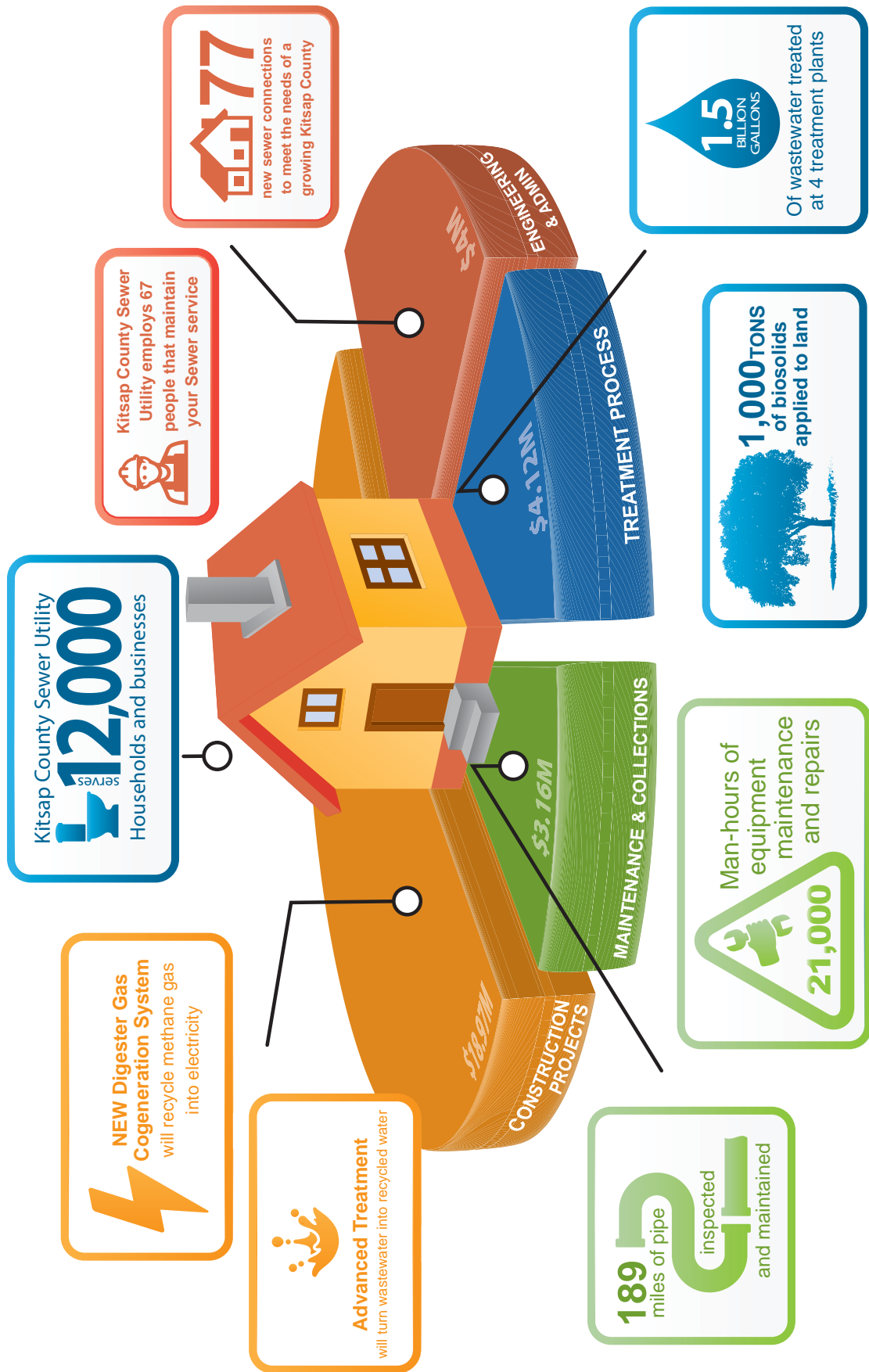
The majority of survey respondents did not know treated wastewater ends up in Puget Sound

SEE WHAT ELSE WE LEARNED FROM OUR 2014 RATE PAYER SURVEY

KitsapGov.com/ww

A public hearing on the proposed rate plan will be scheduled later this year. Please sign-up for electronic notifications at <http://bit.ly/sewernews>

2014 Sewer Utility Facts



Kitsap County Public Works
 Kitsap 1: 360.337.5777
 KitsapGov.com