



June 2024



CFPUA Board Approves FY 2025 Budget

The CFPUA Board this month approved the organization's fiscal year 2025 (FY25) operating budget, which totals \$120 million, a 6.3 percent increase over the FY24 budget.

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Under the FY25 budget, the average residential customer’s monthly bill for combined water and sewer services will increase by \$3.38, or 4.6 percent, starting with services delivered July 1, 2024.

Major drivers of the FY25 budget include:

- Increased costs related to CFPUA’s efforts to address Chemours’ PFAS contamination in the Cape Fear River. [Read more here.](#)
- [Work to replace CFPUA’s Southside Wastewater Treatment Plant \(SSWWTP\).](#)
- Water and sewer utility location work related to internet providers adding buried fiberoptic cable in New Hanover County.
- New personnel positions, including a laboratory supervisor and Engineering Services staff.

The table below summarizes the differences between the FY24 and FY25 budgets:

[Southside Wastewater Plant Replacement](#)

[Sweeney Treatment Enhancements Project](#)



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Appropriations	FY24 Adopted	FY25 Adopted	Increase/ (Decrease)	% Difference
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 33,080,883	\$ 35,423,633	\$ 2,342,750	7.1%
Operating	31,218,714	37,238,149	\$ 6,019,435	19.3%
Debt Service	24,887,010	24,134,153	\$ (752,857)	-3.0%
Transfers	19,500,000	21,000,000	\$ 1,500,000	7.7%
Transfers to SSWWTP Capital Reserve	4,230,000	2,219,000	\$ (2,011,000)	-47.5%
Total	\$ 112,916,607	\$ 120,014,935	\$ 7,098,328	6.3%

Estimated Revenues	FY24 Adopted	FY 25 Adopted	Increase/ (Decrease)	% Difference
Water/Wastewater Charges - Fixed	\$ 38,383,756	\$ 42,005,227	\$ 3,621,471	9.4%
Water/Wastewater Charges - Volumetric	57,298,621	59,051,129	1,752,508	3.1%
System Development Charges	9,881,730	9,763,800	(117,930)	-1.2%
Investment Earnings	1,200,000	2,500,000	1,300,000	108.3%
Other Charges for Service	5,652,500	6,194,779	542,279	9.6%
Appropriated Fund Balance	500,000	500,000	-	0.0%
Total	\$ 112,916,607	\$ 120,014,935	\$ 7,098,328	6.3%

President Biden's Wilmington Visit Highlights Funding for Service Line Replacements



Our staff was honored to be a part of President Joe Biden's historic visit to Wilmington this month, celebrating funding for American water systems to remove lead service lines.

Under recent changes to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Lead and Copper Rule (LCR), every public water system is required to survey pipes across their systems for the presence of lead. CFPUA got a head start on this process back in 2020, surveying about 10,000 water service lines in the oldest parts of our service area.

To date, our survey has found zero lead service lines, but has identified a few hundred galvanized lines. These older lines have a higher likelihood of having a lead "gooseneck" connector, so CFPUA is replacing them all.

Much of the funding for this work will come from \$4.16 million in grants and loans that CFPUA has secured from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, administered by the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ).

Ahead of the president's visit, staff from EPA and NCDEQ joined CFPUA for a live demonstration of a service line removal. Our crew removed a lead gooseneck from a home's water service in downtown Wilmington, installing a new water service line at no cost to the homeowners.

CFPUA is well positioned to complete our service line inventory by the October 2024 deadline. We are grateful for our state and federal partners for helping fund this important work and joining us this month to celebrate our progress.

**Learn How CFPUA Keeps Lead Out
of Our Community's Drinking Water**



Porters Neck Water Tower Gets a Fresh Look



The Porters Neck Elevated Tank has a fresh, clean coat after the recent rehabilitation and recoating project. Work on the tank also included minor structural repairs and new safety climb systems to keep the tank operating its best for years to come.

Making a Splash at the WILMA Dash



CFPUA was proud to be the Water Sponsor at this year's WILMA Dash, the largest women's running event in our region!

Employee Spotlight

Each month we introduce you to one of the more than 300 employees at CFPUA who work to provide you with the best water and wastewater services.



Joshua McLamb
Construction Crew Foreman

Birthplace: *Wilmington, N.C.*

Department/Division: *Distribution and Construction*

Position: *Construction Crew Foreman*

Length of employment: *8+ years*

Briefly describe your typical day at work: *I start each day with a morning meeting with my supervisor to receive my job assignments for the day. These assignments can include water service leaks, cleanouts, fire hydrants and main breaks, etc. My crew and I work effectively together to get our job done for the customers of CFPUA.*

What do you enjoy most about your job: *Providing great customer service, having the ability to learn from some of the older guys who have put many years in with CFPUA and also meeting new people on a daily basis.*

Tell us about one of your biggest accomplishments or challenges while working at CFPUA? *My biggest accomplishment was becoming a Construction Foreman.*

What advice would you give to recent new hires? *Advice for new hires would be to learn as much as you can as fast as you can. Keep a positive attitude, be a team player, and always have integrity.*

What's one thing you'd want customers to know about your department, position, or CFPUA in general? *I would like customers to know that we here at CFPUA strive to provide excellent customer service to the citizens of New Hanover County.*

What do you like to do when you're not at work? *In my free time I like to spend time with family and friends. Just relax as much as I can.*

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