City of Pasadena Sewer Facility Charge Fact Sheet

In 2007 the Pasadena City Council established the Sewer Facility Charge with the adoption of Ordinance 7134 – Sewer Facility Charge (Chapter 4.53 of Pasadena Municipal Code). This fee was created to ensure that new sewage generators pay their fair share for using the city sewer system, and to prevent current sewer users from bearing the cost of sewer capacity upgrades necessitated by additional demand on the system from new users.

1. How is the fee calculated?

New developments within the Pasadena City limits pay a one-time Sewer Facility Charge based on their daily sewer discharge rate multiplied by \$6.38. The daily sewer discharge rate is determined by multiplying the size and/or type of the development by the average daily flow. The average daily flow is set by Ordinance 7134 as follows:

Occupancy	Average Daily Flow
Apartment buildingBachelor or single dwelling units	100 gal/dwelling unit
1 bedroom dwelling units	150 gal/DU
2 bedroom dwelling units	200 gal/DU
3 or more bedroom dwelling units	250 gal/DU
Auditoriums, churches, etc.	5 gal/seat
Automobile parking	25 gal/1,000 sq. ft. gross floor area
Bars, cocktail lounges, etc.	20 gal/seat
Commercial shops and stores	100 gal/1,000 sq. ft. gross floor area
Hospitals (surgical)	500 gal/bed
Hospitals (convalescent)	85 gal/bed
Hotels	150 gal/room
Medical buildings	300 gal/1,000 sq. ft. gross floor area
Motels	150 gal/unit
Office buildings	200 gal/1,000 sq. ft. gross floor area
Restaurants, cafeterias, etc.	50 gal/seat
Financial institutions (banks)	1,000 gal/1,000 sq. ft. gross floor area
Service shop, service stations	100 gal/1,000 sq. ft. gross floor area
Laundromat	4,600 gal/1,000 sq. ft. gross floor area
Animal kennel (shelter)	100 gal/1,000 sq. ft. gross floor area
Nurseries/greeneries	25 gal/1,000 sq. ft. gross floor area
Warehousing, open storage (storage pace)	25 gal/1,000 sq. ft. gross floor area
Indoor theatre (movies)	500 gal/1,000 sq. ft. gross floor area
Bowling, skating facilities	1,000 gal/1,000 sq. ft. gross floor area
Golf courses	100 gal/1,000 sq. ft. gross floor area
Mortuaries/cemeteries	100 gal/1,000 sq. ft. gross floor area

Schools:	
Elementary or Jr. high	10 gal/student
High schools	15 gal/student
Universities or colleges	20 gal/student
College dormitories	85 gal/student

2. Where did the City get the average daily flow rates?

The average daily flow rates were developed by the Los Angeles County Sanitation District.

3. What type of development is subject to the fee?

All new development, which means new construction on a lot, including additions or modifications to existing structures.

3. Is credit given for demolished facilities that are replaced by new development?

Yes, full credit is given for demolished facilities that were previously on the same parcel. The charge only applies to the net increase in the average daily flow attributable to the new development.

4. What will the fee be used for?

Revenue generated by the Sewer Facility Charge can only be used for sewer capacity upgrades. It may not be used for maintenance functions or repair, replacement or rehabilitation of sewers.