

# **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON THE...**

## **POLICE SERVICES FEE**

### **1. What is the fee?**

The Police Services Fee is a bi-monthly fee charged to each residential and non-residential location in the City of Keizer. The fee will be used to add and equip five police officers, increasing the number of officers from 37 to 42 or approximately 1.1 officers per 1,000 residents. This is still well below the national average of 2.3 and state average of 1.6 officers per 1,000 residents.

The five additional police officers will include:

- Two Night Shift Patrol Officers,
- One Traffic Safety Officer,
- One Burglary and Property Crimes Detective, and
- One Community Response Unit Officer.

The fee is effective for the November 2017 billing.

### **2. How much is the fee?**

The Police Services Fee is:

- \$6.90 per month or \$13.80 per bi-monthly billing for single family residences and non-residential locations, and
- \$5.95 per unit per month or \$11.90 per unit per bi-monthly billing for multi-family dwelling units.
- \$1.93 per month or \$3.86 per bi-monthly billing for low income and residents over the age of 75.

### **3. How much revenue will the fee generate?**

The fee is estimated to generate approximately \$600,000 per year and may only be used to pay for police related services.

### **4. Will the fee go up in the future?**

There is no automatic increase to the fee. In order to change the amount, the City Council would need to take an action authorizing the change.

### **5. Why is the fee on my water bill?**

By putting charges for multiple City services on one bill, the City is able to reduce the administrative costs of processing, printing and mailing over what it would cost to have each charge on a separate bill.

## 6. Will my water service be disconnected if I don't pay the Police Services Fee?

The Police Services Fee will be included on the Combined City Services Bill along with Water, Sewer, Stormwater and Parks Services charges, however your water service will not be disconnected if you do not pay the fee as each service is accounted for separately. Water service may only be disconnected for past due Water, Sewer and Stormwater charges.

Payments to your Combined City Services Bill will be applied in the following order:

1. Sewer,
2. Water,
3. Stormwater,
4. Police Services Fee, and
5. Parks Service Fee.

## 7. Do you offer any low income or senior discounts?

- a. Qualifications for **Senior discount**: proof of age over 75 years.
- b. Qualifications for **Low-income**: responsible party shows proof that household income is equal to or less than 30% of the Salem/Keizer area median income, based upon family size, as published annually by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.
  - Currently, this median income per number of persons in household is as follows:

|              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1 = \$36,811 | 3 = \$59,464 |
| 2 = \$48,138 | 4 = \$70,790 |
- c. You must apply. Applications are found on the City of Keizer Website. A link to this application is found at [www.keizer.org](http://www.keizer.org). Applications can be also picked up at City Hall or mailed to you upon request.

## 8. What will happen if I don't pay these fees?

- a. A \$37.00 delinquency fee and a 10% administrative fee will be placed on your City Services account if the fees are not paid within fourteen (14) days after the due date.
- b. The City will not disconnect your water service or place liens to any premise for late- or non-payment of the police and parks fees; however, the City may refuse to restore water service to a premise if the delinquent charges and other costs incurred are not paid.
- c. Also, delinquent amounts owing may be collected by all legal means, including, but not limited to the referral or assignment to a collection agency.