

Proposed Rate Changes

A Rate Study was prepared pursuant to governing law in “Prop 218” (California Constitution Article XIII D, Section 6) identifying each parcel to be charged water and wastewater rates, the amount of the rates, the basis upon which the rate was calculated, and the reason for the change in rates. Additional information regarding the proposed rates, including the Rate Study (prepared by Bartle Wells Associates) and the Rate Setting Procedures are available on the City’s website: www.fostercity.org/publicworks/page/water-and-wastewater-rates.

Rate Assistance Program

The District may be able to offer Rate Assistance discounts to qualifying customers. To learn more or to apply, visit: www.fostercity.org/wwrap.

Water Conservation Tips

- Water is a precious resource! Thank you for taking steps to save water and lower your monthly bill.
- Switch from lawn to drought-tolerant landscape.
 - Turn the faucet off while brushing your teeth.
 - Run only full loads in the clothes washer or dishwasher.
 - Fix leaks around your home

Water Conservation Rebates

Get money to help pay for water-saving changes at your home or business. For information on water conservation rebate programs, visit www.fostercity.org/rebates.

You are hereby notified that in order to file a judicial action or legal proceeding to challenge the proposed water and wastewater rates, you must file a timely written objection, and you must commence the action or proceeding within 120 days of EMID’s approval of the rates. Failure to submit a timely written objection bars any right to challenge the proposed rates through a judicial action or legal proceeding. (Gov Code Section 53759.1(c).) There is a 120-day statute of limitations for challenging any new, increased, or extended water fee, rate, or charge. (Gov Code Section 53759.)

How to Submit a Written Objection or Protest

Any objection OR protest must: (1) be on a paper writing identifying the name of the “customer of record” (either the property owner or a tenant directly liable to pay the rates), and the street address or other clear identification of the property subject to the rates; (2) be signed by the customer of record; and (3) comply with the relevant requirements for a written objection or written protest (as outlined below and summarized in the Rate Setting Procedures posted at www.fostercity.org/publicworks/page/water-and-wastewater-rates). Do not transmit objections or protests via email or other electronic transmission. The main differences between an objections and a protest: a) the deadline for timely submission; b) the additional information required for each; and c) a timely written objection is required prior to bringing a legal challenge to the proposed rates.

Additional Requirements: Timely Written Objection

A timely written objection must specify the grounds for alleging that the proposed rates do not comply with Prop 218. The Rate Setting Procedures summarize the relevant requirements of Prop 218, and the Rate Study documents EMID’s compliance with Prop 218. **The deadline for written objections is May 15, 2025 at 5 pm.** To be considered timely, such objections must be received by the EMID City Clerk/District Secretary at the return address on this notice.

Additional Requirements: Timely Written Protest

A written protest must clearly state that the customer of record opposes the rate increase. To be considered timely, a written protest must be received by the EMID City Clerk/District Secretary at the return address on this notice prior to the close of the public testimony portion of the June 2, 2025 6:30 pm public hearing. Any timely written objections (see above) will also be considered a timely written protest. Only one protest will be counted per parcel. Owners of multiple parcels may file one protest for each parcel owned within EMID’s service area. If timely written protests are received from customers of record of a majority of parcels within the EMID service area, the proposed rate increase will not be implemented.

Estero Municipal Improvement District
610 Foster City Boulevard, Foster City, CA 94404-2222



Estero Municipal Improvement District



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES

Monday, June 2, 2025, 6:30 P.M.

The Estero Municipal Improvement District (EMID) provides water service to Foster City and a portion of the City of San Mateo immediately adjacent to the west, referred to as the Mariners Island area. EMID provides wastewater service to Foster City. State law allows EMID to follow the process described in this notice to set rates sufficient to cover costs of operating and maintaining the facilities needed to provide these services. EMID will hold a public hearing on June 2, 2025 at 6:30 pm to consider approval of proposed updated water and wastewater rates, to take effect on July 1, 2025. If the updated rates are approved, they will include annual adjustments for cost of living for FY 2025-2026 to FY 2029-2030. The EMID Board will consider all information presented regarding the proposed rate changes, including any timely written objections and protests prior to making a decision.

The hearing will be held as a hybrid meeting in-person and by teleconference/video conference, subject to appropriate regulations. The meeting address is 620 Foster City Boulevard, Foster City, CA 94404. Final teleconference/video conference information will be listed on the published agenda. The public may participate by submitting comments via email to publiccomment@fostercity.org or by providing live verbal public comment by joining the meeting via teleconference and/or video conference, or in person. Instructions on how to join the meeting are included in the top portion of the agenda posted at: www.fostercity.org/agendasandminutes.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Wastewater Rates

Wastewater rates provide the revenue needed to pay for the staff, supplies and capital projects required to maintain the District’s wastewater collection and conveyance system. In addition, the District is in a partnership with the City of San Mateo to provide treatment of the District’s wastewater and approximately 24% of the capital improvement costs to expand the jointly-owned WWTP, for which the District is responsible for approximately \$171.9 million. For details on projected EMID wastewater rates in FY 2025-2026 through FY 2029-2030 please visit: www.fostercity.org/publicworks/page/water-and-wastewater-rates. EMID provides wastewater service to Foster City. If you receive water service from EMID in San Mateo, your wastewater service is provided through the City of San Mateo, not through EMID. For information on San Mateo wastewater, visit: www.cityofsanmateo.org/1085/Sewer-Service-Charge.

Monthly Charge	Current	Proposed FY 25-26	Proposed FY 26-27	Proposed FY 27-28	Proposed FY 28-29	Proposed FY 29-30
Single Family	\$133.49	\$133.49	\$136.16	\$138.88	\$141.66	\$144.49
Townhouse/ Duplex (per unit)	\$112.13	\$112.13	\$114.37	\$116.66	\$118.99	\$121.37
Apt/Condo (per unit)	\$112.13	\$112.13	\$114.37	\$116.66	\$118.99	\$121.37
Commercial (per ccf)						
High Strength	\$24.26	\$24.26	\$24.75	\$25.25	\$25.76	\$26.28
Med/Domestic Strength	\$8.53	\$8.53	\$8.70	\$8.87	\$9.05	\$9.23
Low Strength	\$5.61	\$5.61	\$5.72	\$5.83	\$5.95	\$6.07

Water Rates and Pass-Through for Water Use Rates

Water rates include fixed water meter charges and water use charges. Adjustments were required to provide necessary revenue for the maintenance, operational and capital costs associated with the water distribution enterprise. A significant driver for the proposed water use rate increases is projected increases in the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) wholesale water rate. Government Code section 53756 allows EMID to “pass through” changes to the wholesale cost to its customers. It is proposed that EMID implement a “pass-through” adjustment whereby changes by SFPUC to its rates in excess of the estimated increases will be reflected in EMID’s retail water rates during the 5-year period covered by this Notice. EMID customers will be notified of any such pass-through adjustments at least 30 days prior to the change in rates (on or after each July 1 of the 5-year period). Rates are presented per ccf (hundred cubic feet). Additional details regarding proposed water rates, including the formula for this pass-through rate can be found in the Rate Study here: www.fostercity.org/publicworks/page/water-and-wastewater-rates.

Water Use Rates for 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:

Per CCF Charge	Current	Proposed FY 25-26	Proposed FY 26-27	Proposed FY 27-28	Proposed FY 28-29	Proposed FY 29-30
Tier 1—0 to 20 ccf	\$6.60	\$6.80	\$7.02	\$7.29	\$7.56	\$7.84
Tier 2—Over 20 ccf	\$7.33	\$7.56	\$7.79	\$8.08	\$8.34	\$8.59

Rates are presented per CCF. One (1) CCF =748 gallons

Water Use Rates for 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:

Per CCF Charge	Current	Proposed FY 25-26	Proposed FY 26-27	Proposed FY 27-28	Proposed FY 28-29	Proposed FY 29-30
Tier 1—0 to 10 ccf	\$6.60	\$6.80	\$7.02	\$7.29	\$7.56	\$7.84
Tier 2—Over 10 ccf	\$7.36	\$7.54	\$7.77	\$8.06	\$8.32	\$8.57

Water Use Rates for 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, whereby the cost of water increases for the amount of water used over the allotment. Customized reports through the year let customers know how they are doing in water use.

Per CCF Charge	Current	Proposed FY 25-26	Proposed FY 26-27	Proposed FY 27-28	Proposed FY 28-29	Proposed FY 29-30
Monthly Water Consumption Budget						
<= 100%	\$6.60	\$6.80	\$7.02	\$7.29	\$7.56	\$7.84
> 100%	\$7.80	\$7.76	\$8.00	\$8.29	\$8.55	\$8.79

Water Use Rates for Commercial Customers and Fire Line

Per CCF Charge	Current	Proposed FY 25-26	Proposed FY 26-27	Proposed FY 27-28	Proposed FY 28-29	Proposed FY 29-30
All Usage	\$6.72	\$6.92	\$7.14	\$ 7.41	\$7.68	\$7.96

Fixed Water Meter Rates

The fixed water meter charge ensures the continued safe delivery of water through the system. The meter ratios are based on meter size in compliance with the American Water Works Association.

Monthly Charge	Current	Proposed FY 25-26	Proposed FY 26-27	Proposed FY 27-28	Proposed FY 28-29	Proposed FY 29-30
Domestic and/or Irrigation Customers						
5/8" and 3/4"	\$28.85	\$31.30	\$33.80	\$36.15	\$38.70	\$41.40
1"	\$48.08	\$52.17	\$56.33	\$60.25	\$64.50	\$69.00
1.5"	\$115.40	\$125.20	\$135.20	\$144.60	\$154.80	\$165.60
2"	\$153.87	\$166.93	\$180.27	\$192.80	\$206.40	\$220.80
3"	\$336.58	\$365.17	\$394.33	\$421.75	\$451.50	\$483.00
4"	\$605.85	\$657.30	\$709.80	\$759.15	\$812.70	\$869.40
6"	\$1,346.33	\$1,460.67	\$1,577.33	\$1,687.00	\$1,806.00	\$1,932.00
8"or greater	\$2,308.00	\$2,504.00	\$2,704.00	\$2,892.00	\$3,096.00	\$3,312.00
Private Fire Service Protection Meter						
1-1/12 & below	\$40.39	\$43.82	\$47.32	\$50.61	\$54.18	\$57.96
2"	\$53.95	\$58.53	\$63.21	\$67.60	\$72.37	\$77.42
3"	\$117.71	\$127.70	\$137.90	\$147.49	\$157.90	\$168.91
4"	\$212.05	\$230.06	\$248.43	\$265.70	\$284.45	\$304.29
6"	\$471.12	\$511.13	\$551.95	\$590.33	\$631.97	\$676.06
8" or greater	\$807.80	\$876.40	\$946.40	\$1,012.20	\$1,083.60	\$1,159.20

Questions

If you have questions regarding this notice, please contact (650) 286-3270 or publicworks@fostercity.org.