

**CITY OF WEST RICHLAND
ORDINANCE NO. 15-19**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON,
AMENDING SECTION 13.90.010 DEFINITIONS, 13.90.020 DEFERRED
PAYMENT AGREEMENTS, 13.90.220 LIABILITY FOR CHARGES, AND
8.04.050 SCHEDULE OF RATES OF THE WEST RICHLAND MUNICIPAL
CODE**

**THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, do
ordain as follows:**


Section 1. Section 13.90.010 "Definitions", 13.90.020 "Deferred Payment Agreements", 13.90.220 "Liability for Charges", and 8.04.050 "Schedule of Rates" is hereby amended to read as shown on Exhibit A.

Section 2. This ordinance shall become effective October 1, 2019.


**PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND,
WASHINGTON, this 16th day of July, 2019.**


Brent Gerry, Mayor

ATTEST:


Julie Richardson, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Bronson Brown, City Attorney

Ordinance 15-19 Exhibit A

13.90.010 Definitions.

For the purposes of this chapter, the following terms, phrases, words and their derivations shall have the meaning given in this section:

“Customer” means the owner of the property to which utility services are provided, or the consumer of utility services or other person designated on the billing address shown in the files of the city’s utility billing system

“Residential Customer” means the owner of the residential property to which utility services are provided..

13.90.020 Deferred payment agreements.

A. If a residential customer is unable to pay the full amount of utility charges because of temporary financial difficulties or other hardship, finance director or designee may permit the customer to sign an application for deferred payment; provided, however, that the city will be under no obligation to enter into any deferred payment agreement with any customer who has not fully and satisfactorily complied with terms of any previous agreement or with any customer with a currently delinquent account. Each residential customer will only be granted two deferred payments during a calendar year. An amount equal to 10 percent of the deferred balance will be added to the account balance in lieu of interest up to a maximum as set by city council in the master fee schedule. The deferred balance must be paid in full by the fifteenth day in the following month in which the original bill was due. A deferred payment promissory note will only be issued to a property owner.

13.90.220 Liability for charges.

All owners of property shall remain ultimately and legally liable for the payment of any and all utility charges to the premises, regardless of whether such property is used for single-family, multifamily, or commercial purposes and regardless of where the utility bill is delivered or that the billings are made in the name of a commercial tenant, property owner or for residential customers requested to have bill titled “owner/occupant.”. Such Billings for commercial tenants and those titled “owner/occupant” of the premises are for personal convenience only and shall not in any way affect lien rights of the city against the premises to which the services are furnished.

8.04.050 Schedule of rates.

A. The person responsible for the cost of water or sewer service to property receiving solid waste collection service is responsible for all charges and costs resulting from solid waste collection. The commercial tenant in possession is also responsible for all such charges and costs resulting from solid waste collection if the bill is sent to that commercial tenant. In the event no water and sewer service is provided a location receiving solid waste collection, the commercial tenant in possession, if billed, and the person making application for the service are jointly responsible for all charges and costs resulting from said service. In addition, and in all events, the property and the property owner are responsible for all charges and costs and the same may become a lien upon the property in the manner prescribed by law.