



*The District will hold a public hearing on a proposed new charge for water customers.*

## Notice of Public Hearing on Proposed City of Ventura Adjudication Impact Charge

June 24, 2020 at 3:00 pm

District Board Room: 1055 Ventura Avenue, Oak View CA 93022

Due to the threat of COVID-19 this meeting will be conducted pursuant to Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20, which suspend certain requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act to support social distancing guidelines and limit the spread of the virus. The public hearing will be livestreamed on the District website at [www.casitaswater.org](http://www.casitaswater.org). Once on the Board of Directors webpage, click on 'Board Meetings' and a list of broadcast meetings will appear. Members of the public may participate remotely by teleconference: **Dial Toll Free (888) 788-0099 and enter Meeting ID: 984 1485 4813#**

The Board of Directors for Casitas Municipal Water District will hold a public hearing at the time, date, and location specified above to consider the adoption of a new water charge.

If adopted, the charge will become effective on July 1, 2020. The public hearing will be conducted per California Constitution Article XIII D, Section 6 (also known as "Proposition 218"). This notice is being sent to all property owners and customers of record impacted by the imposed charge.

All members of the public are invited to attend the public hearing. Additionally, under California law, all Casitas' property owners and customers of record may submit a written protest to the proposed charge. Only one protest per parcel is permitted. Please refer to the "How Can I Participate?" box on the flipside of this notice for instructions on submitting a formal written protest against the proposed action.

### **WHY IS THIS CHARGE NEEDED?**

Casitas Municipal Water District is actively defending and protecting its customer's water rights in the case of Santa Barbara Channelkeeper v. State Water Resources Control Board; City of San Buenaventura; City of San Buenaventura v. Duncan Abbott, et al., Cross-Complaint, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles, Case No. 19STCP01176.

The Santa Barbara Channelkeepers sued the City of Ventura involving the city's pumping of water near Foster Park by Casitas Springs. The City of Ventura then sought to bring in other users of the river, including the Casitas Municipal Water District. More information about the case can be found at: <http://www.venturariverwatershedadjudication.com>

Because of its statutory responsibilities and mission, the District is defending rights related to water supplied to its customers through metered water connections. The District's existing water rates are insufficient to offset the legal costs associated with this defense since such costs were not anticipated during the District's last rate study (2016).

### **HOW WERE THE PROPOSED CHARGES CALCULATED?**

The proposed City of Ventura Adjudication Impact Charge was calculated using methodologies that are aligned with industry standard practices for rate setting and all applicable laws, including California Constitution Article VIII D, Section 6 (commonly known as Proposition 218).

The annual revenue requirements that will be created by the lawsuit were estimated based on legal costs to date as

well as estimates of future costs to retain legal assistance and expert consulting. The forecasted costs are \$600,000 per year.

To calculate the proposed charges, the revenue requirements were first allocated to each of the District's existing eight (8) customer classes based on their respective historical water usage. Once allocated to each customer class, the costs are further allocated among individual customers based on their meter size. The relative costs for meter sizes is based on the District's current meter equivalency schedule used to calculate the District's current Service Charges.

### **HOW MUCH ARE RATES ARE RATES INCREASING?**

The proposed annual charges are shown on the back of this page. The annual charges will be billed pro rata on a monthly basis. For example, a Residential customer with a 5/8" meter would pay \$18.15 per year, or \$1.51 per month.

### **WHAT IF THE LAWSUIT IS DISMISSED, SETTLED, OR LESS EXPENSIVE THAN CURRENTLY FORECASTED?**

The Board may elect to reduce the charge in the future should actual costs prove to be lower than forecasted

The District is proposing the following annual charges for all customers, which would be in addition to the water rates that were adopted by the District in 2016. The proposed charge will be considered by the Board at a Public Hearing on June 24, 2020. If approved, the new charge will commence July 1, 2020. You are receiving this notification in compliance with California Constitution Article XIII C and D (commonly known as Proposition 218), which requires that all notice of proposed rate increases be mailed at least 45 days prior to a public hearing.

## Proposed “City of Ventura Adjudication Impact Charge” Annual Schedule

Annual rates will be billed pro rata on a monthly basis.

Meter Size	Ag-Domestic	Agriculture	Commercial	Inter- Departmental	Industrial	Other	Residential	Resale
5/8"-3/4"	\$113.71	\$181.24	\$45.76	\$35.09	\$9.30	\$34.62	\$18.15	\$113.28
1"	\$189.52	\$302.07	\$76.27	\$58.49	\$15.50	\$57.71	\$30.25	\$188.80
1-1/2"	\$379.04	\$604.14	\$152.54	\$116.97	\$30.99	\$115.41	\$60.51	\$377.60
2"	\$606.47	\$966.63	\$244.07	\$187.15	\$49.59	\$184.66	\$96.81	\$604.16
3"	\$1,326.65	\$2,114.50	\$533.90	\$409.40	\$108.48	\$403.94	\$211.77	\$1,321.61
4"	\$2,387.98	\$3,806.10	\$961.02	\$736.91	\$195.27	\$727.09	\$381.19	\$2,378.89
6"	\$4,927.57	\$7,853.86	\$1,983.06	\$1,520.62	\$402.93	\$1,500.34	(na)	\$4,908.82
12"	(na)	(na)	(na)	(na)	(na)	(na)	(na)	\$28,999.83
18"	(na)	(na)	(na)	(na)	(na)	(na)	(na)	\$53,910.22

### HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE?

Proposition 218 establishes a protest process for the public to follow if they wish to oppose the rates.

Written protests on the proposed charge must be received prior to the close of the Public Hearing on June 24, 2020 and may be hand delivered during the hearing, mailed or delivered to:

Casitas Municipal Water District  
 Attn: Clerk to the Board  
 1055 Ventura Ave.  
 Oak View CA 93022

E-mail protests are not accepted. Written protests on the proposed charges must be legible, identify the owner(s) or tenant of the property, provide the property address, and provide water account number or

assessor’s parcel number (APN). Only one protest per affected parcel will be considered. If written protests are presented from a majority of affected parcels, the District cannot approve the proposed charge.

For more information on the District’s proposed City of Ventura Adjudication Impact Charge, please call:  
 (805) 649-2251 Ext. 150

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE  
 IMPORTANT NOTICE – New Water Charge

Casitas Municipal Water District  
 1055 Ventura Ave.  
 Oak View, CA 93022