

City of Austin | Austin Water

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LIVING UNIT EQUIVALENT (LUE) GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

Definition: A living unit equivalent (LUE) is defined as the typical flow that would be produced by a single family residence located in a typical subdivision. An LUE is assumed to represent 3.5 people living in a residence. For water requirements, this includes consumptive uses, such as lawn watering and evaporative coolers. The wastewater system does not receive all of these water flows, so the calculated flows differ between water and wastewater. The number of LUEs for a project is constant; only the water and wastewater flows are different. An LUE is not equivalent to a fixture unit.

WATER

Details on calculating the Water Utility Requirements for a project can be found in the Utilities Criteria Manual (UCM 2.9.2). The UCM is available online at: https://www.municode.com/library/tx/austin

WASTEWATER

Details on calculating the Wastewater Utility Requirements for a project can be found in the Utilities Criteria Manual (UCM 2.9.4)

For Service Extension Request (SER) projects the following Wastewater Peak Flow Factor can be used:

Peak Flow Factor = $[18+(0.0206 \times F)^0.5]/[4+(0.0206 \times F)^0.5]$, Maximum = 4

The Following LUE Conversions can be used to estimate flows for various development types (Use is Not Mandatory; if using other factors please explain how the factors better represent a specific development).

Proposed Use (Residential)	LUE CONVERSION (L.U.E. per Unit)
Single Family Residence; Modular Home; Mobile	
Home:	1
Duplex:	2
Triplex; Fourplex; Condo Unit; P.U.D., Apartment Unit (6+ Units/Acre to 24 Units/Acre):	0.7
Condo or Apartment Unit (24+ Units/Acre):	0.5
Hotel or Motel Room:	0.5
Proposed Use (Commercial)	LUE CONVERSION (Units per L.U.E.)

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Office (Square Feet of Floor)	3000
Office Warehouse (Square Feet of Floor)	4000
Retail; Shopping Center (Square Feet of Floor)	1660
Restaurant; Cafeteria (Square Feet of Floor)	200
Hospital (Beds)	1
Rest Home (Beds)	2
Church (Worship Services Only) (seats)	70
High / Middle School (Includes Gym and Cafeteria) (Students)	13
Elementary School (Includes Gym and Cafeteria) (Students)	15

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