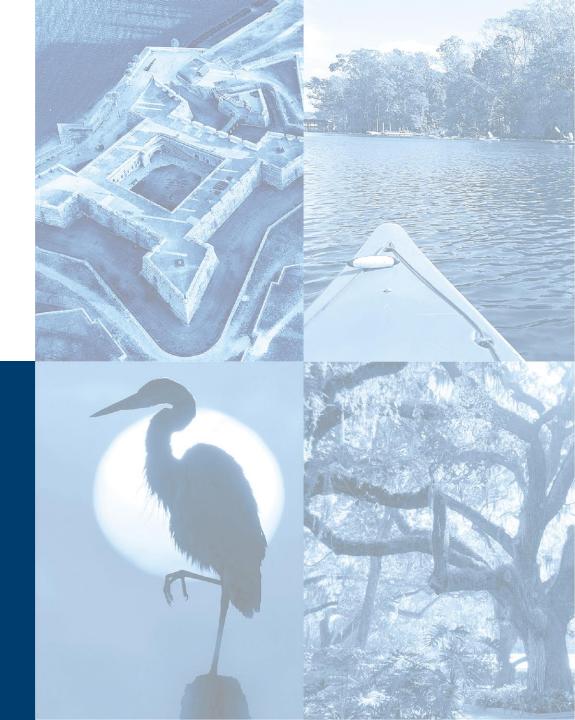


*St Johns County Utility Department Welcomes North Beach Customers* 



# **Presentation Outline**

- County Acquisition of North Beach Utilities
- ✓ Positive Impacts to Customers
- ✓ Immediate Capital Projects
- ✓ Customer Service
- ✓ Rates



## North Beach Utilities (NBU)

On May 7<sup>th</sup> 2024, the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners voted unanimously to acquire the North Beach Utilities (NBU) franchise. Following a due diligence period from May to October, we are pleased to announce that the purchase of the NBU is now complete.

| North Beach Utility Customer Profile | Number of Customers |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Residential Water and Wastewater     | 971                 |
| Residential Water Only               | 424                 |
| Residential Wastewater Only          | 28                  |
| Residential Multi-Family             | 8                   |
| Commercial Water and Wastewater      | 30                  |
| Commercial Water Only                | 5                   |
| Total                                | 1,466               |



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## Positive Impacts to Customers



- *Environmental Stewardship*: Our mission statement signifies our commitment to water conservation. In 2025, SJCUD will adopt the County's tiered rate structure for the newly acquired area, further promoting a message of water conservation throughout the region.
- **SJCUD provides long-term Financial Stability**: The State adopted SB64, near future legislative initiatives and environmental regulations are anticipated to require increased capital investment in its infrastructure, thereby putting rate pressure on existing utility customers. With its AAA S&P bond rating, financial position, rate stability and staff resources, the County Utility will be in a better position to absorb these near future capital investments.
- Immediate \$4 Million investment to Improve Level of Service: The acquisition includes immediate \$4 million investment into its infrastructure. This will provide short and long term benefit to the NBU community by strengthening the condition of existing utility infrastructure increasing its Level of Service to its customers.
- **SJCUD Captures Economies of Scale**: The acquisition will capture economies of scale in operations, position the area to manage expected growth, and develop partnerships with surrounding Utilities for a stronger, more reliable Utility system for the benefit of the community.



## **Capital Investments**

|                                  | Planning Budget |           |    |           |               |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|----|-----------|---------------|
|                                  |                 | FY 25     |    | FY 26     | FY 27         |
| Wastewater Treatment<br>Facility | \$              | 287,500   | \$ | 60,000    | \$<br>140,000 |
| Pump Stations                    | \$              | 455,000   | \$ | 710,000   | \$<br>510,000 |
| Water Meters                     | \$              | 517,650   | \$ | 473,400   | \$<br>0       |
| Water Treatment Plant            | \$              | 2,535,000 | \$ | 1,418,125 | \$<br>0       |
| Totals                           | \$              | 3,795,150 | \$ | 2,661,525 | \$<br>650,000 |









## Wastewater Repairs & Projects

### FY 25

- Aeration Basin Repairs
- Install emergency eyewash/shower station
- Remove vegetation from RIBS

## FY 26

 Office/Lab Building Repairs

## **FY 2**7

- Influent PS (2) 10 hp pumps, panels, appurtenances
- Influent PS Liner and Top Slab



## Pump Station Repairs & Projects

FY 25 to FY 27 Repairs

• Rehab 9-10 Pump Stations per FY





## Water Meter Repairs & Projects

## FY 25

- Repair Meters with \$517,650 Budget
- Prioritize Large Meters first

### FY 26

- Repair Meters with \$473,400 Budget
- Prioritize Large Meters first

### **FY 2**7

• None



## Water Treatment Repairs & Projects

## FY 25

- Electrical Improvements
- RO Concentrate Permitting
- Replace the aerator screens and reinforce structure
- Construct 0.25 Gal. Ground Storage Tank
- Well Head Piping (onsite)
- Painting and Cleanup

### FY 26

- Install new vertical turbine pump for redundancy
- RO Concentrate Piping to River Outfall
- Replace Roof, Doors, and Windows at Main Building

### **FY 2**7

• None





HOME > SERVICES > UTILITY DEPARTMENT > NORTH BEACH UTILITIES ACQUISITION

# North Beach Utilities Acquisition

## News & Announcements

## **Public Meetings**

- October 29, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
  North Shores Community Center
  120 Meadow Ave, St. Augustine, FL 32084
- October 30, 10-11 a.m.
  St. Johns County Auditorium
  500 San Sebastian View, St. Augustine FL 32084



### Dept. Contact

Email: <u>utilbill@sjcfl.us</u>

Main Phone: (904) 209-2700

Toll Free: 1 (877) 837-2311

After Hours Emergency: (904) 209-2745

HOURS

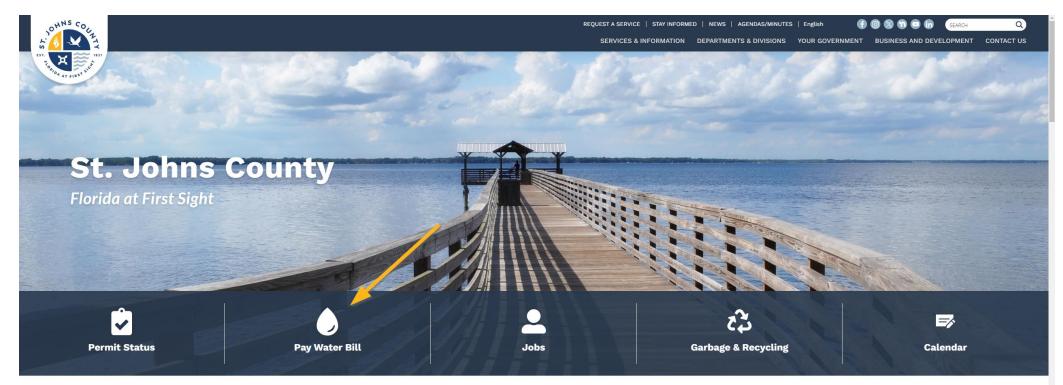
Monday - Friday: 7:30am-4:30pm



(<del>z</del>)

## www.sjcfl.us/north-beach-utilities-acquisition/

# SJC Website Pay Your Water Bill



### Latest News



| June 07                                     | SJC News |
|---|----------|
| Pet Center Free Dog Adoptio<br>Through June | ins      |

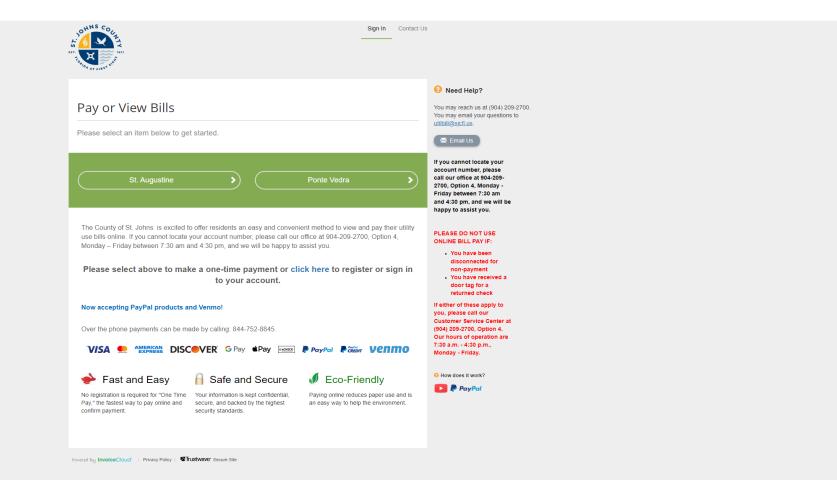
| June 05 | SJC News |
|---------|----------|
|         |          |

Annual Report on Volunteer Boards



www.sjcfl.us

# SJC Website Pay Your Water Bill





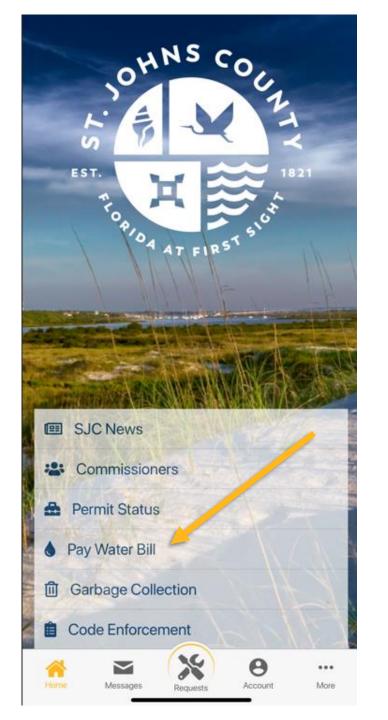
## **ADDITIONAL FEE FREE PAYMENT METHODS**

Over the phone payments can be made by calling: **844-752-8845**, 24 hours per day. Please be sure to wait for the confirmation number before disconnecting the call.

Payments can be made by calling Customer Service at **904-209-2700**, Option 4, Monday through Friday between 7:30 am and 4:30 pm.

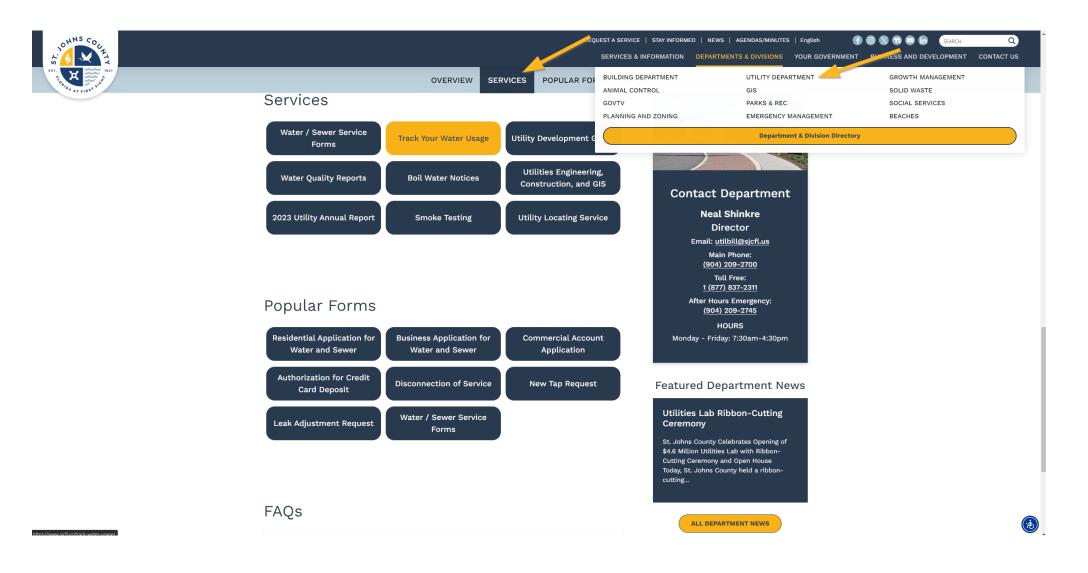
# **SJC Connect App** Pay Your Water Bill





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# Customer Portal Track Your Water Usage



# **Customer Portal** Track Your Water Usage

The St. Johns County Utility Department is pleased to present our Sensus Analytics Customer Portal.

The Customer Portal provides a simple web interface where customers can view usage statistics, compare their usage against temperature and rainfall, and receive custom usage alerts via email and text message.

Residents and businesses are encouraged to track their water usage through the portal where you can see your consumption on an hour-by-hour basis, set alerts for out of the ordinary consumption, and much more.

## Getting Started is Easy

## How-To

(1)

2

#### Get your account number

You'll need the account number from your current water bill. Sample Bill

Learn to Navigate the Customer Portal **Customer Portal Instructions** 



Visit the Customer Portal Customer Portal







# Water and Wastewater Utility Rates

- North Beach Utility, Inc.
   has residential and
   commercial rates for water
   and wastewater customers.
- Residential wastewater
   customers are charged a flat
   fee for wastewater service.
- Commercial wastewater
   customers are charged a
   base rate and volume
   charges based on the actual
   water consumption for the
   month.

## <u>Residential</u>

| Rate Schedule                             | Water Service Rates                 |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Applicability                             | For water service to all Customers. |
| Meter Sizes                               | Charges                             |
| Residential Base Rate<br>Charge per 1,000 | \$30.45                             |
| Gallons                                   | \$2.40                              |

| Rate Schedule | Wastewater Service Rates   |
|---------------|--|
| Applicability | For wastewater service for all purposes in<br>unmetered private residences and apartment<br>units. |
|               | Charges  |
| Flat Rate     | \$45.66  |

\*Water rates for commercial are the same as residential.



## Individual Grinder Pump Maintenance



- The individual grinder pump ownership and maintenance responsibilities for single-family residential wastewater customers, along with a few duplex and small commercial customers will no longer be provided by North Beach Utilities or the County.
- Since 2009, new NBU wastewater connections utilizing single pump stations are privately owned and maintained by the customer/property owner.
- Electric service for affected pump stations is already provided from the customer's electric service.
- Some septic companies may be able to assist in repair and maintenance of your pump station
  - when needed.

17



Consistent with the Department's Utility Maintenance practices, individual grinder pumps are maintained by the homeowner.

North Beach Utilities (NBU) sent notification to all Owners with an individual grinder pump station, the ownership and maintenance responsibilities will not be provided by NBU or the County.



# **Section 125.3401 Statutory Considerations**

## **Residential Rate Impacts**

- Approximately 1,400 residential customers will be impacted by a proposed change to St. Johns County rates.
- 60% of customers will receive a bill decrease between -1.0% to -27.0% using 6,000 gallons or less.
- Higher than anticipated water bills can be offset by a reduction in irrigation for water usage.
- ~ 28 Residential "Wastewater Only" customers will experience a rate increase.

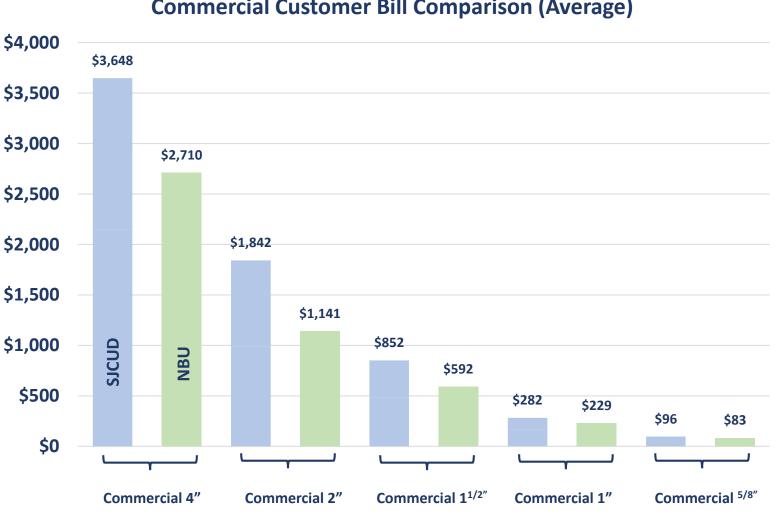


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# Section 125.3401 Statutory Considerations

## **Commercial Rate Impacts**

- Water and wastewater customers will be impacted by proposed change to a conservation rate structure.
- Commercial accounts represent less than 10% of total NBU customers. Less than 40 total.
- Typically higher charges for commercial customers due to tiered rate structures.
- SJCUD will reach out to each commercial account to ensure proper meter size and billing framework is representative of current usage.



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#### **Commercial Customer Bill Comparison (Average)**