



Western Exploring Water and Sewer Rate Adjustment

Our Board of Directors will be meeting on **Thursday, March 11, 2021, at 1 p.m.**, for a **Special Board Meeting** to consider a new rate proposal to help water and sewer rates keep pace with the increasing costs of providing safe, reliable water and sewer services.

A median monthly rate increase of 2.1 to 3.5 percent is being proposed and could take effect July 1, 2021, with a modest increase for an additional three years. The change amounts to a \$2.33 - \$3.90 monthly bill impact, which is the lowest rate increase since 2014.

To ensure the public is adequately informed of the proposed rate adjustment, the process, and opportunities to participate in the discussion, Western's Board will host an additional workshop on **Monday, March 22, 2021, at 6 p.m.**, and a series of customer informational sessions in April.

Should the Board move forward with a proposal, a formal public hearing to make a decision will be scheduled for early June.

Why do rates need to increase?

While Western attempts to minimize rate increases, between 35 and 50 percent of all associated costs included in the rate adjustment are outside of Western's control because they are related to the purchase and delivery of imported water from Northern California.

The remaining costs are associated with the operation, maintenance, and administration of Western's local system made up of 776 miles of pipeline, 128 pumps, 38 water storage reservoirs, 24 lift stations, a desalination facility, and two wastewater treatment plants.



[Learn more](#)

How will this affect me?

Rates that keep pace with costs of service are essential to continue providing Western customers

access to safe, reliable drinking water. From the coffee you brew to the simplicities of flushing your toilet or taking a shower, all these tasks are important to your quality of life.

Western works 24/7 to ensure you have safe, reliable, water and sewer services just when you need them.



[Learn more](#)

Join the conversation

The public is invited to participate in the discussion over [Zoom](#) on Thursday, March 11 at 1 p.m.

The Board workshop will cover:

- How the approval process will work
- Overview of the proposed rate adjustment
- Technical aspects of calculating the proposed rate adjustment
- Public Q&A



[Join the conversation](#)

Unable to attend the Board workshop?

For anyone unable to attend a Board meeting and wishing to participate, can submit written comment by 4:30 p.m. on March 10 by visiting, wmwd.com/PublicComments. Following the meeting, a recording of the workshop will be posted on Western's website.

Western will also be offering a number of other opportunities for customers to join the conversation. Stay informed and get notified of future public information sessions and community meeting presentations by subscribing to notifications at, wmwd.com/Subscribe.

Please join us in securing your water future!

Thank you,
Team Western

**SECURING YOUR
WATER FUTURE**

