

**PROPOSICIÓN 218 AVISO DE AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA SOBRE AUMENTOS PROPUESTOS EN TARIFAS DE DRENAJE SANITARIO**

SE NOTIFICA que la ciudad de Porterville llevará acabo una audiencia pública el 21 de noviembre de 2023 a las 6:30 pm en la cámara del consejo municipal, ubicada en 291 North Main Street, Porterville, CA 93257, para considerar la adopción de los aumentos a las tarifas de sus cargos por servicio de drenaje sanitario. El propósito de la audiencia pública es para tomar los comentarios escritos y orales y considerar todas las reclamaciones por escrito en contra de los aumentos de tarifas propuestos. Las reclamaciones por escrito deben ser presentadas con el secretario municipal de la ciudad de Porterville.

**SUS DERECHOS:** Si usted es el propietario del registro de una propiedad sujeta a las tarifas propuestas o un inquilino directamente responsable por el pago de los cargos por servicio de drenaje sanitario (es decir, un cliente de registro), puede presentar una protesta por escrito en contra de los cambios propuestos en las tarifas. Sólo una protesta escrita por parcela será contada. Protestas escritas pueden ser enviadas por correo al secretario municipal de la ciudad de Porterville, ubicado en 291 N. Main Street, Porterville, CA 93257, o en persona en la audiencia pública, siempre y cuando se hayan recibido antes de la conclusión del testimonio público en la audiencia pública. Por favor identifique en el frente del sobre "Sewer Rate Protest" por cualquier protesta, ya sea por correo o entregarse personalmente al secretario municipal. Las protestas presentadas verbalmente, o por correo electrónico, fax o cualquier otro medio electrónico no serán aceptadas. Para obtener más información acerca de este aviso, por favor llame a la ciudad al (559) 782-7514. De conformidad con la sección 53759 del Código de Gobierno de California, existe un plazo de prescripción de 120 días para impugnar cualquier tarifa o cargo nuevo, aumentado o ampliado a partir de la fecha de adopción.

## PROPOSITION 218 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED INCREASES TO SEWER RATES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Porterville will hold a Public Hearing on November 21, 2023, at its regularly scheduled Council meeting that starts at 6:30 pm in the City Council Chambers, located at 291 North Main Street, Porterville, CA 93257, to consider the adoption of increases to the rates for its sewer service fees. The purpose of the public hearing is to take written and oral comments and consider all written protests against the proposed rate increases. Written protests must be filed with the City of Porterville City Clerk.

**YOUR RIGHTS:** If you are the record owner of a property subject to the proposed rates or a tenant directly liable for the payment of sewer service fees (i.e., a customer of record), you may submit a written protest against the proposed rate changes. Only one written protest per parcel will be counted. Written protests may be submitted by mail to the City Clerk, City of Porterville, 291 North Main Street, Porterville, CA 93257, or in person at the public hearing, so long as they are received prior to the conclusion of public testimony at the public hearing. Please identify on the front of the envelope "Sewer Rate Protest" for any protest, whether mailed or submitted in person to the City Clerk. Protests submitted verbally, or by e-mail, facsimile, or other electronic means will not be accepted.

Each protest must (1) be in writing; (2) state opposition to the proposed sewer rate increase; (3) provide the location of the owner's identified parcel (by assessor's parcel number or street address); and (4) include the original signature of the property owner or customer of record submitting the protest. Only one written protest per parcel will be counted.

At the conclusion of the public hearing, the City Council will consider adopting the proposed rate increases, which are outlined on the reverse side of this notice. If, at the close of the public hearing, written protests against the proposed sewer rate increases are submitted by a majority of record owners of affected parcels and customers of record (50% plus one), the City Council will not approve the proposed sewer rates. If, at the close of the public hearing, written protests against the proposed rate increases do not present a majority of record owners of affected parcels and customers of record, the City Council will be authorized to impose rate increases up to the amounts proposed. If adopted, new sewer rates will be effective January 1, 2024. Pursuant to California Government Code section 53759, there is a 120-day statute of limitations for challenging any new, increased, or extended fee or charge from the date of adoption.

**THE NEED FOR SEWER RATE INCREASES:** The City makes every effort to provide its customers with sewer service in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible. The City continuously evaluates operational costs and utilization of the assets it holds, it must also keep pace with inflation, maintain and upgrade aging infrastructure, and other cost increases.

Due to the lack of a rate increase in the past 17 years the City's Field Services /Sewer Division is projecting a substantial revenue shortfall as revenue under existing rates is insufficient. To address the revenue shortfall a rate increase is required to: (1) adequately cover operating and capital costs, debt payments, and debt service coverage; (2) adequately fund the sewer system so it can be operated safely and provide residents and businesses with clean, safe and reliable sewer service; (3) provide timely maintenance of existing facilities; and (4) upgrade the City's wastewater treatment facility to meet Title 22 disinfected tertiary recycled water standards to comply with sustainability efforts.

**PROPOSED ANNUAL RATE INCREASES & BILL IMPACT:** The proposed sewer rates include two classes: (1) Residential Customer Class and (2) Non-Residential Customer Class, a variable water consumption-based usage charge.

The Residential Customer Class represents a consolidation of sewer rates with a uniform rate for all residential customers. Under the consolidated residential rate increase a single-family bill would increase from \$26.87 to \$29.55 and a typical Multi-family/Trailer Park bill would increase from \$25.52 to \$29.55 on January 1, 2024. The consolidated residential rates will increase on July 1, 2024 to \$39.10; on July 1, 2025 to \$42.40; on July 1, 2026 to \$46.00 and on July 1, 2027 to \$49.90, after which time no further automatic adjustments would take place absent of a new notice and hearing pursuant to Proposition 218.

The Non-Residential Customer Class represents all non-residential customers and is based on variable water usage. The variable sewer use charge is the rate the City charges per unit of water consumption (one unit of water equals 748 gallons or 100 cubic feet). The variable charge will be different from one bill to another, depending on customer class and on water consumption. The proposed rate increase for each class and service are as follows:

		PROPOSED RATE INCREASE				
RESIDENTIAL RATES	EXISTING RATES	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Single Family Residential - per unit	\$26.87	\$29.55	\$39.10	\$42.40	\$46.00	\$49.90
Multi Family Residential-per unit	\$25.52	\$29.95	\$39.10	\$42.40	\$46.00	\$49.90
Trailer Park - per space	\$25.52	\$29.55	\$39.10	\$42.40	\$46.00	\$49.90

COMMERCIAL RATES		PROPOSED RATE INCREASE				
per hcf	EXISTING RATES	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Car Wash, Laundry, Packing House	\$0.96	\$2.66	\$3.52	\$3.82	\$4.14	\$4.50
Bars, Hotels w/o Dining	\$1.22	\$3.43	\$4.54	\$4.93	\$5.34	\$5.80
Stores, Offices, Markets	\$1.04	\$2.90	\$3.83	\$4.16	\$4.51	\$4.90
Hospital, Rest Homes	\$1.09	\$3.08	\$4.07	\$4.42	\$4.80	\$5.20
Multi-units with Cons	\$1.19	\$3.37	\$4.46	\$4.84	\$5.25	\$5.70
Mortuaries	\$1.95	\$9.81	\$13.00	\$14.10	\$15.30	\$16.60
Service Stations and Auto Repairs	\$1.36	\$3.80	\$5.04	\$5.47	\$5.93	\$6.43
Restaurants	\$2.97	\$8.63	\$11.44	\$12.41	\$13.46	\$14.61
Churches	\$0.42	\$2.90	\$3.83	\$4.16	\$4.51	\$4.90
Schools	\$0.30	\$2.51	\$3.32	\$3.60	\$3.91	\$4.24
City of Porterville	\$0.83	\$2.90	\$3.83	\$4.16	\$4.51	\$4.90
State Hospital	\$1.09	\$3.08	\$4.07	\$4.42	\$4.80	\$5.20
Industrial - per hcf	\$0.93	\$2.60	\$3.44	\$3.74	\$4.05	\$4.40
Septic Tanks - per 1,000 gallons	\$22.70	\$130.50	\$172.90	\$187.60	\$203.55	\$220.85

Assistance can be provided to those requiring accommodations for disabilities in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Accommodations must be requested at least 48 hours in advance by calling: The City Clerk's Office at (559) 782-7464. City staff can assist you with answering any questions about your water bill. If you have any questions regarding the information in this notice or the rates applicable to your property, please contact Field Services at (559) 782-7514.