



Detroit Water and Sewerage Department
Central Services Facility
6425 Huber Street, Detroit, MI 48211
313-267-8000 • detroitmi.gov/DWSD

July 3, 2019

Freda George
12717 Riverdale Road
Detroit, MI 48223

Re: Public Comment – My driveway needs to be cemented because it is cracked and worn. Will I be charged more money monthly because of this? Would you charge the same rate for resident in the suburbs?

Dear Freda George:

Please accept this letter as a follow-up to your concern addressed to the City of Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) at a previous outreach meeting. In your comment, you inquired if your monthly charge would increase if your driveway is replaced or repaired. You also wanted to know if the suburbs are charged same rates for drainage.

DWSD's Stormwater Management Group (SMG) did reach out after the meeting and provided a brief engineering consultation via conference call, indicating that if no major reconstruction is made to the driveway then the bill should remain the same. It is our understanding that you plan to replace the existing cement and leave the area between the two lane tire tracks pervious as to not increase impervious surface on your property that would lead to an increase in drainage charges.

Regarding suburban drainage charge rates, some suburban communities have separated sewer systems, while Detroit has a combined sewer system. Each community manages stormwater (drainage) differently, so the costs vary based on the type of facilities constructed to meet permit obligations. In addition, some communities include the charge in the water and sewer bill while other cities and communities include it in property taxes.

Thank you for your comment. 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 (SMG) Manager

cc: Honorable Board of Water Commissioners