

2021-2022 University Place Rates





PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 27, 2020



• • • OVERVIEW

- Request for approval of 2021-2022 University Place power and water rates
- Recent utility tax approval by the City of University Place
- Aligns with cost-of-service and rate-design principles
- New rates effective April 1, 2021



••• BACKGROUND

- Recent Washington Supreme Court ruling regarding taxing government entities
- Utility tax was approved by the University Place City Council on November 2020 after 2021/2022 TPU rates were set
- Geographical rate structure already in SAP
- 3% from April 1, 2021 March 31, 2022
- 6% after April 1, 2022



COST-OF-SERVICE & RATE-DESIGN

Cost-of-service utilities set rates based on cost causation:

- Tax is on *gross* revenues, which include revenues that will be used to pay taxes
- All taxes are applied concurrently, so if revenue is increased to pay one tax (UP), additional tax liability will be incurred for other revenue taxes (GET, State Utility Tax)
- POWER: UP rates must increase by 3.50% to make up for a 3.0% additional tax, and by 7.26% to make up for a 6.0% additional tax
- WATER: UP rates must increase by 3.6% to make up for a 3.0% additional tax, and by 7.4% to make up for a 6.0% additional tax



••• DEMOGRAPHICS

TACOMA PUBLIC UTILITIES		TACOMA WATER TACOMA PUBLIC UTILITIES	
Accounts	14,276; 90% residential	Accounts	9,497; 96% residential
Usage (kWh)	907 per month average residential	Usage (ccf)	7 in winter, 14 in summer
Monthly Bill	\$100.66 average residential	Monthly Bill	\$57.16 average residential
Assistance	\$104,184; 425 accounts (3%)	Assistance	\$15,728; 109 accounts (1%)

In addition, \$108,900 in Power and \$9,920 in Water special COVID assistance was distributed in 2020.



••• POWER IMPACT

Effective Rate Changes

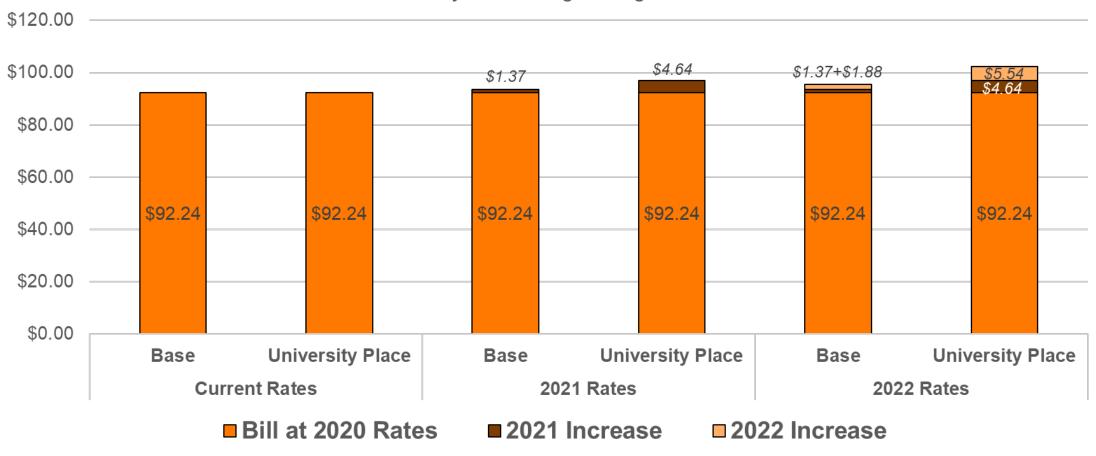
Tax Effect 2021/2022

April 1, 2021-base (rate increase only)	1.5%	Gross Earnings (est. incremental tax impact from higher UP rates)	\$136,000
April 1, 2021-UP (rate increase plus tax increase)	5.0%	State Utility (est. incremental tax impact from higher UP rates)	\$70,000
April 1, 2022-base (rate increase only)	2.0%	University Place	\$1,609,000
April 1, 2022-UP (rate increase plus tax increase)	5.7%	Total	\$1,815,000



••• PROJECTED POWER BILL

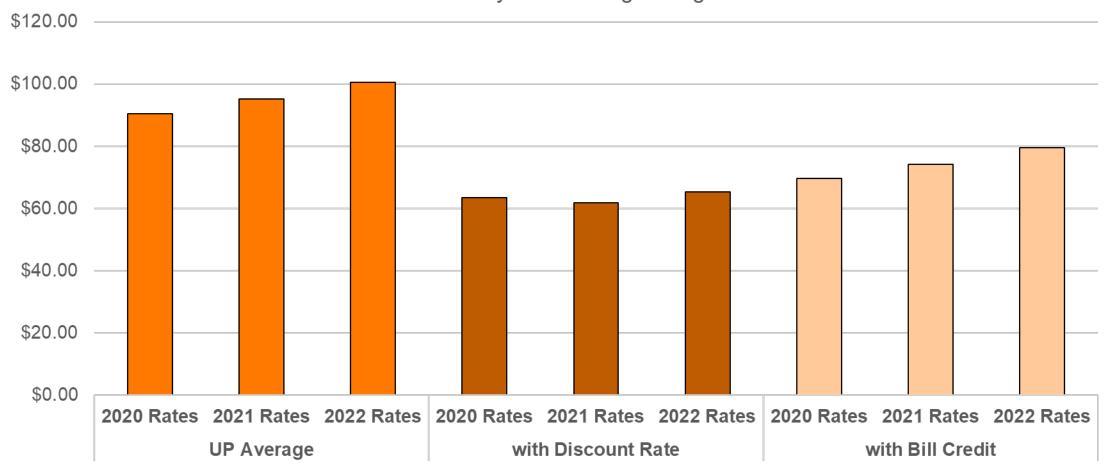






••• UP BILLS & ASSISTANCE







••• WATER IMPACT

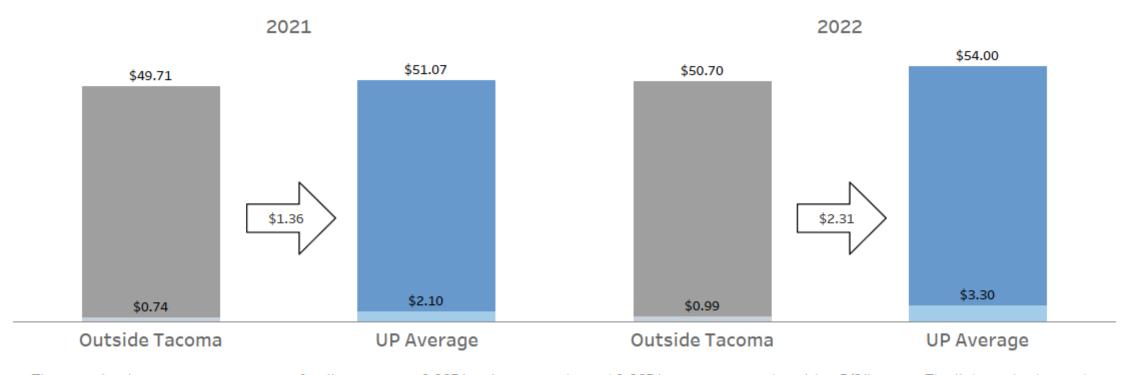
Effective Rate Adjus	stments*	Tax Effect 2021/2022		
January 1, 2021 (system average rate adjustment)	1.5%	Gross Earnings (est. incremental tax impact from higher UP rates)	\$59,242	
April 1, 2021 (University Place tax increase)	3.6%	State Utility (est. incremental tax impact from higher UP rates)	\$43,527	
January 1, 2022 (system average rate adjustment)	2.0%	University Place	\$752,752	
April 1, 2022 (University Place tax increase)	3.7%	Total	\$865,520	

^{*} University Place customers will have all four rate adjustments in 2021 and 2022.



• • • PROJECTED BILL

Comparing System Average & University Place Rate Adjustments for 2021-2022

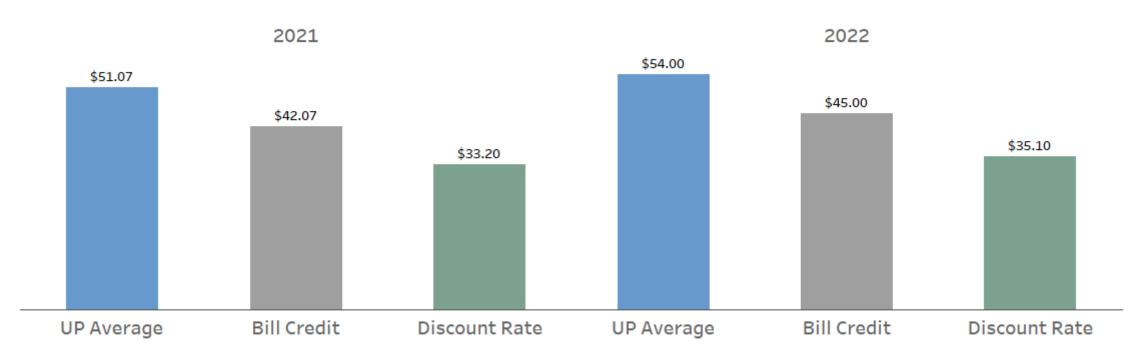


These projections assume an average family consumes 6 CCF in winter months and 9 CCF in summer months with a 5/8" meter. The lighter shades at the bottom represent the average monthly impact of new rates. The arrows isolate the average monthly impact of the utility tax on University Place customers.



BILLS & ASSISTANCE

Projected Average Monthly Water Bill for a Single Family in University Place



These projections assume an average family consumes 6 CCF in winter months and 9 CCF in summer months with a 5/8" meter. For customers eligible to receive payment assistance, monthly bills are offset by \$9 from the Bill Credit Assistance Plan, or 35% from the Discount Rate Program.

For payment assistance, please visit: https://www.mytpu.org/payment-billing/payment-information/payment-assistance/.



• • OUTREACH

- Billing inserts beginning in February
- Targeted mailings via letters to University Place customers
- TPU Website: <u>www.mytpu.org/payment-billing/rate-information</u>



• • • NEXT STEPS

JAN 27

Rate Adoption

PUB Meeting



First Reading

City Council Meeting



Second Reading

City Council Meeting



Rates Effective