

SPECIAL RATE NOTICE

PROPOSED RATE PLAN (BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025)

You're invited to attend a public hearing about proposed changes to your rates and charges

Western Municipal Water District's (Western Water) Board of Directors will host a public hearing to consider changes to the sewer rates and charges (rates) outlined in this document.

Date	Wednesday, June 4, 2025
Time	6 p.m.
Location	Western Water Board Room 14205 Meridian Pkwy Riverside, CA 92518
Virtual	Zoom link will be available at: WesternWaterCA.gov/BoardMeeting

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS & PARTICIPATION

The cost-of-service study, which provides the written basis and calculations for how the proposed rates were determined, is available at WesternWaterCA.gov/COSS or Western Water's main office. Printed copies are mailed upon request.

Members of the public may comment at the public hearing on the proposed changes. Public comments are recorded in the public record. Oral comments made during the public hearing will not constitute valid written protests for purposes of determining whether a majority protest exists, unless accompanied by a written protest. If you own the property or are a tenant who pays rates directly to Western Water, you may submit one written protest and/or one written legal objection. For general questions, call (951) 571-7104 or email customerservice@wmwd.com.

WHAT IS A WRITTEN PROTEST?

Under Proposition 218, property owners and customers of record may submit one written protest per parcel. A written protest is a general statement opposing the proposed rates and will be used to determine if a majority protest exists. A majority protest exists if protests are submitted on behalf of a majority of separate parcels subject to the rates. If a majority protest exists, the rates cannot be adopted.

To be valid, a written protest must include:

- The property owner/customer name, parcel number, and/or service address.
- State that the letter responds to the proposed sewer rates.
- Be hand-signed (if mailed or dropped off) or include an image of the property owner's/customer's signature (if submitted electronically).

There is a 120-day statute of limitations for challenging rates, which begins on the rates resolution adoption date.

Written Protests must be received by the end of the public comment portion of the public hearing on June 4, 2025.

WHAT IS A WRITTEN LEGAL OBJECTION?

Under Assembly Bill 2257, property owners and customers of record may also submit a written legal objection. For properties with multiple accounts, each account holder may submit one written legal objection. A written legal objection identifies substantive legal issues with the proposed rates.

To be valid, a written legal objection must include:

- The property owner/customer name, parcel number, and/or service address.
- State that the legal objection is for the proposed sewer rates.
- Specify the grounds for alleging Western Water's noncompliance with Proposition 218. Stating that the rates are too high, or illegal, is insufficient to constitute a valid written legal objection.
- Include the name and signature of the person submitting the written legal objection.

Failure to submit a valid written legal objection by **May 27, 2025, at 5 p.m.**, will bar any right to challenge the rates through a future legal proceeding. You may be limited to the legal issues raised in your valid written legal objection.

Written Legal Objections must be received by Tuesday, May 27, 2025, at 5 p.m.

By Mail

Western Municipal Water District
Attention: Board Secretary
14205 Meridian Parkway
Riverside, CA 92518

In Person

Outdoor dropbox at:
14205 Meridian Parkway
Riverside, CA 92518

At the Public Hearing

Hand-delivered to Board Secretary
Western Water Board Room
14205 Meridian Parkway
Riverside, CA 92518

By Email

boardsecretary@wmwd.com

COST DRIVERS IN SERVICE

You're not alone if you've felt the pinch of rising grocery bills or gas prices. Like your household budget, Western Water has also been impacted by inflation, higher energy costs, and the increasing price of materials. Every step of service delivery has become more expensive, and Western Water rates reflect these realities.

Your wastewater's journey from your home through the sewers to a local treatment facility and back out into the environment is complex. By proactively managing these rising costs, we've minimized their impact on customers — but incremental adjustments are still necessary.

Western Water has established several sewer service areas based upon the treatment facility and the collection system used to serve customers. The proposed rates are calculated to proportionately allocate the operations, maintenance, and capital replacement costs of providing service to each customer category according to their sewer service area. Customers are billed a fixed amount each month for sewer service.





PROPOSED SEWER SERVICE RATES

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS

The rates for residential customers are based on an equivalent dwelling unit (EDU). One EDU is the quantity of sewage an average single-family residential customer contributes to the sewer system. Each residential home is assigned one EDU.

COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS

Commercial customers are assigned EDUs based on their expected peak sewage flows relative to an average single-family residential customer. The EDU amounts for commercial, industrial, and institutional customers can be found on the customer's billing statement.

		PROPOSED RATES			
		Effective with sewer service billed on or after:			
	CURRENT	07/01/25	07/01/26	07/01/27	07/01/28
La Sierra Sewer Rate (Rate per EDU, per month)					
Residential/ Commercial	\$58.37	\$62.28	\$66.46	\$70.92	\$75.67
Residential with Maintenance*	\$63.37	\$67.28	\$71.46	\$75.92	\$80.67

**Certain residential properties in Tracts 20782 and 28956 have private sewer pipelines that are maintained by Western Water pursuant to a written agreement with the original property developer. The \$5.00 maintenance charge is an agreed upon term and is not subject to Proposition 218, and is reflected in this table for the convenience of the property owners.*

PASS-THROUGH PROVISION

The proposed sewer charges are based on current and estimated future rates and charges to be imposed on Western Water by our third-party sewer treatment providers, and energy providers.

Should the actual rates and charges imposed on Western Water by our third-party providers be higher than estimated during the rate setting process, Western Water is proposing to pass through to our customers the incremental difference by increasing the proposed rates of the sewer charges. Such pass-through increases, if any, will not exceed 12% per year. In no event will such rates be increased by more than the cost of providing sewer service.

RATE INFORMATION SESSIONS

We strive to remain transparent and educate our customers about what to expect during proposed rate adjustments.

Through our rate information sessions, we want to hear your feedback, address any concerns you may have, and keep you informed about rate changes and water initiatives.

Virtual | Tuesday, April 29, 2025 | 4 p.m.

Riverside | Tuesday, April 29, 2025 | 6:30 p.m.
14205 Meridian Pkwy, Riverside, CA 92518

Murrieta | Wednesday, April 30, 2025 | 6 p.m.
8 Town Square, Murrieta, CA 92562

For virtual meeting link and more information, visit [WesternWaterCA.gov/Rates](https://www.westernwaterca.gov/Rates).

HAVE QUESTIONS OR NEED ASSISTANCE?

This notice is intended to convey general information about the proposed rates. For more information about the proposed rates and/or payment assistance programs, visit [WesternWaterCA.gov/Rates](https://www.westernwaterca.gov/Rates), email us at customerservice@wmwd.com, or call us at (951) 571-7104.



@WesternWaterCA

