



Central Services Facility  
6425 Huber Street  
Detroit, MI 48211

Customer Care: 313-267-8000 \*6  
Emergencies: 313-267-7401  
[detroitmi.gov/dwsd](http://detroitmi.gov/dwsd)

May 10, 2019

Russ Bellant  
19619 Helen St.  
Detroit, MI 48234

Re: Public Comment – Reduction of Drainage Fees

Dear Mr. Bellant,

Please accept this letter as a follow-up to your concerns addressed to the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) at a previous community outreach meeting. In your comment, you raised concerns about the drainage fees impacting several businesses' ability to operate, and looking for relief. You also stated that the drainage cost should be subsidized and suggested that the Board revisit the 83/17 ruling.

All DWSD customers within the boundary of the City of Detroit including government entities are assessed drainage charges based on the impervious surface (in acres) on their parcels/properties, except parcels/properties with less than 0.02 impervious acres.

Non-residential customers looking for ways to lower their drainage bill should consider installing green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) at their properties, which may earn green credit to apply towards the drainage charges. Non-residential customers who are considering a GSI installation/credit may request a site assessment by completing/submitting the site assessment application on line or by calling the customer care center at 267-8000. The site assessment program, provided as a free service to the non-residential customers, consists of 1) parcel data validation, 2) credit consultation meeting (if necessary), and 3) on site engineering analysis for GSI opportunities (if necessary). On-site engineering analysis report identifies feasible GSI opportunities with concepts, estimated installation cost, estimated green credit, ROI/payback period and other pertinent information. Non-residential customers can also apply for GSI funding support through DWSD's Capital Partnership Program (CPP). Under the CPP, DWSD reimburses 50% of the design and installation cost of the qualified/approved GSI costs up to \$50,000.

Customers can also submit a Drainage Charge Adjustment Application for impervious area adjustment if there is a change such as removal of hard (impervious) surface or if your parcel's impervious acreage has been calculated incorrectly.

The 83/17 cost sharing for CSO facilities is a court order ruling that DWSD must comply with. There is possibility that the 83/17 agreement may be revisited in the future to see if it can be adjusted.

For more information you can visit the website at (<http://www.detroitmi.gov/dwsd>).



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If you have further questions you can contact our customer care center at 313-267-8000 option 6 to speak with a representative.

Respectfully,

*Lisa Wallick*

Lisa Wallick, P.E.  
Stormwater Management Group Manager

cc: Honorable Board of Water Commissioners