

## Wastewater Charges

The District is a party to a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of San Mateo wherein the District receives treatment of its wastewater via the San Mateo Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The District is responsible for its share of operating and maintenance costs that San Mateo (as the lead agency and the contracting party) incurs treating the District's wastewater, as well as approximately 24.12% of the capital improvement costs incurred as part of the Clean Water Program (CWP), a 10-year comprehensive capital improvement project initiated in 2014 at the WWTP. The Cities of San Mateo and Foster City (District) are expanding the jointly owned WWTP at an estimated cost of about \$551 million, of which the District is responsible for approximately \$153 million. This is in addition to local capital projects for the District's own wastewater collection system. The wastewater enterprise intends to fund collection system capital expenditures through annual transfers of \$1,600,000 from the operating fund to the capital improvement fund.

Proposed Rates	Current		Approved			Proposed
	FY 2019-2020	FY 2020-2021	FY2021-2022	FY 2022-2023	FY 2023-2024	FY 2024-2025
% Rate Increase		14.25%	14.25%	14.25%	10.00%	2.00%
<b>Residential (flat monthly rate)</b>						
Single Family	\$85.20	\$97.34	\$111.21	\$127.06	\$139.77	\$142.57
Increase (Decrease)		12.14	13.87	15.85	12.71	2.80
<b>Townhouse/ Duplex (per living unit)</b>						
Duplex	\$71.57	\$81.77	\$93.42	\$106.73	\$117.40	\$119.75
Increase (Decrease)		10.20	11.65	13.31	10.67	2.35
<b>Apartment/ Condo (per living unit)</b>						
Condo	\$71.57	\$81.77	\$93.42	\$106.73	\$117.40	\$119.75
Increase (Decrease)		10.20	11.65	13.31	10.67	2.35
<b>Commercial (rate per ccf of water use)</b>						
High Strength	\$15.48	\$17.69	\$20.21	\$23.09	\$25.40	\$25.91
Increase (Decrease)		2.21	2.52	2.88	2.31	0.51
<b>Med/Domestic Strength</b>						
Med/Domestic Strength	\$5.44	\$6.22	\$7.11	\$8.12	\$8.93	\$9.11
Increase (Decrease)		0.78	0.89	1.01	0.81	0.18
<b>Low Strength</b>						
Low Strength	\$3.58	\$4.09	\$4.67	\$5.34	\$5.87	\$5.99
Increase (Decrease)		0.51	0.58	0.67	0.53	0.12

Estero Municipal Improvement District  
 610 Foster City Boulevard  
 Foster City, CA 94404



## Estero Municipal Improvement District

### Notice of Public Hearing on Proposed Water and Wastewater Rates



Monday, June 1, 2020  
 6:30 P.M.  
 620 Foster City Blvd  
 City Council Chambers  
 Foster City, CA 94404

## Public Hearing Notice

The Estero Municipal Improvement District (EMID) will hold a public hearing to establish new water rates for FY 2020-2021 with an increase of 3% for fixed water charges and 3% for variable water charges and a 2% wastewater increase for FY 2024-2025. As a water and wastewater customer or owner of record for a property that receives water and wastewater service, we are informing you that the District Board will hold a public hearing on **June 1, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.** to consider proposed changes to its current rates to take effect on July 1, 2020.

### Why are new water rates being proposed?

The primary reasons for the proposed water rate increases are: an increase in operational costs of the water enterprise, funding necessary to support water conservation rebates, and higher-than-normal water system loss.

### Why are new wastewater rates proposed?

As a joint owner of the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) located in the City of San Mateo, EMID is responsible for its share of operating and maintenance costs that San Mateo incurs treating the District's wastewater, as well as approximately 24.12% of the capital improvement costs incurred as part of a 10-year comprehensive capital improvement project at the WWTP. Based on updated project cost estimates, EMID's share of the WWTP project is approximately \$153 million. To meet the revised costs, the District Board will consider approving a 2% rate increase for FY 2024-2025. This is in addition to wastewater rate increases of 14.25% per year from FY 2020-2021 to FY 2022-2023 and an increase of 10% for FY 2023-2024 that were previously approved to support debt-financing costs associated with the WWTP improvements.

### Protest of Proposed Rates

Whether or not you are a water and/or wastewater customer of the District, you may appear and be heard on this or any other matter relating to the proposed rates. Any record owner of a parcel upon which fees are proposed, or any tenant directly responsible for the payment of water service fees (i.e. a customer of record), may submit a written protest to the City Clerk / District Secretary at the return address in this notice. A written protest must include: (1) the address of the impacted property; (2) a statement that the protest is submitted in opposition to increases to the water or wastewater rate; and (3) the name and signature of the person submitting the protest. If the District does not receive written protests against the proposed service charges by a majority of the affected property owners and customers of record by the end of the public hearing, the District will be authorized to approve the proposed rates. Per Proposition 218, only one protest per property owner per utility will be counted.

### Proposed Water Rate Changes

The District prepares a 10-year projection of water rates, and considers the maintenance, operational and capital costs associated with its operation. The water rates proposed herein are based upon those cost projections, and may be viewed on the following website:

<https://www.fostercity.org/publicworks/page/water-and-wastewater-rates>

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), the sole source of water supply for the District, released updated projections for its wholesale rate for water in February 2020. The SFPUC also collects the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA) Bond Surcharge to pay debt service for major regional water system improvements, which began in 2002. The proposed water rate incorporates the BAWSCA Bond Surcharge estimated at \$0.40 cents per "ccf" (a ccf = 748 gallons of water). The SFPUC rates and BAWSCA surcharge combined are projected to remain unchanged from FY 2020-2021 to FY 2021-2022 at \$4.50/ccf (\$4.10 SFPUC + \$.40 BAWSCA) with a projected increase of 23% in FY 2023-2025 to \$5.45/ccf (\$5.05 SFPUC + \$.40 BAWSCA).

### Fixed Meter Charges

Due to the increase in the cost to ensure the safe delivery of water through the system, the fixed meter charge is proposed to be increased by 3.0% for 5/8" and 3/4" meters on July 1, 2020. The meter ratios are based on meter size in compliance with the American Water Works Association.

Monthly Charge	Current	Proposed FY 2020-2021
<b>Domestic and/or Irrigation Customers</b>		
5/8" and 3/4"	\$23.15	\$23.85
1"	38.58	39.75
1.5"	92.60	95.40
2"	123.47	127.20
3"	270.08	278.25
4"	486.15	500.85
6"	1,080.33	1,113.00
8" or greater	1,852.00	1,908.00
<b>Private Fire Service Protection Meter</b>		
5/8" and 3/4"	\$32.41	33.39
1"	32.41	33.39
1.5"	32.41	33.39
2"	43.29	44.60
3"	94.45	97.31
4"	170.15	175.30
6"	378.04	389.47
8" or greater	648.20	667.80

### Single-Family Residences

Single-family residences with responsibility for indoor (domestic) and outdoor (irrigation) water uses are placed in a tiered rate structure whereby the cost of water increases based on the amount of water used in a **bi-monthly** billing cycle as follows:

Tier (#ccf)	Current	Proposed FY 2020-2021
Tier 1—0 to 20	\$5.59	\$5.76
Tier 2—Over 20	6.20	6.41

### Multi-Family Residences (per living unit)

Multi-family residences with responsibility for indoor water uses are placed in a tiered rate structure whereby the cost of water increases based on the amount of water used in a **bi-monthly** billing cycle as follows:

Tier (#ccf)	Current	Proposed FY 2020-2021
Tier 1—0 to 10	\$5.59	\$5.76
Tier 2—Over 10	6.20	6.46

### Irrigation Customers

Irrigation customers with *separate irrigation water meters* are provided an individually-prepared water budget based on the square footage of landscaping being watered. Usage will be charged at \$5.76/ccf. On June 30, 2021, water usage for the year will be compared to the water budget. Usage over the water budget allotment will be charged \$6.39/ccf for every unit of water over the allotment. Customized reports through the year will let customers know how they are doing in water use.

Water Budget Consumption	Current	Proposed FY 2020-2021
<= 100%	\$5.59	\$5.76
> 100%	6.17	6.39

### Commercial Customers and Fire Line

Commercial customers will be charged for water consumption at a rate of \$5.88/ccf.

Consumption	Current	Proposed FY 2020-2021
All Usage	\$5.70	\$5.88

### Water Rebates

Thank you to all the water customers who have taken remarkable steps to reduce water consumption over the years. For more information on available water rebate programs, visit the website: <https://www.fostercity.org/publicworks/page/water-conservation-rebate-programs>

If you have questions regarding this notice, please contact Norm Dorais, Director of Public Works, at (650) 286-3270 or [ndorais@fostercity.org](mailto:ndorais@fostercity.org).