What is the process to add water service to an ADU? Potential applicants can reference this document on our website for more information about the installation process.

What is the average timeline for adding water service to an ADU? The average timeline for new water service installation is between 4-5 months. This includes the necessary time to process the application, issue the work orders for construction, and the complete construction in the public right of way.

What is the average cost to ratepayers for adding water service to an ADU? During the permitting process, the SFPUC Capacity Charge review will determine whether the ADU requires an upgrade to the existing water meter. Most single-family residences adding (1) ADU will not require a capacity change fee. All multi-family residences are required to pay a capacity fee when upgrading the water meter size. Guidelines for Capacity Changes for an ADU is found on our website. Capacity Change fees are based on the change in meter size. These fees are not applicable to single family homes that are adding a single ADU in compliance with state or local ADU Programs.

The installation cost will vary based on the project’s needs. If the property only requires an increase to the existing water meter, the cost would be $2,022. If installation of a new fire sprinkler and a meter increase is needed, the total would be $19,184. Additional fees may apply. Applicants are encouraged to review our new service rates for more information.

What about wastewater service? Generally, ADUs do not create enough additional wastewater flow to require an existing property to increase their lateral size. However, if an increase to the lateral size is needed, it would require a permit with Public Works, and the review would happen in tandem with the water installation process.