

### Town Council Work Session April 15, 2025 | 3:30 PM

Apex Town Hall | 73 Hunter Street, Apex, NC

2nd Floor Council Chambers (Item No. 1 - 3) 3rd Floor Training Rooms A and B (Item Nos. 4 - 6)

- 1. Call to Order | Pledge of Allegiance Mayor, Jacques K. Gilbert
- 2. FY 2025-2026 Manager's Recommended Budget Presentation Randy Vosburg, Town Manager and Other staff as applicable
- 3. RECESS
- 4. RECONVENE
- 5. Debt Modeling for the Water and Wastewater Town Utility Will Kerr, Raftelis Financial Consulting Inc. Elaine Vastis, Raftelis Consulting Inc.
- 6. Adjournment

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Members of the public can access and view the meeting on the Town's YouTube Channel <a href="https://www.youtube.com/c/TownofApexGov">https://www.youtube.com/c/TownofApexGov</a> or attend in-person.

**Accommodation Statement**: Anyone needing special accommodations to attend this meeting and/or if this information is needed in an alternative format, please contact the Town Clerk's Office. The Town Clerk is located at 73 Hunter Street in Apex Town Hall on the 2nd Floor, (email) allen.coleman@apexnc.org or (phone) 919-249-1260.





Financial Plan & Debt Affordability Study

April 15, 2025



# Agenda

- 1. Background of the Study
- 2. Financial Planning
- 3. Scenario Evaluation and Results
- 4. Q&A

# **Background of the Study**

 Raftelis & Town Staff collaborated on a Financial Planning Study for the Water & Wastewater System

 Utilized billing data, operating expense records, growth assumptions, and the Town's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

Goal is to establish a plan – "What can we afford?"

# Financial Plan

- Goal
  - Model yearly cash flow and reserve balances and calculate rates
- Key Cost Drivers
  - Cost Escalation
  - > CIP / Capital Needs
- Revenue Drivers
  - Customers and usage
  - Rate increases
  - System development fees
- Financial policies are the balancing mechanism

### **REVENUE**

- OperatingNon-Operating
- Growth

### FINANCIAL POLICIES

- Reserve Targets
- Debt Coverage Targets

#### **EXPENSES**

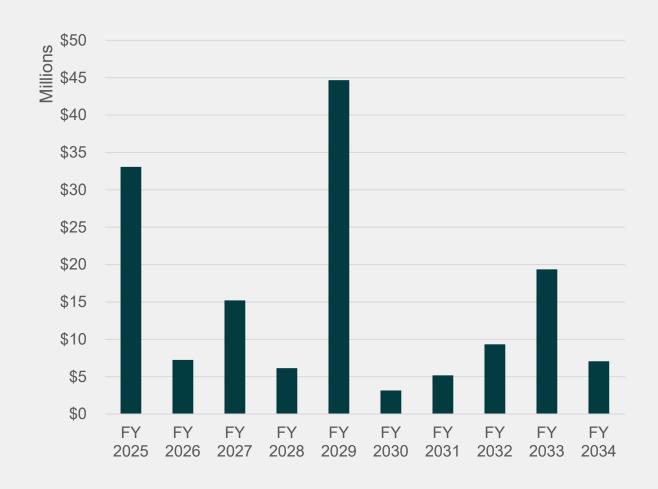
- O&M
- Budget & Inflation
- Capital
- (CIP & Debt)

**Financial Planning Model** 

Rate / Revenue Adjustment Forecast
Multi-Year Financial Plan

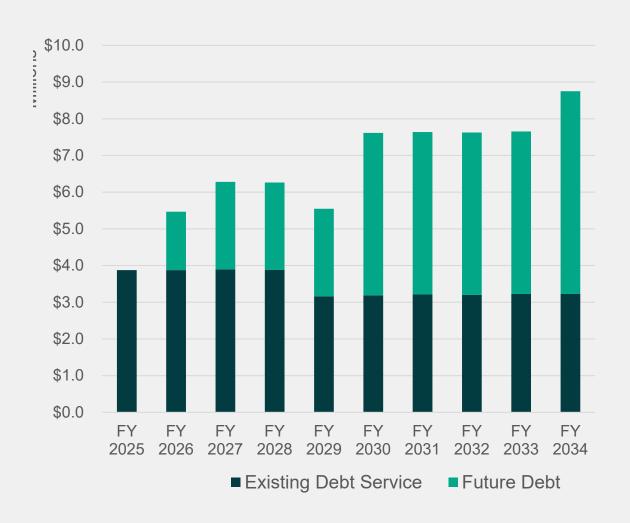
## **Capital Planned Improvements**

- Total 10-year CIP: \$150.4m
- Major Projects:
  - \$40 million for Big BranchPump Station
    - Some funding already set aside
  - \$28.9 million for WWRWRF Expansion to 30 MGD
    - Cost share likely to increase
  - \$16.1 million for CAWTF Expansion



## **Debt Service**

- Existing debt (about \$4 million/year)
  - Revolving Loans
  - Share of Cary WWTP
  - GO Bond
- Future debt may vary depending on project needs
  - Used for evaluation:
    - FY 2026 Bonds \$35m
      - 1yr interest only
    - FY 2029 Bonds WWRWRF Expansion - \$30m
    - FY 2033 Bonds CAWTF Expansion -\$16.1m



## Other Key Assumptions

- Operating Costs
  - > FY 2026 Budget, blended increases of 4.0% per year thereafter
- Revenue Forecast
  - Customer Growth Increases monthly revenue (base & volume) and drives level of SDF revenue
    - 1% 4% growth in customers per year (depends on scenario)
    - Growth in water/wastewater flow tied to growth in customer accounts (half the rate of growth in customers)
  - > All other revenues left flat at FY 2025 estimates

## **Scenario Evaluation Process**

- Key Variables
  - Growth and SDF revenues
  - Capital project timing
  - Rates and rate increases
- Financial Planning Targets
  - Debt Service Coverage = 1.5x Total Debt
  - Days Cash on Hand = 365 Days
  - Based on input from the Town's Financial Advisor

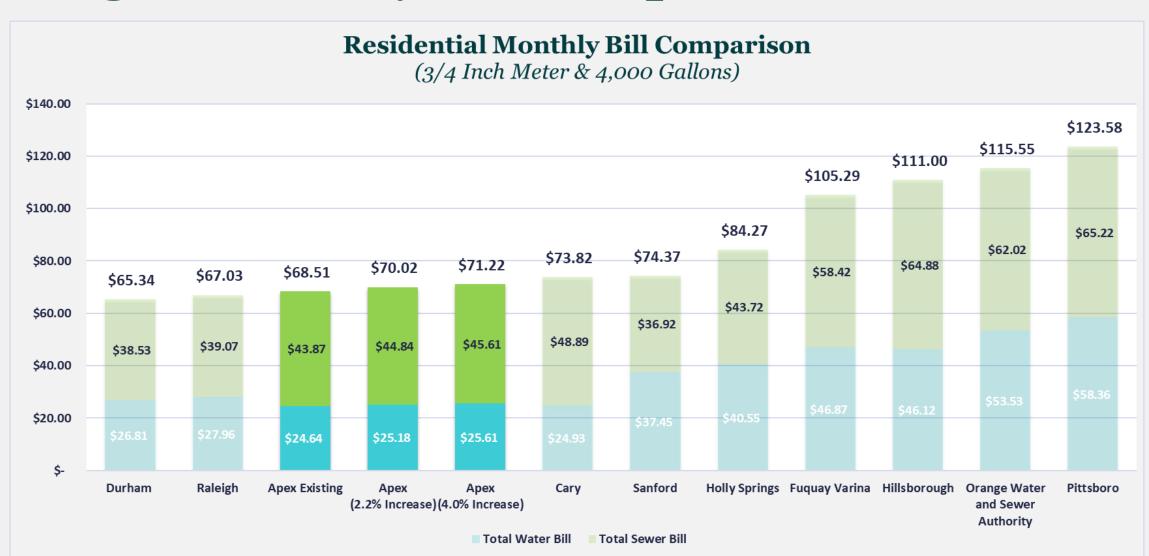
# **Summary of Results**

Scenario	Account Growth	CIP Funded (\$M)	Debt Funding (\$M)	Annual Rate Increase
Scenario 1A	High – 4%	\$150.4 (100%)	\$81.1 (54%)	2.2%
Scenario 1B	Moderate – 3%	\$149.2 (99%)	\$81.1 (54%)	4.0%
Scenario 1C	Moderate – 2%	\$128.1 (85%)	\$81.1 (64%)	4.0%
Scenario 1D	Low – 1%	\$85.9 (57%)	\$49.1 (57%)	4.0%

# **Summary of FY26 Residential Bill Impacts**

			FY2026 Proposed Bills		FY2026 Proposed Bill Increase					
User	Monthly Usage (Gallons)	Current Bill	Scenario 1A (High Customer Growth)	Scenario 1B-D (Moderate-Low Customer Growth)	Scenario 1A (High Customer Growth)	Scenario 1B-D (Moderate-Low Customer Growth)				
Small User										
Water Bill		17.74	18.13	18.44	0.39	0.70				
Wastewater Bill	2,500	31.78	32.48	33.04	0.70	1.26				
Combined Bill		\$ 49.52	\$ 50.61	\$ 51.48	\$ 1.09	\$ 1.96				
Average User										
Water Bill		24.64	25.18	25.61	0.54	0.97				
Wastewater Bill	4,000	43.87	44.84	45.61	0.97	1.74				
Combined Bill		\$ 68.51	\$ 70.02	\$ 71.22	\$ 1.51	\$ 2.71				
Large User										
Water Bill	6,000	33.84	34.58	35.17	0.74	1.33				
Wastewater Bill		59.99	61.32	62.37	1.33	2.38				
Combined bill		\$ 93.83	\$ 95.90	\$ 97.54	\$ 2.07	\$ 3.71				

## **Regional Utility Bill Comparison**





# Thank you!

### **Contact:**

Will Kerr / 704 247 3231 / wkerr@raftelis.com



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