

# Notice of Public Hearing



Securing Your Water Supply

**July 18, 2018, 5:30 p.m. • 14205 Meridian Parkway, Riverside 92518**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Western Municipal Water District (Western) Board of Directors (Board) will conduct a Public Hearing on July 18, 2018, at 5:30 p.m., to consider proposed increases to the rates charged for wastewater (sewer) service. Those interested in providing oral and written comments regarding the rate change are encouraged to attend. This notice is sent to all owners of property upon which the wastewater service rates are proposed for imposition and any tenants directly liable for payment of the proposed wastewater service rates (i.e., customers of record who are not property owners). The proposed rates for two years will be applicable to all parcels that receive wastewater service from Western. The proposed rates for the two years for your service area are as follows:

## Western Water Recycling Facility (WWRF) Service Area Notice Information:

	Current Rate	Proposed Rate Effective October 1, 2018	Proposed Rate Effective October 1, 2019
Residential/Commercial (Rate per EDU* per month)	\$69.31	No Change to Current Rate	\$71.03

\*Equivalent Dwelling Unit (defined below)

## Reasons for the Proposed Changes

Western is dedicated to the essential public service of collecting and treating wastewater (sewage), and doing so at the lowest possible cost. Our wastewater team and staff provide this vital service reliably every day of the year. While our agency continually strives for cost efficiency and the maximization of assets,



we also need to keep pace with inflation and other cost increases, including, among others, the costs of complying with regulations governing the treatment and disposal of wastewater, repairing and replacing aging infrastructure, and year-over-year increases related to energy, chemicals, biosolids disposal, maintenance and labor costs.

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Based on the adopted Operating Budget and Cost of Service Study, staff assesses whether current wastewater rates generate sufficient

revenue to pay for anticipated costs, and then makes a recommendation to the Board of Directors regarding any needed rate adjustments.

The proposed rate increase in 2019 will be considered at the July 18, 2018, Board Meeting and Public Hearing conducted by Western. If adopted, the proposed rate will be applied to all wastewater service billed on or after Oct. 1, 2019.

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# Calculating Rates for this Essential Public Service

Western has established several wastewater service areas based upon the treatment facility and the collection system used to serve customers. The proposed rate is calculated to proportionately allocate operations, maintenance and capital replacement costs of providing wastewater service to each customer class according to service area.

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The rates for residential customers are fixed charges established on the basis of an equivalent dwelling unit (EDU). One EDU, which is the industry standard used for billing, is the quantity of wastewater an average single-family residential customer contributes to the wastewater system. Each residential home is assigned one EDU. Commercial customers are assigned EDUs based on their expected peak wastewater flows relative to an average single-family residential customer and are billed a fixed amount each month. Schools are assigned EDUs based on the number of students and a set number of gallons of wastewater discharged per student per day.

## Participate in the Process

Any property owner of a parcel upon which the wastewater service rate will be imposed or any tenant directly responsible for the payment of wastewater service (i.e., a customer of record who is not a property owner) may submit a written protest for the proposed change to Western’s wastewater service rate; provided, however, only one protest will be counted per identified parcel. Any written protest must: (1) state that the identified property owner or tenant is opposed to the proposed wastewater rate change; (2) provide the location of the identified parcel (by street address, assessor’s parcel number, or customer account number); and (3) include the name and signature of the property owner or tenant submitting the protest. Written protests may be mailed or delivered in-person to Western Municipal Water District, Attention: Secretary of the Board, 14205 Meridian Parkway, Riverside CA 92518. Protests submitted by email or other electronic means do not count as formal written protests. All written protests must be received prior to the conclusion of the Public Hearing.



At the time of the Public Hearing, the Board of Directors will hear and consider all written protests and public comments. After the hearing, if a majority of the property owners of parcels upon which the wastewater service rates are proposed to be imposed or tenants directly liable for the payment of wastewater service charges submit written protests in opposition to the proposed rates, the changes will not be imposed. If a majority protest is not received, Western’s Board of Directors may adopt the proposed changes, though they are not obligated to. The proposed rate changes will be considered at the July 18, 2018, Board Meeting and Public Hearing conducted by Western. If adopted, the proposed rate for the WWRF Service Area will be applied to all wastewater service billed on or after Oct. 1, 2019.

**For more information.** To obtain a copy of Resolution 3029 and/or the Cost of Service Study for your service area: visit Western’s office located at 14205 Meridian Parkway in Riverside during normal business hours; go online at [wmwd.com](http://wmwd.com); email us at [outreach@wmwd.com](mailto:outreach@wmwd.com); or call 951.571.7104. For commercial customers who would like to know the number of EDUs assigned to their account, please contact our Customer Service group at 951.571.7104 or email [billing@wmwd.com](mailto:billing@wmwd.com).