

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO WATER SERVICE RATES AND CHARGES



Date: Wednesday, November 12, 2025, 5:00 p.m.
Place: Casitas Municipal Water District, Board Room
1055 Ventura Avenue
Oak View, California 93022

PROPOSED WATER SERVICE RATES AND CHARGES

You are receiving this Notice because our records indicate that you are either a water customer or owner of a property receiving direct water service from the Casitas Municipal Water District.

If you are responsible for more than one water bill, you may receive more than one Notice.

The Board of Directors of the Casitas Municipal Water District (Casitas or District) will hold a public hearing at the date and location specified above to consider a proposed five-year schedule of changes to the District's water rates. This Notice describes proposed changes and explains how you can participate in the process.

As required by Proposition 218, the proposed water rate structure is based on a comprehensive rate study that used a rate model developed by an independent rate consultant to evaluate cost of service. If adopted, the water rates will become effective January 1 of the years 2026 through 2030, respectively.

Why are water rates increasing?

Casitas continually evaluates its infrastructure needs, programs, and operations and maintenance costs to store, treat, and deliver water to its customers. The District has determined a water rate update is necessary to ensure reliable water service and financial stability. Key factors include:

- **Replace and modernize aging infrastructure:** The proposed rates will allow Casitas to complete infrastructure maintenance and refurbishment of pipelines, tanks, and pump stations necessary to convey water to its customers. Most of the water system was constructed several decades ago and requires replacement or improvement.
- **Rising cost of external expenses:** The proposed rates reflect an estimated 5% annual increase in District costs over the next five years. This accounts for inflation and a return to normal operations after difficult cost-cutting measures were implemented in response to a significant decline in revenue from reduced water use.
- **Replenish reserves to prepare for future emergencies:** Over several years, Casitas' financial reserves functioned as intended in response to drought, fire, storm damage, pandemic, and unexpected levels of inflation. However, financial reserve accounts are below target levels and Casitas must replenish them to be ready for the next emergency.
- **Strengthen water supply resiliency:** The District expects to soon begin construction of a regional intertie project known as the Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie. The project includes two pump plants and 1.3 miles of new pipeline connecting Casitas' water system to Carpinteria Valley Water District, allowing bi-directional transfer of alternative water supply during droughts and emergencies.



How are costs being offset?

Casitas is committed to responsible financial stewardship and has identified ways to minimize the need for rate increases, where possible. In recent years, revenue from water rates did not recover the full cost of service. The difference was made up through use of financial reserves, postponement of capital projects that could be delayed, and grant funding. At this time, reserves must be replenished and infrastructure projects have to move forward to maintain essential water service.

To help offset water rates, Casitas has proactively pursued a range of outside funds in the last five years, including:

- **\$1.5 million** in FEMA funding for an emergency generator to ensure water service during power outages
- **\$1.9 million** in FEMA funding to make necessary repairs following 2023 storm damage
- **\$15.2 million** in state and federal grants for the Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie project
- **\$10 million** in state grant funds to improve tank storage and allow for integrated operations of the original Casitas water system and the Ojai water system acquired in 2017.

CURRENT AND PROPOSED FIXED MONTHLY SERVICE CHARGES

The new rates are proposed to take effect on the dates shown in the tables below.

	Meter Size	Current	Jan 1, 2026	Jan 1, 2027	Jan 1, 2028	Jan 1, 2029	Jan 1, 2030
RESIDENTIAL ¹	5/8-3/4"	\$38.38	\$42.12	\$45.80	\$49.65	\$53.62	\$57.69
	1"	\$67.44	\$73.94	\$80.34	\$87.00	\$93.88	\$100.92
	1-1/2"	\$118.67	\$127.92	\$136.65	\$145.49	\$154.35	\$163.13
	2"	\$306.27	\$349.66	\$395.59	\$446.09	\$501.24	\$561.03
	3"	\$850.40	\$1,037.04	\$1,253.21	\$1,509.48	\$1,811.68	\$2,165.99
	4"	\$1,889.69	\$2,280.83	\$2,728.03	\$3,252.23	\$3,863.36	\$4,571.62
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL	5/8-3/4"	\$34.31	\$38.51	\$42.82	\$47.47	\$52.43	\$57.69
	1"	\$60.28	\$67.59	\$75.11	\$83.18	\$91.80	\$100.92
	1-1/2"	\$106.08	\$116.94	\$127.75	\$139.11	\$150.93	\$163.13
	2"	\$273.75	\$319.63	\$369.82	\$426.50	\$490.11	\$561.03
	3"	\$760.16	\$948.03	\$1,171.64	\$1,443.24	\$1,771.48	\$2,165.99
	4"	\$1,689.14	\$2,085.03	\$2,550.43	\$3,109.50	\$3,777.63	\$4,571.62
OTHER ²	5/8-3/4"	\$32.43	\$36.81	\$41.40	\$46.41	\$51.84	\$57.69
	1"	\$57.01	\$64.64	\$72.63	\$81.35	\$90.78	\$100.92
	1-1/2"	\$100.32	\$111.84	\$123.55	\$136.04	\$149.25	\$163.13
	2"	\$258.89	\$305.67	\$357.64	\$417.08	\$484.67	\$561.03
	3"	\$718.87	\$906.61	\$1,133.03	\$1,411.36	\$1,751.81	\$2,165.99
	4"	\$1,597.38	\$1,993.92	\$2,466.38	\$3,040.80	\$3,735.67	\$4,571.62
AGRICULTURE DOMESTIC ¹	6"	\$2,715.53	\$3,336.42	\$4,062.18	\$4,929.64	\$5,961.04	\$7,180.44
	1"	\$57.45	\$65.04	\$72.97	\$81.60	\$90.92	\$100.92
	1-1/2"	\$101.12	\$112.55	\$124.14	\$136.47	\$149.49	\$163.13
	2"	\$260.94	\$307.61	\$359.34	\$418.40	\$485.43	\$561.03
	3"	\$724.60	\$912.38	\$1,138.44	\$1,415.85	\$1,754.59	\$2,165.99
	4"	\$1,610.12	\$2,006.63	\$2,478.16	\$3,050.48	\$3,741.61	\$4,571.62
AGRICULTURE	6"	\$2,737.13	\$3,357.63	\$4,081.54	\$4,945.29	\$5,970.50	\$7,180.44
	1"	\$64.10	\$71.00	\$77.93	\$85.25	\$92.93	\$100.92
	1-1/2"	\$112.79	\$122.83	\$132.54	\$142.56	\$152.79	\$163.13
	2"	\$291.09	\$335.73	\$383.71	\$437.11	\$496.17	\$561.03
	3"	\$808.29	\$995.75	\$1,215.60	\$1,479.12	\$1,793.37	\$2,165.99
	4"	\$1,796.09	\$2,190.00	\$2,646.13	\$3,186.81	\$3,824.30	\$4,571.62
RESALE	6"	\$3,053.29	\$3,664.47	\$4,358.20	\$5,166.31	\$6,102.46	\$7,180.44
	5/8-3/4"	\$35.98	\$40.00	\$44.06	\$48.38	\$52.93	\$57.69
	1"	\$63.23	\$70.23	\$77.29	\$84.79	\$92.68	\$100.92
	1-1/2"	\$111.27	\$121.50	\$131.47	\$141.79	\$152.38	\$163.13
	2"	\$287.15	\$332.09	\$380.58	\$434.73	\$494.82	\$561.03
	3"	\$797.36	\$984.97	\$1,205.71	\$1,471.09	\$1,788.49	\$2,165.99
	4"	\$1,771.81	\$2,166.28	\$2,624.61	\$3,169.51	\$3,813.91	\$4,571.62
	6"	\$3,011.99	\$3,624.76	\$4,322.74	\$5,138.25	\$6,085.86	\$7,180.44
	12"	\$21,493.30	\$25,388.20	\$38,622.68	\$51,370.69	\$68,083.11	\$89,884.58
18"	\$29,304.60	\$31,216.71	\$46,518.11	\$58,152.51	\$72,437.92	\$89,884.58	

¹ Rate includes Single Family and Multi-Family Residential Uses

² Rate includes Institutional and Inter-Departmental Uses

**CHECK OUT THE WATER RATE CALCULATOR AT:
WWW.CASITASWATER.ORG/WATER-RATE-CALCULATOR**



1055 Ventura Avenue
Oak View, California 93022

www.casitaswater.org
(805) 649-2251



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED RATE CHANGES

The Board of Directors of the Casitas Municipal Water District will hold a public hearing to consider a proposed five-year schedule of increases to the District's water charges.

How can I participate?

- **Call** If you have any questions about how proposed water rates will affect your bill, please contact District staff at (805) 649-2251. Para información en Español, llame al (805) 649-2251.
- **Write** To protest any of the water rate changes, please submit a written protest per the instructions below.
- **Attend** the public hearing scheduled for **November 12, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.** at Casitas Municipal Water District, Board Room, 1055 Ventura Avenue, Oak View, CA 93022.

How do I protest?

Formal protests must be received **in writing and signed** no later than the close of the public hearing on **November 12, 2025** and may be hand delivered during the hearing, mailed or delivered to Casitas Municipal Water District, Attn: Clerk to the Board, 1055 Ventura Avenue, Oak View, CA, 93022. Written protests must: 1) provide the name of the protestor, 2) identify if they are the owner or tenant of the property, 3) identify the service address, 4) provide either the water account number or assessor's parcel number, and 5) be legible. Protests are public records. Protests submitted by email or other electronic means do not count as formal written protests. Oral comments do not qualify as formal protest unless accompanied by a written protest. Only one protest per affected parcel will be considered. The proposed water service rates and charges will not take effect if the District receives written protests from a majority of the affected property owners and customers.

Pursuant to California Government Code 53759, there is a 120-day statute of limitations for challenging any new, increased, or extended fees. This statute of limitations applies to the water service rates proposed in this notice.