

POULSBO DISTRIBUTION SCHEDULE

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-15

SUBJECT: Low Income Seniors & Disabled Citizen Utility Rate Discount Program Revisions

CONFORM AS TO DATES & SIGNATURES

- Filed with the City Clerk: 10/30/2024
- Passed by the City Council: 11/13/2024
- Signature of Mayor
- Signature of City Clerk
- Publication: 11/18/2024
- Effective: 11/23/2024
- Recorded: _____

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Kati Diehl
Deputy City Clerk

11/14/2024
Date

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-15

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF POULSBO, WASHINGTON, AMENDING SECTIONS 13.70.510, 13.70.610, 13.70.710, AND 8.16.040 OF THE POULSBO MUNICIPAL CODE IN ORDER TO ADJUST INCOME THRESHOLD FOR LOW INCOME SENIORS AND LOW INCOME DISABLED CITIZENS TO FORTY-EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS ADJUSTED ANNUALLY BY CPI-U; AND TO ADJUST THE AGE OF A SENIOR CITIZEN TO SIXTY-TWO YEARS; AND ADOPTING A PROGRAM FOR SOLID WASTE CUSTOMERS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, state law (RCW 74.38.070 and RCW 35.92.020) authorizes cities providing utility services to provide such services at reduced rates for low-income citizens; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 13.70 of the Poulsbo Municipal Code regulates water, sewer, and stormwater service, including specifying the requirements for a customer to qualify for the Low-Income Senior Citizen or Low Income Disabled Citizen utility rate reduction program; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 8.16 of the Poulsbo Municipal Code regulates garbage collection and disposal in the City of Poulsbo; and

WHEREAS, the City currently provides rate reductions for water, sewer, and stormwater services; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to adopt a rate reduction for garbage service; and

WHEREAS, City desires to adjust the current Low Income Senior Citizen and Low Income Disabled Citizen utility rate reduction program, including modifying the qualifying age for seniors, and the threshold income amount for consistency and alignment with neighboring jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, Council discussed the proposal at the November 6, 2024 workshop and requested staff to bring forward an ordinance for approval; and

WHEREAS, Sections 13.70.510(F), 13.70.610(E), 13.70.710(E), and 8.16.040 are amended with language to make effective Low Income Senior Citizen and Low-Income Disabled Citizen program amendments; and

WHEREAS, City Council approved the proposed amendment; NOW THEREFORE,

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POULSBO, WASHINGTON,

DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. **Adoption of Findings.** The recitals set forth above are hereby adopted as the Poulsbo City Council's findings justifying the revisions to the chapter of code adopted by this ordinance.

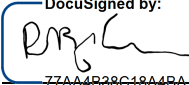
Section 2. **Adoption of PMC 13.70.510, PMC 13.70.610, PMC 13.70.710, and PMC 8.16.040** Sections 13.70.510(F), 13.70.610(E), 13.70.710(E), and 8.16.040 of the Poulsbo Municipal Code are hereby amended to read as shown in Attachment A.

Section 3. **Severability.** If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance or its application to any person or situation should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions of this ordinance or its application to any other person or situation.

Section 4. **Corrections.** Upon approval of the City Attorney, the City Clerk and the code reviser are authorized to make necessary corrections to this ordinance, including the correction of clerical errors; references to other local, state, or federal laws, codes, rules or regulations; or ordinance numbering and section/subsection numbering.

Section 5. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect five (5) days after publication of the attached summary, which is hereby approved.

APPROVED:

DocuSigned by:


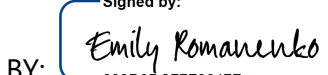
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MAYOR REBECCA ERICKSON

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

DocuSigned by:


D21DA14DCC754A8...
CITY CLERK RHIANNON FERNANDEZ

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY:

Signed by:


BY: 833D00C77E3647E...
EMILY F. ROMANENKO

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK: 10/30/2024
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: 11/13/2024
PUBLISHED: 11/18/2024
EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/23/2024
ORDINANCE NO. 2024-15

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 2024-15
of the City of Poulsbo, Washington

On the 13th day of November, 2024, the City Council of the City of Poulsbo, Washington, approved Ordinance No. 2024-15, the main point of which may be summarized by its title as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF POULSBO, WASHINGTON, AMENDING SECTIONS 13.70.510, 13.70.610, 13.70.710, AND 8.16.040 OF THE POULSBO MUNICIPAL CODE IN ORDER TO ADJUST INCOME THRESHOLD FOR LOW INCOME SENIORS AND LOW INCOME DISABLED CITIZENS TO FORTY-EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS ADJUSTED ANNUALLY BY CPI-U; AND TO ADJUST THE AGE OF A SENIOR CITIZEN TO SIXTY-TWO YEARS; AND ADOPTING A PROGRAM FOR SOLID WASTE CUSTOMERS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The full text of this ordinance will be mailed upon request.

DATED this 13th day of November, 2024.

DocuSigned by:

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CITY CLERK, RHIANNON FERNANDEZ CMC

ATTACHMENT A

The following amendments adjust the Low Income Senior Citizen and Low Income Disabled Citizen reduced utility rate income thresholds not exceed to forty-eight thousand dollars annually and provide for annual adjustments with CPI-U. The amendments also revise the age of what is considered senior citizen from 65 to 62 years old. Additionally, the program language is added to Chapter 8.16 to include Solid Waste as well as Water, Sewer, and Stormwater.

BOLD RED UNDERLINE indicates text addition

~~BOLD RED STRIKETHROUGH indicates text deletion~~

Chapter 13.70 ASSESSMENTS, RATES, FEES AND CHARGES

Article IV. Service Rates—Water

13.70.510 Water service rates.

F. Low Income Seniors and Disabled Citizens.

1. Low income senior citizens and low income disabled citizens who live in a residence served directly by water and/or sewer facilities of the city of Poulsbo and who pay the water/sewer bill directly to the city may qualify for a discount.

2. For the purposes of this section, "low income senior citizen" means a person who has attained the age of sixty-~~two~~ **five** years and whose total income from all sources, including that of his or her spouse, does not exceed ~~forty-eight thousand~~ **thirty thousand** dollars annually. For purposes of this section, "low income disabled citizen" means a person whose total income from all sources, including that of his or her spouse, does not exceed ~~forty-eight thousand dollars annually~~ **one hundred twenty-five percent of the U.S. Census Department poverty threshold, as published annually in February**, and who is (a) a person qualifying for special parking privileges under RCW ~~46.19.010(1)(a) through (j)~~ **46.16.381(1)(a) through (f)**; or (b) a blind person as defined in RCW 74.18.020; or (c) a disabled, handicapped, or incapacitated person as defined under any other state or federal program. **The income threshold shall be adjusted by same percentage as the annual rate adjustments in accordance with PMC 13.70.520.**

3. All persons claiming the discount provided for in this section shall first be required to file an application with the city of Poulsbo finance department to initiate the reduction. The application

shall be on forms prescribed by the finance director and shall provide information by which the finance director may verify the applicant's eligibility to participate. Applicants shall be required to submit such additional information as may be required by the finance director to verify eligibility. In order to stay eligible for the program, an applicant must recertify their eligibility every twelve months. If the city determines that the applicant is ineligible for the reduction, the applicant will be notified by the city.

4. If an applicant moves from the residence to which the service is provided or otherwise becomes ineligible for the reduced rate, the applicant shall be required to notify the finance department immediately.
5. If false information is submitted to the city in connection with any application for a reduced utility rate, the applicant will automatically become ineligible to receive any future discounts and any discounts or reductions already given shall be fully repaid to the city, together with a penalty in the amount of one hundred percent of the repayment amount. This remedy shall be in addition to any other remedies the city may have for the giving of false information.

Article V. Service Rates—Wastewater

13.70.610 Wastewater service rates.

E. Low Income Seniors and Disabled Citizens.

1. Low income senior citizens and low income disabled citizens who live in a residence served directly by water and/or sewer facilities of the city of Poulsbo and who pay the water/sewer bill directly to the city may qualify for a discount.
2. For the purposes of this section, "low income senior citizen" means a person who has attained the age of sixty-~~two~~ **five** years and whose total income from all sources, including that of his or her spouse, does not exceed ~~forty-eight thousand thirty thousand~~ **forty-eight thousand** dollars annually. For purposes of this section, "low income disabled citizen" means a person whose total income from all sources, including that of his or her spouse, does not exceed ~~forty-eight thousand dollar annually, one hundred twenty-five percent of the U.S. Census Department poverty threshold, as published annually in February,~~ **forty-eight thousand** and who is (a) a person qualifying for special parking privileges under RCW ~~46.19.010(1)(a) through (j) 46.16.381(1)(a) through (f)~~; or (b) a blind person as defined in RCW 74.18.020; or (c) a disabled, handicapped, or incapacitated person as defined under any other state or federal program. **The income threshold shall be adjusted by same percentage as the annual rate adjustments in accordance with PMC 13.70.620.**

3. All persons claiming the discount provided for in this section shall first be required to file an application with the city of Poulsbo finance department to initiate the reduction. The application shall be on forms prescribed by the finance director and shall provide information by which the finance director may verify the applicant's eligibility to participate. Applicants shall be required to submit such additional information as may be required by the finance director to verify eligibility. In order to stay eligible for the program, an applicant must recertify their eligibility every twelve months. If the city determines that the applicant is ineligible for the reduction, the applicant will be notified by the city.
4. If an applicant moves from the residence to which the service is provided, or otherwise becomes ineligible for the reduced rate, the applicant shall be required to notify the finance department immediately.
5. If false information is submitted to the city in connection with any application for a reduced utility rate, the applicant will automatically become ineligible to receive any future discounts and any discounts or reductions already given shall be fully repaid to the city, together with a penalty in the amount of one hundred percent of the repayment amount. This remedy shall be in addition to any other remedies the city may have for the giving of false information.

Article VI. Service Rates—Stormwater

13.70.710 Stormwater service rates.

E. Low Income Seniors and Disabled Citizens.

1. Low income senior citizens and low income disabled citizens who live in a residence served directly by water and/or sewer facilities of the city of Poulsbo and who pay water, sewer, and storm utility bills directly to the city may qualify for a discount.
2. For the purposes of this section, "low income senior citizen" means a person who has attained the age of sixty-~~two~~ **five** years and whose total income from all sources, including that of his or her spouse, does not exceed ~~forty-eight thousand~~ **thirty thousand** dollars annually. For purposes of this section, "low income disabled citizen" means a person whose total income from all sources, including that of his or her spouse, does not exceed ~~forty-eight thousand dollars annually, one hundred twenty-five percent of the U.S. Census Department poverty threshold, as published annually in February,~~ and who is (a) a person qualifying for special parking privileges under RCW ~~46.19.010(1)(a) through (j)~~ **46.16.381(1)(a) through (f)**; or (b) a blind person as defined in RCW [74.18.020](#); or (c) a disabled, handicapped, or incapacitated person as defined under any other state or federal program. **The income threshold shall be**

adjusted by same percentage as the annual rate adjustments in accordance with PMC 13.70.730.

3. All persons claiming the discount provided for in this section shall first be required to file an application with the city of Poulsbo finance department to initiate the reduction. The application shall be on forms prescribed by the finance director and shall provide information by which the finance director may verify the applicant's eligibility to participate. Applicants shall be required to submit such additional information as may be required by the finance director to verify eligibility. In order to stay eligible for the program, an applicant must recertify their eligibility every twelve months. If the city determines that the applicant is ineligible for the reduction, the applicant will be notified by the city.
4. If an applicant moves from the residence to which the service is provided or otherwise becomes ineligible for the reduced rate, the applicant shall be required to notify the finance department immediately.
5. If false information is submitted to the city in connection with any application for a reduced utility rate, the applicant will automatically become ineligible to receive any future discounts and any discounts or reductions already given shall be fully repaid to the city, together with a penalty in the amount of one hundred percent of the repayment amount. This remedy shall be in addition to any other remedies the city may have for the giving of false information.

Chapter 8.16

GARBAGE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

8.16.040 Fees—Schedule.

F. Low Income Seniors and Disabled Citizens.

1. Low income senior citizens and low income disabled citizens who live in a residence served directly by solid waste facilities of the city of Poulsbo and who pay solid waste utility bills directly to the city may qualify for a discount.

2. For the purposes of this section, "low income senior citizen" means a person who has attained the age of sixty-two years and whose total income from all sources, including that of his or her spouse, does not exceed forty-eight thousand dollars annually. For purposes of this section, "low income disabled citizen" means a person whose total income from all sources, including that of his or her spouse, does not exceed forty-eight thousand dollars annually, and who is (a) a person qualifying for special parking privileges

under RCW 46.19.010(1)(a) through (j); or (b) a blind person as defined in RCW 74.18.020; or (c) a disabled, handicapped, or incapacitated person as defined under any other state or federal program. The income threshold shall be adjusted by same percentage as the annual rate adjustments in accordance with PMC 8.16.070.

3. All persons claiming the discount provided for in this section shall first be required to file an application with the city of Poulsbo finance department to initiate the reduction. The application shall be on forms prescribed by the finance director and shall provide information by which the finance director may verify the applicant's eligibility to participate. Applicants shall be required to submit such additional information as may be required by the finance director to verify eligibility. In order to stay eligible for the program, an applicant must recertify their eligibility every twelve months. If the city determines that the applicant is ineligible for the reduction, the applicant will be notified by the city.

4. If an applicant moves from the residence to which the service is provided or otherwise becomes ineligible for the reduced rate, the applicant shall be required to notify the finance department immediately.

5. If false information is submitted to the city in connection with any application for a reduced utility rate, the applicant will automatically become ineligible to receive any future discounts and any discounts or reductions already given shall be fully repaid to the city, together with a penalty in the amount of one hundred percent of the repayment amount. This remedy shall be in addition to any other remedies the city may have for the giving of false information.