

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-34

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RICHLAND, WASHINGTON,
AMENDING RICHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE SECTIONS
14.24.060, 15.03.060, 16.08.035, 17.56.028 AND 18.24.020 RELATED
TO UTILITY RATES.**

WHEREAS, several sections of the Richland Municipal Code (RMC) set rates and charges for the City’s electric, water, sewer, stormwater, solid waste utilities, and;

WHEREAS, Chapter 3.29 RMC offers an opportunity for qualified low income citizens to receive discounted utility rates as identified in Utility Low Income Program; and

WHEREAS, on October 1, 2024, Richland City Council passed Ordinance No. 2024-29, amending Chapter 3.29 RMC to update eligibility for the utility low-income program and the rate discount schedule; and

WHEREAS, amendments to RMC 14.24.060, 15.03.060, 16.08.035, 17.56.028 and 18.24.020 are necessary to implement the recent update to Chapter 3.29 RMC.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City of Richland as follows:

Section 1. Section 14.24.060 of the Richland Municipal Code, entitled Retail electrical rates, as first enacted by Ordinance No. 90, and last amended by Ordinance No. 2023-28, is hereby amended to read as follows:

14.24.060 Retail electrical rates.

Rates for electricity are summarized by class of service as listed below. Rates are effective with the first bill received in June 2019 and apply to all usage during the billing period.

SCHEDULE 10: General Residential

- A. Availability: In all territory serviced by the city’s electrical utility.
- B. Applicability: To domestic uses of electric energy by all residential customers not eligible under other rate schedules.
- C. Character of Service: Sixty hertz alternating current of such phase and voltage as the electric utility may have available.
- D. Delivery Point: The following rates are based upon the supply of service to the entire premises through a single delivery and metering point. Separate supply for the same customer at other points of consumption shall be separately metered and billed.
- E. Rates:
 - Daily Service Charge:
 - Single-phase service: \$0.69/day
 - Multiphase service: \$0.98/day

Energy Charge: \$0.0741/kWh

- F. Per Chapter 3.29 RMC, a discount shall be applied to the residential rates specified in this section for qualifying low-income citizens. ~~For electrical service supplied to residential customers qualifying as low income senior or low income disabled citizens, the service charge shall be waived and the energy charge shall be discounted 15 percent of Schedule 10. Qualifications and other information regarding low income senior or low income disabled citizens can be found in Chapter 3.29 RMC (finance).~~

SCHEDULE 20: Small General Service

- A. Availability: In all territory served by the city’s electric utility.
- B. Applicability: To all nonresidential uses supplied through a single meter where anticipated monthly maximum demand does not exceed 50 kilowatts and the load is not eligible under other rate schedules.
- C. Character of Service: Sixty hertz alternating current of such phase and voltage as the electric utility may have available.
- D. Rates:
 - Daily Service Charge:
 - Single-phase service: \$0.86/day
 - Multiphase service: \$1.16/day
 - Energy Charge: \$0.0667/kWh
 - Billing Demand Charge: No Charge

SCHEDULE 22: Medium General Service

- A. Availability: In all territory served by the city’s electric utility.
- B. Applicability: To all nonresidential uses supplied through a single meter, where anticipated monthly maximum demand is greater than 50 kilowatts, but less than or equal to 300 kilowatts, and the load is not eligible under other rate schedules.
- C. Character of Service: Sixty hertz alternating current of such phase and voltage as the electric utility may have available.
- D. Rates:
 - Daily Service Charge:
 - Single-phase service: \$1.38/day
 - Multiphase service: \$1.66/day
 - Energy Charge: \$0.0428/kWh
 - Billing Demand Charge: \$5.17/kW

SCHEDULE 24: Large General Service

- A. Availability: In all territory served by the city’s electric utility.
- B. Applicability: To all nonresidential uses supplied through a single meter, where anticipated monthly maximum demand is greater than 300 kilowatts, but less than or equal to 1,000 kilowatts, and the load is not eligible under other rate schedules.
- C. Character of Service: Sixty hertz alternating current of such phase and voltage as the electric utility may have available.
- D. Rates:
 - Daily Service Charge:
 - Multiphase service: \$2.01/day
 - Energy Charge: \$0.0428/kWh
 - Billing Demand Charge: \$5.58/kW

SCHEDULE 30: Small Industrial

- A. Availability: In all territory served by the city’s electric utility.
- B. Applicability: To all nonresidential uses supplied through a single meter where anticipated monthly maximum demand is greater than 1,000 kilowatts but less than or equal to 5,000 kilowatts and the load is not eligible under other rate schedules.
- C. Character of Service: Sixty hertz alternating current of such phase and voltage as the electric utility may have available.
- D. Rates:
 - Daily Service Charge:
 - Multiphase service: \$8.34/day
 - Energy Charge: \$0.0428/kWh
 - Billing Demand Charge: \$5.92/kW

SCHEDULE 31: Large Industrial

- A. Availability: In all territory served by the city’s electric utility.
- B. Applicability: To all nonresidential uses supplied through a single meter where anticipated monthly maximum demand is greater than 5,000 kilowatts and the load is not eligible for service under other rate schedules.
- C. Character of Service: Sixty hertz alternating current of such phase and voltage as the electric utility may have available.
- D. Rates:
 - Daily Service Charge: \$8.34/day
 - Energy Charge: \$0.0423/kWh

Billing Demand Charge: \$5.52/kW

SCHEDULE 33: Economic Development Rate

- A. Terms and conditions of negotiated rate will be by contract.
- B. Will be based upon the benefits derived from the new load and/or employment opportunities that expand the local economy.
- C. Will utilize marginal costing concept.

SCHEDULE 40: Small Irrigation 0 – 60 Horsepower

- A. Availability: In all territory served by the city’s electric utility.
- B. Applicability: To uses of electrical power on a continuous basis for seasonal agricultural irrigation pumping or agricultural drainage pumping.
- C. Character of Service: Sixty hertz alternating current of such phase and voltage as the electric utility may have available.
- D. Rates:

Energy Charge: \$0.0650/kWh

Billing Demand Charge: No Charge

Annual Service Charge:

To be billed at beginning of irrigation season.

(1) \$194.10 single-phase service.

(2) \$258.80 multiphase service.

SCHEDULE 45: Large Irrigation Over 60 Horsepower

- A. Availability: In all territory served by the city’s electric utility.
- B. Applicability: To uses of electrical power on a continuous basis for seasonal agricultural irrigation pumping or agricultural drainage pumping.
- C. Character of Service: Sixty hertz alternating current of such phase and voltage as the electric utility may have available.
- D. Rates:

Energy Charge: \$0.0428/kWh

Billing Demand Charge: \$7.30/kW

Annual Service Charge:

To be billed at beginning of irrigation season.

\$0.57/horsepower all horsepower greater than 60, plus:

(1) \$194.10 single-phase service.

(2) \$258.80 multiphase service.

SCHEDULE 60: Traffic Lighting

- A. Availability: In all territory served by the city’s electric utility.
- B. Applicability: To municipally owned traffic-regulating signal systems on public streets and highways.
- C. Character of Service: Sixty hertz alternating current of such phase and voltage as the electric utility may have available.
- D. Rates:

Daily Service Charge:	\$0.69/day
Energy Charge:	\$0.0653/kWh

SCHEDULE 90: Cable Television Amplifier/Small Cell

- A. Availability: In all territory served by the city’s electric utility.
- B. Applicability: To owners of cable television amplifiers or small cell installed on facilities owned by the city’s electric utility.
- C. Character of Service: Sixty hertz alternating current of such phase and voltage as the electric utility may have available.
- D. Rates:

Energy Charge:	\$0.0667/kWh
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SCHEDULE 100: New Large Single Load

- A. Availability: In all territory served by the city’s electric utility.
- B. Applicability: To new large single load customers defined in Public Law 96-501 and as such constitute electrical loads greater than or equal to 10 average megawatts during any consecutive 12-month period and which cause the utility to incur wholesale power costs in excess of normal rates.
- C. Character of Service: Sixty hertz alternating current of such phase and voltage as the electric utility may have available.
- D. Rates: Terms and conditions of negotiated rate will be by contract.

Section 2. Section 15.03.060 of the Richland Municipal Code, entitled Service charges - Residential, as first enacted by Ordinance No. 38-21, and last amended by Ordinance No. 2023-28, is hereby amended to read as follows:

15.03.060 Service charges - Residential.

- A. The sanitation service charge for residential collection and removal of normal accumulations of refuse placed in city-provided residential container(s) for disposal shall be as according to the

table below. This does not include the removal of refuse resulting from major renovations or new construction, nor does it include earth, rocks, sod, dead animals, animal wastes, or household hazardous wastes.

Daily Sanitation Service Charge for Residential Service

All residential customers shall be charged the following daily service rates effective for utility bills generated on or after December 1, 2023, with the billings in the month indicated:

	Daily Rate	Residential Call Back
Basic Refuse Service	\$0.5753	\$12.00
Refuse - No Yard Waste	\$0.5474	\$12.00
Recycling - Optional Additional Fee	\$0.2532	\$12.00
Additional Refuse Container Fee	\$0.2679	N/A
Additional Yard Waste or Recycling Container	\$0.0657	N/A

B. Extra curbside garbage placed out for collection shall generate a charge of \$3.00 for each additional garbage can load.

C. When residential collection services by private corporations are authorized by contract, the service provider shall collect from each residential account a Richland landfill self-haul surcharge in the amount of \$0.80 per month. The surcharge is equivalent to the component of the residential collection rate listed in this section that subsidizes reduced disposal fees at the Richland landfill for Richland residents. The Richland landfill self-haul surcharge shall be collected by the contract service provider and be paid to the city on or before the twenty-fifth day of each month.

D. Per Chapter 3.29 RMC, a discount shall be applied to the rates specified in this section for qualifying low-income citizens. ~~There shall be a 60 percent discount applied to rates specified in this section for solid waste collection services provided to residential customers qualifying as low-income senior citizens or low-income disabled citizens. Additional rate information regarding low-income senior citizens and low-income disabled citizens can be found in Chapter 3.29 RMC.~~

E. Residential requests for call back or returns by solid waste personnel to empty containers which were obstructed; were not at curbside and in street by 6:00 a.m.; were packed in such a way that refuse would not exit the container when tipped; or to pick up additional refuse will be charged a call-back fee.

F. Commingled residential recycling is an optional service at the rates described in the table found in this section. The recycling container is serviced every other week and allows for a mix of recyclable materials which include cardboard, plastic, newspaper, aluminum and tin. No glass is

allowed in the recycling containers. Failure to use this container as described will result in an additional refuse container fee added to the utility bill.

Section 3. Section 16.08.035 of the Richland Municipal Code, entitled Special residential rates – Low-income senior citizens and low-income disabled citizens, as first enacted by Ordinance No. 12-07, and last amended by Ordinance No. 2023-28, is hereby amended to read as follows:

16.08.035 Special residential rates – Low-income ~~senior citizens and low-income disabled~~ citizens.

Per Chapter 3.29 RMC, a discount shall be applied to the rates specified in RMC 16.08.010 for qualifying low-income citizens. ~~There shall be a 33 percent discount applied to rates specified in RMC 16.08.010 for stormwater charges to residential customers qualifying as low-income senior citizens or low-income disabled citizens.~~

Section 4. Section 17.56.028 of the Richland Municipal Code, entitled Special residential rates – Low-income senior citizens and low-income disabled citizens, as first enacted by Ordinance No. 63-77, and last amended by Ordinance No. 2023-28, is hereby amended to read as follows:

17.56.028 Special residential rates – Low-income ~~senior citizens and low-income disabled~~ citizens.

Per Chapter 3.29 RMC, a discount shall be applied to the rates specified in RMC 16.08.010 for qualifying low-income citizens. ~~There shall be a 60 percent discount applied to rates specified in RMC 17.56.010(E) for sewer service supplied to residential customers qualifying as low-income senior citizens or low-income disabled citizens.~~

Section 5. Section 18.24.020 of the Richland Municipal Code, entitled Water rate schedule (metered), as first enacted by Ordinance No. 80, and last amended by Ordinance No. 2023-28, is hereby amended to read as follows:

18.24.020 water rate schedule (metered).

A. Residential, multifamily, commercial and large user customers serviced through a water meter will be charged daily for metered water consumption on the basis of Table 1 below, which includes applicable taxes (effective for all utility bills generated on or after December 1, 2023):

Table 1
Water Rates (Metered)

RESIDENTIAL, MULTIFAMILY AND COMMERCIAL RATES	
Meter Size	Rate
1" or less	\$0.8071
1 1/2"	\$2.6893
2"	\$4.3003
3"	\$8.0630

RESIDENTIAL, MULTIFAMILY AND COMMERCIAL RATES	
Meter Size	Rate
4"	\$13.4384
6"	\$26.8767
8" or larger	\$43.0027
Fire hydrant meter monthly rent charge	\$30.00

Additional Charge per 100 cf	Rate
Residential and fire hydrant meter	\$0.85
Multifamily and irrigation	\$0.75
Commercial/municipal	\$0.65

LARGE USER RATES	
Meter Size	Rate
1" or less	\$7.0948
1 1/2"	\$23.6515
2"	\$49.8099
3"	\$70.9545
4"	\$118.2575
6"	\$236.5151
8" or larger	\$378.4241
Additional charge per 100 cf:	0.60

B. The city may furnish water to customers at locations outside the corporate limits of the city. The daily rates for water furnished to out-of-city customers shall be the rates set forth in this title for the applicable class of service plus 50 percent of such rates.

C. Residential customers serviced through a single meter will be billed at the one-inch or less base rate per living unit, plus consumption charges. Consumption charges will be billed to the account to which the meter is addressed.

D. Commercial and mixed-use customers serviced through a single meter, where multiple units are served, will be billed the appropriate commercial rate, plus consumption charges. This utility charge, including all consumption charges, will be billed to the one account where the meter is addressed.

E. Condominiums and townhouses, which share a single meter, will be billed at the multifamily rate with the bill going to a homeowners’ association or like account. Condos and townhouses which are individually metered will be billed at the residential rate with charges based on the meter size.

F. Per Chapter 3.29 RMC, a discount shall be applied to the rates specified in this section for qualifying low-income citizens. ~~The rates for water supplied to the residential customers qualifying as low-income senior citizens or low-income disabled citizens shall be discounted by 60 percent. Additional rate information regarding low income senior citizens and low income disabled citizens can be found in Chapter 3.29 RMC (Utility Low Income Program).~~

G. Commercial customers utilizing the domestic water system for irrigation purposes as described in RMC 18.12.086 will be charged the appropriate commercial rates for usage during the months of April through October of each year. The appropriate commercial rates will be charged if consumption is detected outside of this time period.

Section 6. This Ordinance shall take effect the day following its publication in the official newspaper of the City of Richland.


Section 7. Should any section or provision of this Ordinance be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, that decision shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole or any part thereof, other than the part so declared to be invalid.

Section 8. The City Clerk and the codifiers of this Ordinance are authorized to make necessary corrections to this Ordinance, including but not limited to the correction of scrivener’s errors/clerical errors, section numbering, references, or similar mistakes of form.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Richland, Washington, at a regular meeting on the 5th day of November, 2024.


Theresa Richardson, Mayor

Attest:


Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:


Heather Kintzley, City Attorney

First Reading: October 15, 2024
Second Reading: November 5, 2024
Date Published: November 10, 2024