



# City of Plymouth California

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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

### PROPOSITION 218 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED INCREASES TO RATES FOR WATER AND SEWER RATES FOR THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, CA

Dear Property Owner:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to California state law (Proposition 218), the City Council of the City of Plymouth (City), California, will conduct a public hearing on June 25, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 9426 Main Street, Plymouth, California, as part of its regularly scheduled meeting, to consider proposed increases to rates charged for water and sewer services. If adopted, the proposed rate changes will become effective on July 1, 2026.

The purpose of this notice is to set forth the proposed updated charges for water and sewer services and to notify you of the public hearing. At the public hearing, the City Council will consider all written objections, consider written and verbal comments, tabulate written protests, and if a majority protest is not received, consider adopting the updated water and sewer services charges. The procedures for submitting a written objection and/or a written protest are detailed in this notice.

#### **Why are Water and Sewer Services Charge Adjustment Proposed?**

While the City continually strives for cost efficiency and the maximization of assets, it also needs to keep pace with inflation, labor, material, and other operational cost increases including compliance with State imposed regulations. All revenue generated from customer water and sewer bills is used to pay for the regulatory changes, ongoing operation, maintenance, repair and replacement of the existing water and sewer system respectively. The last rate studies were completed about 18 years ago. By State law, the City may not collect more revenue than is necessary to recover the costs of providing services.

#### **How Were the Proposed Charges Calculated?**

A third-party consultant prepared a Water and Sewer Rate Study Report for the City to determine the total revenue necessary to ensure there will be adequate funding to complete planned capital improvement projects, along with maintaining reserve funds, preparing for emerging regulatory requirements, and covering the cost of operation, maintenance, and improvement of the facilities used for the water and sewer systems. The Study then proportionately allocated the rate revenue requirements to each customer class for the respective utilities. The rates recommended by this study are the proposed service charges set forth in this notice. The Water and Sewer Rate Study Report, containing the detailed rate calculations, may be found at:

<https://cityofplymouth.org/proposition-218/>

City water rates are based on a fixed monthly service charge and a commodity charge applied to usage. The sewer charges based on equivalent dwelling units (EDUs) regardless of the type of customer. The following table shows the proposed water and sewer rates over the next five years.

**Water Rates**

Water Rate Schedule	Current Rates	Proposed Rates				
		FY 2026/27	FY 2027/28	FY 2028/29	FY 2029/30	FY 2030/31
<b>Monthly Fixed Service Charge</b>						
3/4 inch	\$33.23	\$43.16	\$48.34	\$51.24	\$54.32	\$57.58
1 inch	\$54.60	\$71.10	\$79.63	\$84.41	\$89.47	\$94.84
1 1/2 inch	\$107.56	\$140.94	\$157.86	\$167.33	\$177.37	\$188.01
2 inch	\$171.35	\$224.76	\$251.73	\$266.83	\$282.84	\$299.81
3 inch	\$320.32	\$448.26	\$502.05	\$532.17	\$564.10	\$597.94
4 inch	\$533.08	\$699.69	\$783.66	\$830.68	\$880.52	\$933.35
6 inch	\$1,064.50	\$1,397.99	\$1,565.75	\$1,659.69	\$1,759.28	\$1,864.83
<b>Commodity Rate (\$/CCF)<sup>1</sup></b>						
Commodity Rate	\$4.61	\$6.56	\$7.34	\$7.78	\$8.25	\$8.75

1. CCF = Hundred Cubic Feet or 748 gallons.

**Sewer Rates**

Sewer Rate Schedule	Current Rates (\$/EDU)	Proposed Monthly Sewer Rates				
		FY 2026/27	FY 2027/28	FY 2028/29	FY 2029/30	FY 2030/31
<b>Fixed Service Charges (Per EDU)</b>						
<b>ALL CUSTOMERS</b>						
All Customers - per EDU	\$80.66	\$78.90	\$82.85	\$86.99	\$91.34	\$95.91

The water service rate is proposed to continue to include a provision that allows for Council adjustment of rates in the future on each July 1, commencing on July 1, 2027, during the upcoming five-year rate period as needed pursuant to Government Code Section 53756, without repeating the Proposition 218 noticing and majority protest process. This provision would apply only for increases in the water commodity purchase or water meter charge costs of the Amador Water Agency in excess of the respective inflation factors used to calculate the water rates.

**PROTESTS AND OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSED CHARGES**

**Protests:**

Property owners or customers of record subject to the proposed water and sewer service rates may file a written protest and/or a written objection to the proposed maximum rates. Protests to the proposed rates may be submitted pursuant to section 6 of Article XIII D of the California Constitution, and if protests are submitted by a majority of parcels receiving water and sewer services, then the City Council cannot adopt the proposed rates.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR A VALID PROTEST**

1. Must be in writing.
2. Must include a statement that it is a protest against the proposed change in water and sewer rates.
3. Must provide the name of the record owner or customer of record submitting the protest.
4. Must identify the parcel associated with the person filing the request by assessor’s parcel number or service address.
5. Must include the original signature of the record owner or customer of record submitting the protest.

Protests will not be counted if any of the required elements of a written protest are omitted. Written protests must be received at the address below by 4:30 p.m. on June 25, 2026, if mailed or submitted in person prior to the public hearing. Written protests may also be hand delivered to the Clerk of the City Council at the City Council meeting on June 25, 2026, up until the close of the public input portion of the public hearing on the matter. Prior to the public hearing, hours for in person protest submittal are 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8:30 – noon Fridays.

ATTN: Clerk of the City Council (Water and Sewer Service Charge Protest)  
City of Plymouth  
P.O. Box 429  
Plymouth, CA 95669

If prior to the close of the public input portion of the public hearing, written protests are presented by a majority of parcels that receive water and sewer services, the City Council will not increase the water and sewer service rates from their existing level. Only one written protest per parcel will be counted in calculating a majority protest.

**Objections:**

Objections may be submitted pursuant to Government Code section 53759.1, and any person that wishes to challenge the rates in a legal proceeding must file an objection, which complies with the requirements detailed herein. While the same person or entity may submit both a protest and an objection, to be valid, protests and objections must be submitted separately, as clearly labeled, and be distinct documents.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR A VALID OBJECTION**

1. Must include a clear statement that it is an objection to the proposed water and sewer service rates.
2. Must be filed separately from protests.
3. Must include the name of the record owner or customer of record and the assessor’s parcel number or service address associated with the objector’s parcel that is subject to the proposed water and sewer service rates.
4. Must include the specific subsections of the California Constitution Article XIII D, section 6(b) or any other applicable law that the objector believes would be violated by the approval and/or imposition of the proposed water and sewer service rates.
5. Must include a detailed explanation, with references to the Water and Sewer Rate Study, legal authority, and any additional data or evidence the objector chooses to present that will enable the City to understand the grounds for the objector’s claim that the proposed water and sewer service rates do not comply with Proposition 218 or any other applicable law.
  - a) An objection may include expert analysis in support of the objection.
  - b) If an objection includes expert analysis, the expert’s contact information and statement of their qualifications must be included.
6. Must include the original signature of the objector. As such, electronic objections will not be valid.

**To be valid, all written objections must include the information listed above and be received by the Clerk of the City Council by 12:00 p.m. on June 5, 2026, at the address below. Hours for in person objection submittal are 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8:30 – noon Fridays.**

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**Failure to timely object in writing bars any right to challenge the proposed water and sewer service rates through a legal proceeding and any such action may be limited to issues identified in the challenger's objection.**

If any of the requirements for a valid, written objection are not met, then the objection will be deemed invalid and will not be considered by the City. Objections must be submitted separately from protests and any written submission labeled as both a protest and an objection shall be deemed invalid.

Prior to the close of the public hearing, the City Council will consider and respond in writing to any timely, valid written objection. Written responses to timely submitted written objections will be prepared and made available to the public prior to or at the public hearing on the proposed water and sewer service rates. Responses may be posted on the County's website and made available through the Clerk of the City Council. Copies may also be provided upon request. The City's response will explain the substantive basis for retaining or altering the proposed water and sewer service rates in response to the written objection, and, if applicable, the grounds for not making any amendments in response to the objection.

The proposed water and sewer service rates are subject to Government Code section 53759. You are hereby notified pursuant to Government Code section 53759 that any judicial action or proceeding to attack, review, set aside, void, validate, or annul the City Council's adoption of the proposed water and sewer service rates must be commenced within 120 days of the effective date or the date of the final passage, adoption, or approval of the ordinance or resolution adopting the water and sewer service rates, whichever is later.