

What Is the Availability of Service Charge?

As a Special District through the State of Colorado, PAWSD may assess availability fees to all vacant properties within the District's boundaries when main water and/or wastewater lines are within 100 feet of the property lines.

What is this fee used for?

By State Statute, the monies collected from availability charges can only be used to make the principal and interest payments on municipal revenue bonds sold by the District over the years to finance the construction of such things as water and wastewater treatment plants, water distribution & wastewater collection systems.

In order to repay these bonds, the District can obtain revenue from taxes, monthly availability, and service charges. From a practical standpoint, obtaining all of the revenues from the service charge would be very burdensome on the residents. In order to spread the monetary impact over a wider base, the Board of Directors has chosen to collect revenues from taxes and availability charges as well as service fees to make the annual bond payments.

Currently, availability fee revenues are being used towards bonds that funded the following projects:

Water projects:

- Hatcher Water Treatment Plant upgrades (this project is required in order to be in compliance with new Federal and State regulations)
- Automatic Meter Reading Program
- San Juan Treatment Plant and pipeline
- Stevens Reservoir enlargement
- Additional treated water storage tank

Wastewater Projects:

- Collection system (sewer pipe) improvements

No availability fee or service fee revenues are being used to fund the Dry Gulch Reservoir project.

If I connect to service, can I receive a credit for availability paid?

Yes. Upon receipt of a County recorded Warranty or Quit Claim Deed with Connection Request permit, one-half of the total availability fee that has been paid *by the current owner* may be credited toward the Capital Investment Fee. Credit is based on first month of ownership through the month Connection Request Permit is submitted. *No credit is offered for availability paid prior to ownership by current owner.*