

Stormwater Utility Community Advisory Group Meeting Four: Credit Program





Agenda

- Welcome, Reminders, Introductions
- Recap
- Revisit Rate Structure Options from Meeting 3
- Community Feedback and Open House Update
- Overview of Draft Credit Program
- Webmap
- SUCAG Q&A
- Public Comment
- Adjourn

How to Participate

- Please participate actively and respectfully
- Please mute when not speaking
- Click "raise hand" icon to enter the discussion queue; click again to lower your hand after speaking
- You can also share comments and questions using webinar chat
- There will be public comment session at the end of the meeting for members of the public.

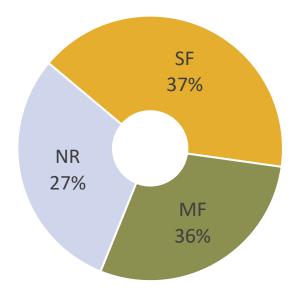
Recap

- Meeting 1 Orientation & Project Overview
 - Why are we considering moving from tax to fee?
 - Goals of SUCAG
 - Overview of stormwater program
- Meeting 2 Costs & Cost Recovery
 - Stormwater program components
 - Cost drivers
 - CIP projects
 - > Tax vs. utility
- Meeting 3 Rate Structures
 - Multi-family and Base charge options

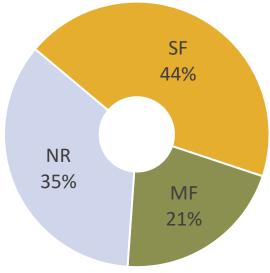


Customer Types in Arlington

Sanitary Tax Allocation by Customer Class



Impervious Area by Customer Type



*Using Tiered with Cap approach







SF = Single-family

MF = Multi-family

NR = Non-Residential

Recommended Variable Tiered Rate Structure for Single-family Properties

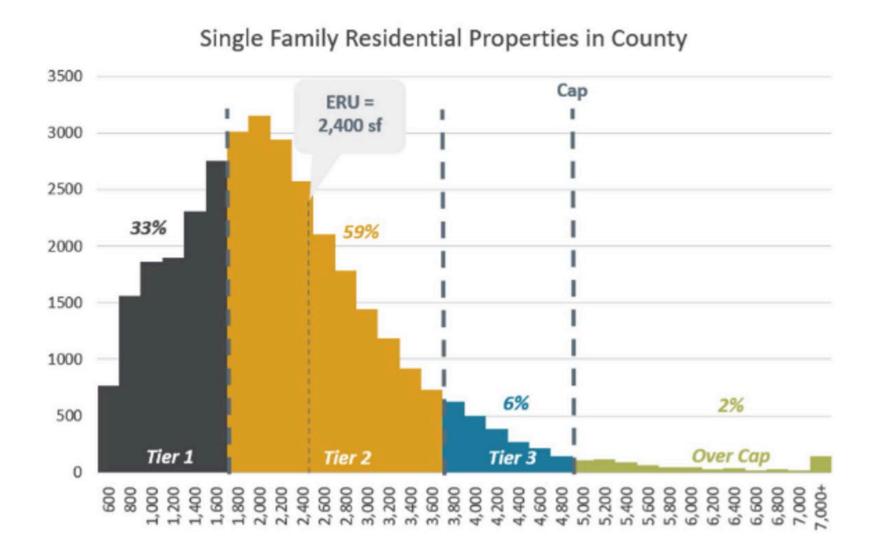
Tiered with CAP				
Tier	Impervious Area Range	Billed		
Tier 1	≤ 1600 SF	0.60 ERU		
Tier 2	> 1600 - ≤ 3600 SF	1.00 ERU		
Tier 3	> 3600 - ≤ 4800 SF	1.70 ERU		
Сар	> 4800 SF	Per ERU, like non-res		

OBJECTIVES MET:

✓ Ease of understanding by County customers

✓ Ease of administration for County staff, reducing program costs

Residential Tiers and Properties Over Cap



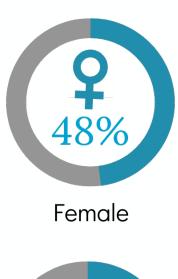
Multi-family (MF) Rate Structure Options

Multi-Family Rate Structure Options

MF Option	Separate MF Option	Pros and Cons
Property Specific Option	Charge for measured IA in units of ERU, same as non-residential properties	 ✓ Supports IA message ✓ Easier to administer BUT Does not consider affordability for garden style properties
Flat Rate Option (Current preferred option)	Total ERUs ÷ Total MF Units in Arlington = 0.18 ERU	 ✓ Simplifies fees and rate structure ✓ Adds layer of fairness for gardenstyle and affordable units BUT Harder to administer Dilutes IA message

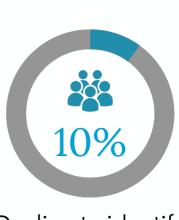
Comments/Questions?

Feedback Form and Open House

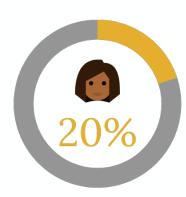




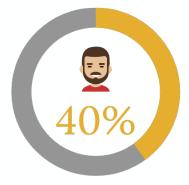
Male







Ages 25-44



Ages 45-64



Ages 65+



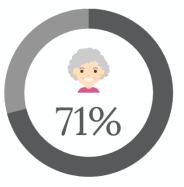
Detached singlefamily



Townhouse/ Multi-family



Top zip codes

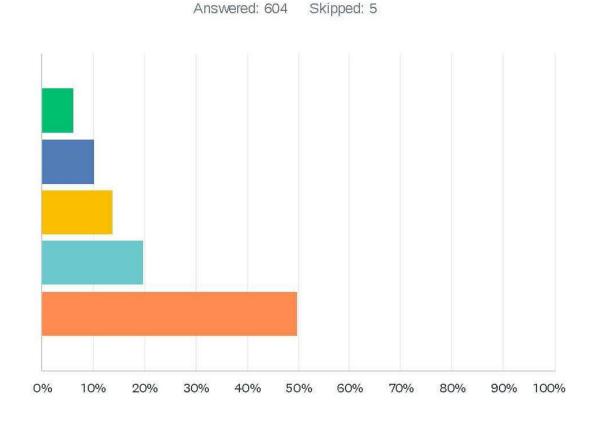


White



Have not attended a public meeting

Q: I Understand Exactly How I am Charged for Stormwater



68% of respondents do not understand how they are charged for stormwater, or how much they pay

	STRONGLY AGREE	SOMEWHAT AGREE	NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
(no label)	6.13% 37	10.26% 62	13.91% 84	19.87% 120	49.83% 301	604	3.97



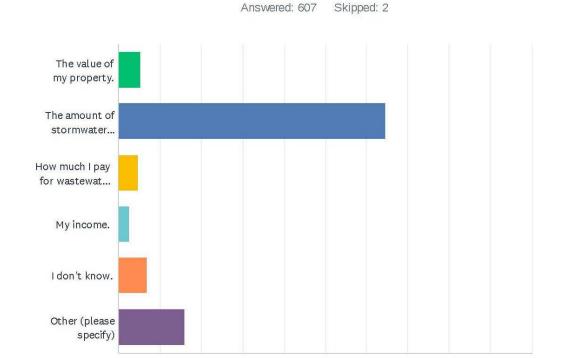
How are property owners billed for stormwater now?

- Sanitary District tax
- Included as part of real estate tax (not listed separately on the statement)
- \$0.017 per \$100 assessed value
- Example property with \$800,000 assessment is charged \$136/year

Q: What I Pay for Stormwater Should Be Based On:

90%

100%

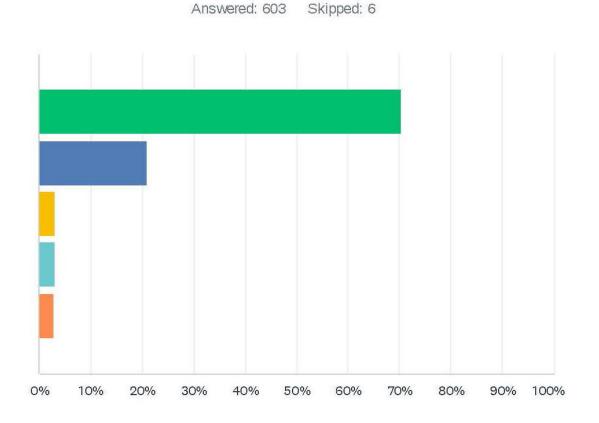


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
The value of my property.	5.27%	32
The amount of stormwater runoff my property contributes to the County's stormwater system.	64.58%	392
How much I pay for wastewater service.	4.78%	29
My income.	2.47%	15
don't know.	6.92%	42
Other (please specify)	15.98%	97
TOTAL		607

61% agree it makes sense to bill for stormwater as a utility

Over 64% feel stormwater fees should be based on the amount of runoff generated by a property

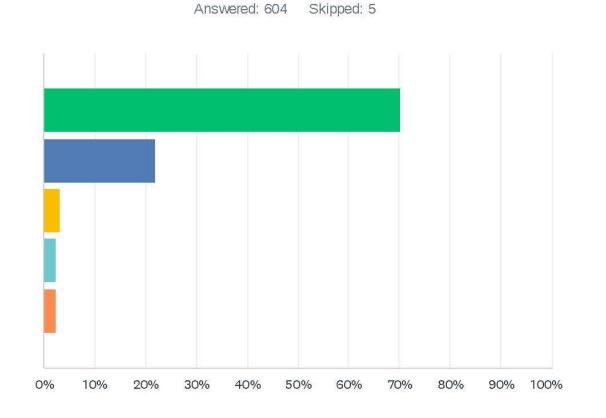
Q: Rate how important it is that the County maintain and/or upgrade its infrastructure to minimize flooding.



Over 90% feel its very important or somewhat important to maintain and upgrade infrastructure to reduce flood risk.

VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NEITHER IMPORTANT NOR UNIMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT UNIMPORTANT	VERY UNIMPORTANT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
70.32% 424	20.90% 126	2.99% 18	2.99% 18	2.82% 17	603	1.47

Q: Rate how important it is for the County to maintain and/or upgrade its stormwater infrastructure to improve water quality and/or stream health.



Over 90% feel its very important or somewhat important to maintain and upgrade infrastructure to improve water quality.

VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NEITHER IMPORTANT NOR UNIMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT UNIMPORTANT	VERY UNIMPORTANT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
70.20% 424	22.02% 133	3.15% 19	2.32% 14	2.32% 14	604	1.45



Open House, July 17th

Draft Credit Program

A Stormwater Credit Program Aims To...



Support water quality



Promote private sector awareness and voluntary measures



Minimize administration



Acknowledge positive behaviors

Stormwater Credit Program Pros & Cons



- Increases positive public perception and buy-in
- Encourage customers to implement and maintain BMPs and participate in practices that improve environmental quality
- Low revenue impact



- Increases workload
- Participation can be hard to predict
- If not done correctly, the credit discount may not correlate with the BMP impact.

Typical Revenue Impact for Credit Programs

Even with the most generous program, the revenue impact is generally small

• Ex: City of Baltimore ≈1% lower revenues

Stormwater Credit Programs are a "thank you" to a customer for doing the right thing

Few customers receive the maximum discount



Most customers get just a few dollars

Not a bill assistance program, but a "thank you" for helping the environment

Credit Program Overview

- The primary purpose of the utility is to recover costs for the stormwater management program
- Per VA code, a credit program is required
- Intent is to balance benefits of the credit program with the administrative cost and burden
 - Considerations of equity





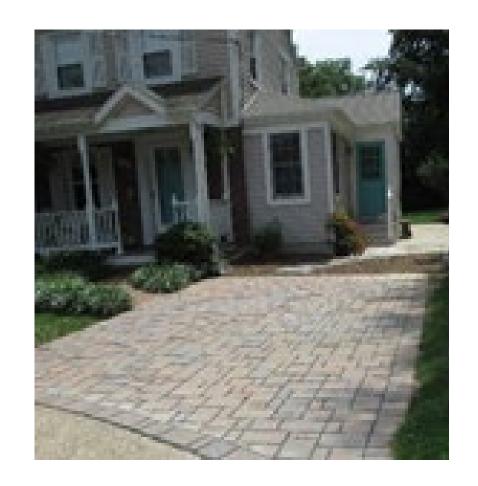
Credits will be Available for Mandatory and Voluntary Activities

- The credit program will include both mandatory and voluntary actions
- Up to 35% for all customers
 - Approximately \$80/ERU
- VA law requires that localities provide a credit for qualifying stormwater facilities, even mandatory ones installed as part of a development project



Mandatory Stormwater Facilities

- In Arlington, construction projects disturbing more than 2500 sq ft must apply for a land disturbing activity permit (LDA) and must install stormwater management facilities
- Amount of the credit for these facilities will be based on performance and design standard under which the facilities were installed
- Credit will be automatically given if the property owners comply with inspection requirement (online form with photos that connects to County tracking database)



Mandatory Stormwater Facility Credit – All Property Types

- Installed before 2014, or Streamlined permit (LDA) = 5%
- Installed after 2014:
 - Less than 1 acre = 10%
 - Over 1 acre = 15%
 - -LDA 2.0 = 15%
- The performance and design standard for mandatory stormwater facilities have increased over time
- Property owner must complete required compliance inspection and submit forms on time for automatic annual credit

Residential Voluntary Credit

- Permeable driveways
- Rain garden
- Native plant landscaping
- Rainwater collection
- Tree Planting





Stormwater Customer Class	Number of Trees for Maximum Credit
Townhome	1 native shade tree
Single Family	2 native shade trees
Single Family – Above the Cap	3 native shade trees
Multi-Family	1 native shade tree per 2 units
Non-Residential	2 native shade trees per ERU



Multi-family and Non-Residential Voluntary Credit

- Stormwater education event (Once per year, 30 attendees)
- Volunteer activity (30 volunteer hours)
 - Adopt-a-Street
 - Storm Drain Marking
 - Stream Cleanup
 - Invasive Plant removal
- Parking Lot Sweeping (6 times per year)
- Permeable parking
- Tree Planting
- Rain Garden
- Conservation Landscaping

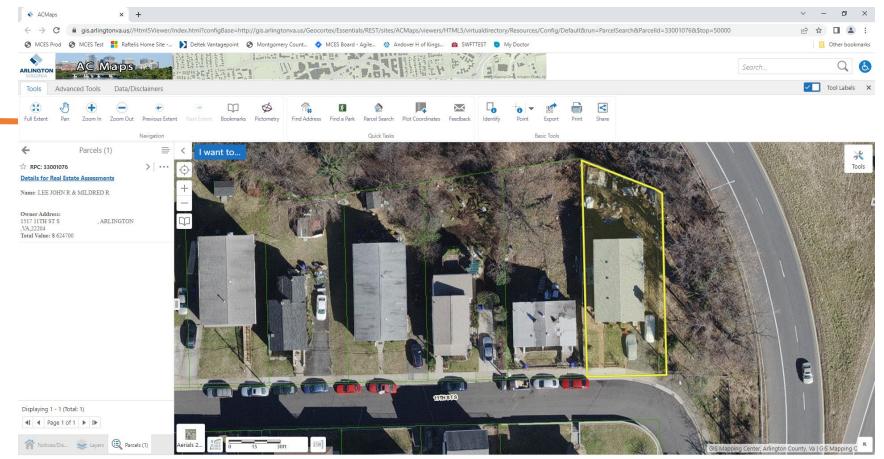


Discussion

- What are your thoughts on the credit program? Round robin
- Which credits would you anticipate applying for?
- Are there any other actions that you think the County should offer credit for?

Webmap Overview

- The webmap bill estimator will be available in September.
- It will allow property owners to look up the ERUs for their property



Latitude Geographics Group Ltd. Powered by Geocorte:

Wrap-Up

Wrap-Up and Next Steps

Meeting	Topics	Approximate Date
Review (If needed)	Review recommendationsAdditional discussionAnswer questions	October

Public Comment