625 St. Joseph Street
New Orleans, LA 70165

504.529.2837 or 52.WATER

August 4, 2026

The Strategic Planning Committee met on August 4, 2026, in the Executive Boardroom. The meeting convened at approximately 10:00 a.m.

**Members Present:**
Director Tyler Antrup –Chair
Director Kimberly Thomas

**Members Absent:**
Director Courtney Scrubbs– Vice Chair
Director H. Davis Cole
Director Jonathan Stewart

## PRESENTATION ITEMS:

### *A. Stormwater Fee and ROW Fee Development Proposal - Keith Readling and Henrietta Locklear, Raftelis Consultants*

Raftelis Consultants, Keith Readling and Nora McKinley, presented an update on the development of a Stormwater Fee and Right-of-Way, or transportation, Fee. The consultants noted that this work is being funded by a professional services contract amendment that was recently approved by the board at the request City.

Regarding the right-of-way fee, those types of fees are typically a flat charge per parcel or variable charge per parcel based on the traffic generated from that parcel. To develop a rate structure, Raftelis is using data for roughly 150,000 parcels citywide from the Orleans Parish Assessor, as well as data from the Institute of Transportation Engineering (ITE). The consultants will be using ITE published data on vehicle trips per land use and applying it to various types of land uses as determined by the Assessor. A fee model can then be developed based on the number of daily trips assigned to specific land uses. The rational nexus is that properties that generate more trips should be paying a higher fee to help maintain the streets. The modeling will include other elements that mirror the stormwater fee, including a phase-in period and capping the amount the fee increases each year.

**Board of Directors:** Hon. Helena Moreno, President, Chadrick Kennedy, President Pro Tempore, Hon. Jason Hughes, Tyler Antrup, Courtney B. Scrubbs, Esq, H. Davis Cole, PE, Janet Howard, Joseph Peychaud, Ariane Greenidge, Kimberly A. Thomas, JD.

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The City's directive for the right of way fee is that those who are currently contributing to street maintenance via property taxes would not pay any more with the implementation of a fee. Currently, the City estimates that roughly 3.18 mills in property taxes are used to pay for street maintenance.

The Committee engaged in robust discussion, asking how the fee would impact low-income communities or those who do not have a vehicle and rely on public transportation. The consultants noted that affordability programs can be developed to provide financial assistance and reiterated the goal that those who are contributing now to street maintenance through property taxes would not pay more. Rate structures can also be modeled to consider public transportation, but it is a balance between making the fee more administratively complicated versus making it fairer.

The stormwater fee continues to be refined. Regarding financial assumptions, the consultants noted that the revenue requirement is based on $50 million in new revenue phased in over a 10-year period. Revenue needs are based on historic funding shortfalls for the major drainage system, as well as increased costs associated with SWBNO's assumption of the minor drainage system in 2025. Grey Lewis, SWBNO Chief Financial Officer, noted that the adoption of a stormwater fee could allow for better financial planning. Without consistent revenue, SWBNO cannot issue bonds. Director Antrup noted that without consistent stable revenue, the utility cannot do strategic long-term planning and improvements. The Committee also discussed the importance of implementing a stormwater fee that incentivizes property owners to adopt green infrastructure

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- None

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Strategic Planning Committee, Director Antrup called for a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:09 a.m.

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