

Hardee County Business Impact Estimate

This form should be included in the agenda packet for the item under which the proposed ordinance is to be considered and must be posted on the County's website by the time notice of the proposed ordinance is published.

Proposed ordinance's title/reference:

Hardee County Water and Wastewater Utility Service Ordinance 2024-06
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This Business Impact Estimate is provided in accordance with section 125.66(3), Florida Statutes.

Question 1. Does the proposed ordinance meet one or more of the exceptions listed below? If so, then please check the applicable exception below and move to Question 2. If one or more boxes are checked below, this means the County is of the view that a business impact estimate is not required by section 125.66(3), Florida Statutes, for the proposed ordinance. If there is no applicable exception, proceed with completing the business impact estimate at Question 3.

- X The proposed ordinance is required for compliance with Federal or State law or regulation;
- ☐ The proposed ordinance relates to the issuance or refinancing of debt;
- ☐ The proposed ordinance relates to the adoption of budgets or budget amendments, including revenue sources necessary to fund the budget;
- ☐ The proposed ordinance is required to implement a contract or an agreement, including, but not limited to, any Federal, State, local, or private grant or other financial assistance accepted by the local government;
- ☐ The proposed ordinance is an emergency ordinance;
- ☐ The ordinance relates to procurement; or
- ☐ The proposed ordinance is enacted to implement the following:
 - a. Development orders and development permits, as those terms are defined in section 163.3164, Florida Statutes, and development agreements, as authorized by the Florida Local Government Development Agreement Act under sections 163.3220-163.3243, Florida Statutes;
 - b. Comprehensive plan amendments and land development regulation amendments initiated by an application by a private party other than the County;
 - c. Sections 190.005 and 190.046, Florida Statutes, regarding community development districts;
 - d. Section 553.73, Florida Statutes, relating to the Florida Building Code; or
 - e. Section 633.202, Florida Statutes, relating to the Florida Fire Prevention Code.

Question 2. Based on the exception you selected above and in accordance with the provisions of the controlling law, please provide an explanation below of why the ordinance meets the exception(s).

The ordinance codifies in local code State and Federal requirements and regulations for enforcement and compliance with those laws in reference to the operation of the water and sewer utility.

Question 3. If there is no applicable exception, proceed with completing the below Business Impact Estimate. In accordance, the County hereby publishes the following information:

A. Summary of the proposed ordinance (must include a statement of the public purpose to be served by the proposed ordinance, such as serving the public health, safety, morals and welfare of the County):

It is hereby declared as a matter of legislative determination that it is in the best interest of the residents of Hardee County to develop a central water and wastewater system to provide safe and clean potable water and minimize the use of septic tanks and onsite wastewater treatment systems. In order to implement the system and provide consistency, rules, regulations, and procedures for customer service and orderly development of the utility connections are necessary. In the interest of limiting the polluting effects of septic tanks and other onsite treatment facilities on ground waters and surface waters within the county, it is necessary to establish a mandatory connection policy requiring the connection of these facilities to the County system under certain circumstances.

B. An estimate of the direct economic impact of the proposed ordinance on private, for-profit businesses in the County, including the following, if any:

(1) An estimate of direct compliance costs that businesses may reasonably incur if the ordinance is enacted;

No new compliance costs are added to the ordinance at this time.

(2) Identification of any new charge or fee on businesses subject to the proposed ordinance, or for which businesses will be financially responsible; and

There are no new charges or fees identified in the ordinance update at this time. The county will reserve the right to update charges and fees by resolution as a result of current and future rate and assets management studies in order to maintain quality services to its customers.

(3) An estimate of the County's regulatory costs, including an estimate of revenues from any new charges or fees that will be imposed on businesses to cover such costs.

There are no new regulatory costs associated with the Utility Ordinance at this time.

(4) Any other direct economic impacts of the proposed ordinance on private, for-profit businesses in the County that are not covered by (1), (2), or (3):

There are no other known new economic impacts proposed in the ordinance at this time.

C. Good faith estimate of the number of businesses likely to be impacted by the ordinance:

33 Businesses will continue to be provided services with no new impact by the ordinance.

D. Additional information the governing body deems useful (what steps did the County take to answer A, B, and C?):

N/A