
	Utility Policy	
	Policy Type:	Purpose Statement
	Number:	PS-A-2.0
	To be Reviewed:	Once per term
	Approval Date:	September 23, 2019
	Motion Number:	19.C.405 22.C.422
	Revised Date(s):	November 28, 2022

Principles:

The Town of Okotoks is a sustainable, vibrant, thriving community where citizens enjoy a high quality of life and have access to safe, modern utilities for both personal and business needs.

Objectives:

- 2.1 The public utility systems provided by the Town of Okotoks are built upon the following fundamental objectives:
 - 2.1.1 **Financial sustainability** by ensuring a stable revenue stream is available to plan for current and future assets and reserves. The Town will ensure that current services are delivered in a social, economic, and environmentally responsible manner that do not compromise the needs of future generations.
 - 2.1.2 **Promotion of conservation** is important to the Town based upon its history of living within the means of the Sheep River. Conservation is also an industry recognized way of reducing costs of treatment and conveyance of water and wastewater and serves as an act of environmental stewardship.
 - 2.1.3 **Provision of revenue stability** by ensuring revenue requirements will consist of:
 - a) operations and maintenance requirements;
 - b) stabilization reserves;
 - c) new capital funding;
 - d) existing capital replacement funding; and
 - e) transfers to the Town.
 - 2.1.4 **Equitable rates** by ensuring the rate structure complements the different cost drivers (capital, operations, and maintenance) and reflects the use behaviours of different customer classes.
 - 2.1.5 **Fees and rates are easy to understand and administer.** The rate structure will be straightforward so that the process of determining the total charge is understood by customers and observed as being transparent, fair, and acceptable. Further, the administration of the rate structure should be as simple as possible while still achieving the noted objectives under this policy.

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- 2.2 Public utility systems provided by the Town of Okotoks will not be extended outside of the Town Corporate limits.
- 2.3 Notwithstanding section 2.2, opportunities for cost-effective and efficient delivery of public utility systems will be considered, provided they meet the objectives of this policy.