

# 2025 Budget and rate fact sheet



As a community-owned, nonprofit utility, we develop our annual budget and rate case to continue to provide value to our customers' lives and support economic growth.

Our annual budget and rate case is presented to the Utilities Board and approved by City Council each year. Base rates pay for building, maintaining and upgrading the pipes and wires in our large system. Base rates changes are presented each year to support the budget. This year, we are proposing a five-year rate case.

## Building the future

We currently have about \$4.6 billion of infrastructure in our system that has been built and maintained over our 100-year history. We expect to add another \$3.9 billion in assets in just five years.

We're preparing a five-year financial plan to provide a roadmap for funding these investments while maintaining competitive rates compared to our Front Range peer utilities.

The 2025 proposed budget is currently estimated at \$1.8 billion— that's 21% more than budget.

## Five-year rate outlook

As a result of the increased budget needs, the proposed rate case includes increases across all four services for the next five years. The increases are due primarily to the rapid increase in capital projects needed to meet regulatory requirements, accommodate growth and support reliability. Capital projects make up 34% of the 2025 budget.

## Capital projects

### Budget drivers

The three main drivers of these investments are:

**Reliability** - system or equipment improvements required to operate reliably and resiliently.

**Regulation** - changes or projects required by local, state or federal law.

**Growth** - projects that increase capacity for population or system growth. These are examples of major projects for each area:

### Water

#### Acquisition projects

Future water projects help us reliably store and deliver water to our community. Additional water supplies are

## Helping hand

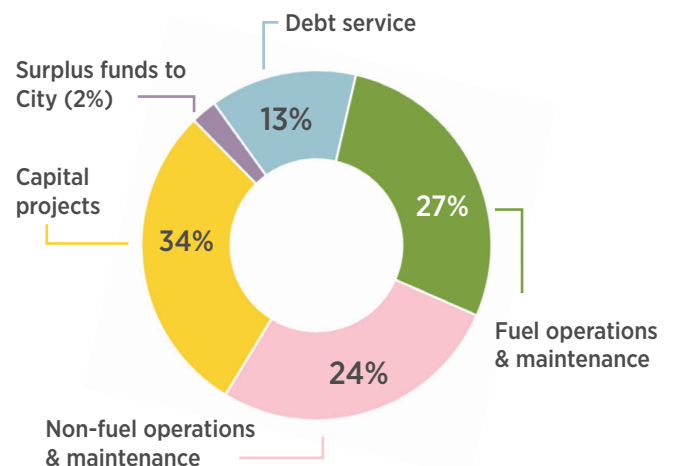


We offer flexible payment and assistance programs to meet our customers' needs, including:

- **Pikes Peak United Way:** Call 211 to apply for utilities bill assistance and other essential services.
- **Low-income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP):** Federally funded program that helps with utility costs.
- **Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP):** In-home energy and water efficiency audits and upgrades.
- **Project COPE:** Offers emergency utilities payment assistance regardless of income.

Residential and business customers can save more with our energy- and water-efficient rebates and tips at [csu.org](http://csu.org).

## 2025 Total budget: \$1.8 billion



needed to meet our community's continued growth. Most of these supplies will come from our water sharing program in the Lower Arkansas River Valley. Through partnerships with farmers to improve their irrigation efficiency, we're able to obtain the water they no longer need while preserving agriculture in our native river basin.

**Storage projects**

Reservoir storage is critical. The Continental-Hoosier System Project will allow us to fully develop our existing water rights in our Blue River system by enlarging Montgomery Reservoir.

**Wastewater**

One of the most significant projects is the Eastern Wastewater System Expansion. Consisting of three large, complex projects, it will serve customers in the rapidly growing eastern side of the city. It includes the design and construction of two lift stations and 18 miles of new pipelines to move waste from eastern Colorado Springs to an existing treatment plant.

**Electric**

Colorado regulations require us to reduce our carbon emissions 80% by 2030. To meet this mandate, we must retire our coal-fired power plants by the end of this decade. To ensure reliable electricity, we must replace this lost power with new investments in renewable and natural gas generation. Because these new renewable energy resources will be located outside of city limits, additional investments in transmission lines and substations are also critical.

**Natural gas**

Examples of major projects include gas propane air plant expansion and pipeline improvements to safely deliver natural gas through our system and meet increased demands.

RATE INCREASES 2025-2029	
Electric and water	6.5% yearly
Natural gas	4% yearly
Wastewater	9% yearly

**Sample bill impacts**

**RESIDENTIAL RATE CHANGES PER MONTH**

Year	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
<b>Base rate total (four services)</b>	<b>\$14</b>	<b>\$15</b>	<b>\$16</b>	<b>\$17</b>	<b>\$18</b>

**COMMERCIAL RATE CHANGES**

Year	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
<b>Base rate total (four services)</b>	<b>\$83</b>	<b>\$71</b>	<b>\$75</b>	<b>\$80</b>	<b>\$85</b>

**INDUSTRIAL RATE CHANGES**

Year	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
<b>Base rate total (four services)</b>	<b>\$1,728</b>	<b>\$2,020</b>	<b>\$2,148</b>	<b>\$2,279</b>	<b>\$2,490</b>

Sample bill

Residential: 700 kWh electricity/1,100 CF water /60 CCF natural gas, 700 CF for wastewater.  
 Commercial: 6,000 kWh electricity/ 1,240 CCF natural gas, 3,000 CF for water, 3,000 CF for wastewater.  
 Industrial: 40,000 kWh electricity/ 12,400 CCF natural gas, 50,000 CF for water, 50,000 CF for wastewater.

**TIMELINE**

<b>Oct. 22</b>	Rate case first hearing, budget first reading.
<b>Nov. 12</b>	Rate case decision and budget second reading.
<b>Jan. 1, 2025</b>	New rates and budget effective through Dec. 31, 2029.