



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Reminder: City of San Diego Water Rates to Increase on Sept. 1

INCREASE WAS APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL IN 2015 FOR WATER INFRASTRUCTURE AND RELIABILITY PROJECTS

SAN DIEGO – The City of San Diego reminds all water customers that rates are increasing 4.82% beginning Sept. 1, 2019, to help pay for water reliability and infrastructure improvements. Combined with the 1.46% increase in water rates from the San Diego County Water Authority, the total increase is 6.28%. This is less than the 7% increase originally approved by the City Council for fiscal year 2020.

To ensure customers pay only for what is necessary to provide water to their homes and businesses, the City's goal is to complete a Cost of Service Study (COSS) every five years. The 2015 COSS considered the need for water pipeline maintenance and replacement, along with continued investment in water quality testing and increases in costs passed on from other water agencies. The City Council then approved estimated increases through June 30, 2020. The next COSS will be completed in 2020.

Prior to the implementation of each increase, the City analyzes the initial estimates to ensure they are still correct. This year's increase is lower than originally approved because of the availability of local water and the lower than estimated rate increase from our wholesaler, reducing the increase to 6.28% from the previously approved 7%. Of that 6.28%, 1.46% is due to increased water rates from the San Diego County Water Authority.

The old rates were used for the period prior to Sept. 1 and new rates will be used for the period starting Sept. 1. Future bills will be calculated using just the new rates. The net impact to each customer, assuming equal usage, will be an increase of approximately 6.28%.

For customers living in single-family homes and using 1,200 cubic feet, or roughly 9,000 gallons of water per month, the 6.28% increase will equate to approximately \$5.58 per month, or \$11.16 more per bi-monthly water bill. Individual usage and corresponding expenses will vary.

Customers who need financial support to pay their water bill can learn more about the City's [Help to Others](#) (H2O) assistance program. For water conservation tips and information about rebates, reading your water meter and detecting leaks, visit sandiego.gov/public-utilities.

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