$222 million to install an Automated Meter Reading (AMR) network throughout New York City

The AMR network is a system of low-power radio transmitters and a citywide wireless network that sends readings from your water meter to a computerized billing system up to 24 times a day. This network will eliminate the need for estimated bills and will allow you to regularly track your water consumption and spot potentially costly leaks before they become a billing problem.

New York City has invested in its water and wastewater systems for more than 150 years, and much of that infrastructure has served the people of New York for more than a century. DEP is continuing that tradition with the most comprehensive upgrades to the city’s water and wastewater systems in decades. These projects will serve New Yorkers for generations to come.
Water and sewer fees are being used to make important investments that will guarantee clean drinking water and cleaner harbors for you, your family and for future generations of New Yorkers.

DEP uses the majority of the monies generated by water and sewer rates to make investments that have been mandated by the State or Federal government to ensure public health. These investments include watershed protection, wastewater treatment plant upgrades, a new Water Filtration Plant for the city’s Croton water supply and a new Ultraviolet Light Disinfection Plant for the city’s Catskill and Delaware watersheds.

In addition to these mandated investments, DEP is making billions of dollars of improvements to the water and sewer networks throughout the five boroughs, including 115 capital projects in Manhattan. Highlights include:

$1.5 billion to protect upstate watersheds
The city supports a number of watershed protection programs in its Catskill and Delaware watersheds. These programs, which include everything from rehabilitating upstate septic systems to buying land around our watershed, protect the high quality of New York City’s source waters for years to come.

$4.7 billion to build City Water Tunnel 3
The city currently relies on City Water Tunnels Nos. 1 and 2 to deliver the majority of drinking water within the city. These tunnels were first put into service in 1917 and 1936, respectively. Completing City Water Tunnel No. 3 will provide New York with critical supply capacity, and will allow DEP to repair City Water Tunnels Nos. 1 and 2 for the first time in their history.

$4.8 billion to construct the Croton Water Filtration Plant and the Catskill/ Delaware Ultraviolet Light Disinfection Plant
Ten percent of the city’s water comes from more populated sections of Westchester and Putnam Counties, where local development can affect the drinking water. The Croton Water Filtration Plant will ensure that water from these areas continues to meet the city’s high water quality standards. The Catskill/Delaware Ultraviolet Light Disinfection Plant provides a second means of disinfection to the other 90% of the city’s drinking water supply, treating microbiological agents like Cryptosporidium and Giardia.

$3.8 billion to upgrade wastewater treatment plants
The waterways surrounding New York City are the cleanest they have been in more than a century. To continue that progress and to meet the requirements of the federal government, the city must upgrade its wastewater treatment plants. DEP will invest $533 million in the North River Wastewater Treatment Plant. In the early 1990s, DEP began a $5 billion upgrade of the Newtown Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Newtown Creek Plant is located in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, but serves parts of Manhattan; its ongoing upgrade will raise the wet weather treatment capacity to 700 million gallons of water per day.

$1.2 billion to decrease the amount of Combined Sewer Overflows from entering New York City’s Waterways
The city’s CSO facilities will capture, retain and pump overflow to wastewater treatment plants before it affects our environment. A part of this work includes the Manhattan Pumping Station, a $248 million facility that will capture stormwater from a 4,362-acre drainage area.