

Our community's water, wastewater and storm drainage utilities are in major need of repair. Some of Sacramento's water and wastewater systems have been improved thanks to the rate adjustments passed four years ago but there is still much more work to do.

The storm drainage system is in serious need of improvement since there hasn't been a rate adjustment for nearly 20 years. It's getting tough to keep our pipelines and facilities running safely and reliably for our community. Utilities is postponing the proposed storm drainage rate changes to 2017 to allow for another year of comprehensive public outreach and education about the storm drainage system.

Customers like you own these systems and, along with the City, must help protect them. It's important to continue to fund essential rate adjustments to keep the systems running efficiently.

It's important to invest in our city's water, wastewater and storm drainage systems so they continue to operate in a safe, reliable manner. Proposed changes also make rates fairer for our customers. Improvements also keep service interruptions to a minimum and make sure we continue to meet state and federal regulations. It's important. It's your utilities and your community.

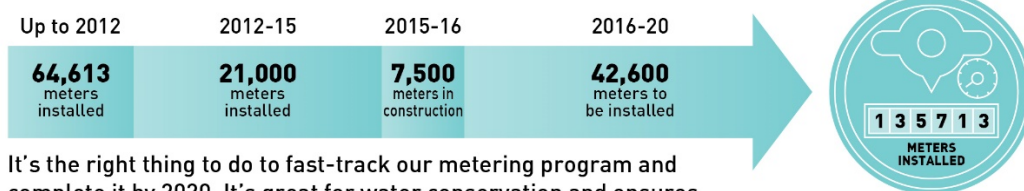
A public hearing about the rate adjustments will be held at 5:30 p.m. on January 27 at City Hall. Any customers with questions or concerns will be able to comment at the hearing.

For more information, visit www.YourUtilitiesYourCommunity.com.

Experts say we will have a strong El Niño this winter. Cold weather conditions are already showing serious wear and tear on our utilities. We’ve experienced some street flooding during recent storms which highlights the urgency to invest in the repair and replacement of our infrastructure.

Some of Sacramento’s water and wastewater systems have been improved thanks to the rate adjustments the City implemented four years ago, however, our work is not done. Our water and wastewater utilities need many additional improvements. The rate adjustments proposed for 2017-20 will help fund critical pipeline and facility improvements, emergency preparedness projects and help the City meet its state and federal regulatory requirements. It will also fund the completion of the City’s water meter program by the end of 2020. Transitioning all ratepayers to metered billing will be more fair and equitable and encourage water conservation.

MOVING TO A FULLY METERED CITY FOR EVERYONE



It’s the right thing to do to fast-track our metering program and complete it by 2020. It’s great for water conservation and ensures everyone is billed in a fair and equitable way.

Our storm drainage utility has been overlooked. Since storm drainage rates have not increased in 20 years, there is currently a backlog of nearly \$375 million in critical system upgrades to ensure the safety and reliability of the system. We want to continue to provide vital drainage services and prevent flooding in your community.

Utilities is postponing the storm drainage rate adjustments to 2017. There are several other ballot measures that will be proposed over the next few months, including the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency’s assessment. SAFCA’s measure is also critical to increasing community flood protection. Utilities wants to avoid possible conflict and confusion with two measures at the same time aimed at flood prevention.

We want to make sure we have the opportunity to educate our customers about the storm drainage system, the challenges and budget realities, their role in maintaining and paying for the system and the rate change process. Postponing the storm drainage rate adjustments will allow us to do that.

The City understands these increases have a financial impact on our residents. The City offers the Utility Rate Assistance Program to help income-eligible Sacramento households save on their water and wastewater bills. For more information or to apply, please call (916) 808-5454 or visit www.cityofsacramento.org/Utilities/Services.

Learn more about your utilities, the rate assistance program and proposed rate adjustments at www.YourUtilitiesYourCommunity.com.

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The pipelines and facilities in your community’s drinking water, wastewater and storm drainage systems are aging and need repair. Only well-maintained systems can protect your home and community and provide essential water and wastewater services. If we keep up with maintenance, we save money in the long run and have safe, reliable utilities for everyone.

Utilities works towards the goal of replacing your water and wastewater pipelines every 100 years. This is industry best practice. It ensures your systems keep running in a safe and reliable manner. With the rate adjustments in 2012-15, our community came closer to achieving this goal. But there’s still more work to do. The proposed 10 percent rate adjustment for water and 9 percent for wastewater will fund critical improvements to our water and wastewater systems.



Rates for our storm drainage system, however, have not changed in 20 years. A rate adjustment is critical to help fund many long overdue storm drainage system improvements to ensure it keeps running safely and reliably.

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The proposed water and wastewater rate adjustments will be presented to the City Council for consideration in mid-March.

Resources such as the [Utility Rate Assistance Program](#) helps income-eligible Sacramento households save on their utility bills.

Learn about the proposed rate adjustments by visiting www.YourUtilitiesYourCommunity.com.

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