

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING:
PROPOSED SEWER SERVICE AND USE CHARGE RATE INCREASES**

Rate Increases

At the June 5, 2018 public hearing, the Department of Environmental Services will be proposing an overall fund increase of up to 3.0 percent for sanitary sewer services beginning July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019. There are different amounts for each customer category listed below. See the Cost Allocation section of this rate notice for additional information. If the City Council adopts these proposed increases, the monthly impacts to residential households would be as follows:

**SEWER SERVICE AND USE CHARGES
SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED RATES
2018-2019**

RATES FOR RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER CATEGORIES

	2017-18 CURRENT RATES		2018-19 PROPOSED RATES		MONTHLY CHANGE
	<u>Per Month</u>	<u>Per Year</u>	<u>Per Month</u>	<u>Per Year</u>	
Single-Family Residence	\$37.91	\$454.92	\$38.90	\$466.80	\$0.99
Multiple-Family Residence (per unit)	\$25.40	\$304.80	\$26.10	\$313.20	\$0.70
Mobile Home (per unit)	\$28.62	\$343.44	\$29.40	\$352.80	\$0.78

This notice also covers possible Sewer Service and Use Charge fund increases of up to 6.0 percent in fiscal year 2019-2020, effective July 1, 2019, and in fiscal year 2020-2021, effective July 1, 2020. The City Council will set the exact rates closer to July 1 for each subsequent fiscal year of up to 6.0 percent, based on refined calculations.

Effective Date of Rate Increases

If the City Council approves the proposed increases at its June 5, 2018 meeting, your Sewer Service and Use Charge will appear on your fiscal year 2018-2019 property tax bill and is due November 1, 2018. If the Council does not approve the proposed rate charges, current rates will remain in effect. The Council may approve any amount of increase in these charges up to the maximums stated in the notice.

If you need assistance determining the impact of the proposed rate adjustments on the charge against your property, or have questions, please call our Customer Contact Center at (408) 535-3500.

Deadline for Protests: June 5, 2018

If you wish to file a protest of the proposed increases to the Sewer Service and Use Charges, you must follow these rules for your protest to be considered by the City Council:

- Protests must be in writing and submitted to the City Clerk before the end of the public testimony on June 5, 2018.
- City Council will accept oral and written testimony at the public hearing regarding the proposed fees.
- ***You must indicate the Assessor's Parcel Number(s)*** of the property(ies) you own that are subject to the proposed rate adjustment. The parcel number is printed at the top of the cover letter.

- **Written** protests may also be submitted to the Office of the City Clerk before the public hearing in the form of a letter, fax, or e-mail:

Mail (or hand-deliver)	Fax	E-mail
Sewer Services Rate Increase City of San José – Office of the City Clerk 200 E. Santa Clara St., 14 th Floor San José, California 95113-1905	(408) 292-6207 Sewer Services Rate Increase	SewerRateProtest@sanjoseca.gov

Reason for the Proposed Increases

The proposed increases will enable the City to ensure reliable utility services and protect public health and safety.

Sewer Service and Use Charges are paid by residential, institutional, commercial, and industrial users of the sanitary sewer system. The charge covers costs associated with the San José-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility (Facility) and San José’s 2,200-mile sewage collection system, including operations and maintenance; capital and equipment improvements; and administration.

For most properties, the Sewer Service and Use Charge is combined with the Storm Sewer Charge on the annual property tax bill and collected by the County of Santa Clara. ***This notice relates only to the Sewer Service and Use Charge, and the proposed rate increases are separate and apart from the Storm Sewer Charge.***

Facility Funding Needs – The Facility has successfully served the community for over 60 years, working non-stop to protect our health, bay, and economy. A master plan adopted by the San José City Council in November 2013 recommended over 120 capital improvement projects to be implemented over a 30-year planning period at an estimated investment level of approximately \$2.1 billion, with over \$1 billion to be invested in the next 10-15 years. Some of the objectives in the master plan include pursuing energy self-sufficiency through renewable energy generation and efficiency, resource recovery of recycled water, biogas production and biosolids reuse, and rigorous review of new technologies. This is balanced with maintaining cost-effective operations, enhancing and/or restoring natural habitat, while increasing the reliability of the wastewater treatment system. Aging pipes, pumps, concrete, and electrical systems need immediate and long-range attention in order to continue those successful operations well in the future. A capital improvement program of this size requires significant financial resources. The proposed rate increase will help support short and long-term financing options to implement these needed improvements that will ensure the Facility continues to perform its vital role while complying with current and future regulatory requirements. To learn more about the Facility Capital Improvement Program, visit www.sanjoseca.gov/cip.

Sanitary Sewer System Funding Needs – The sanitary sewer collection system, like the treatment Facility, also needs additional resources to operate and maintain the system in a manner that complies with new, stricter state regulations. Additional staffing will be added to address ongoing maintenance issues, and new equipment will be purchased to improve the effectiveness of sewer line cleaning.