

W·H·I·S·P·E·R·I·N·G P·A·L·M·S
C O M M U N I T Y S E R V I C E S D I S T R I C T

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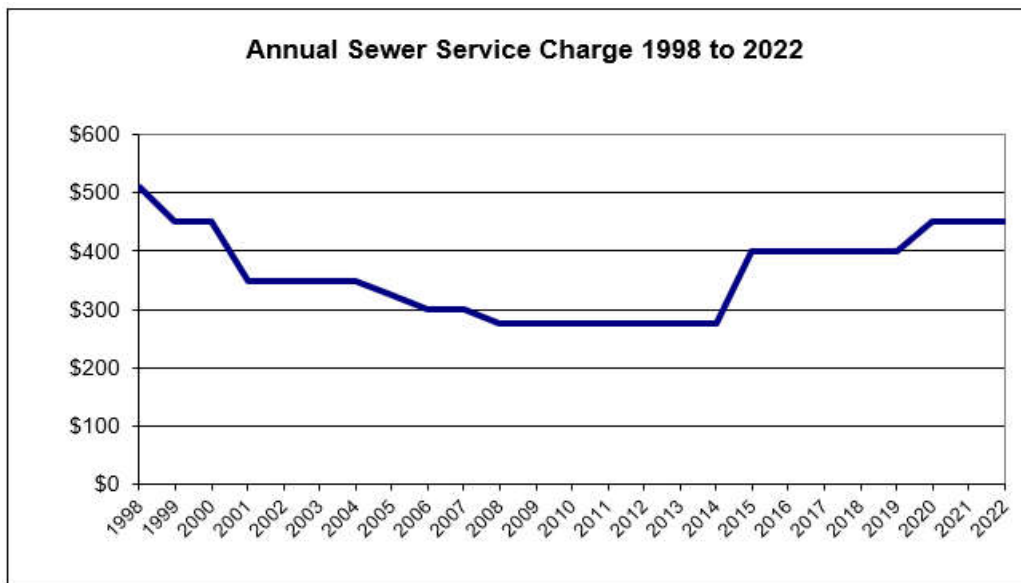
June 15, 2022

Notice of Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Increase in Rates for Sewer Service

In accordance with Article XIID of the California Constitution, commonly known as Proposition 218, notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Whispering Palms Community Services District will be holding a public hearing to consider increasing its annual sewer service charge as set forth below.

The public hearing will be held on August 2, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. at the Morgan Run Resort Clubhouse located at 5690 Cancha de Golf, Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92091, or via Zoom teleconference meeting without a physical location depending on the state of the COVID emergency regulations and meeting restrictions.

The Whispering Palms Community Services District is responsible for maintaining and operating the District's sewer treatment plant and sewer collection system. The sewer service charge is used to fund the management, operation, maintenance, repair, and replacement of the infrastructure which transports and treats the sewage generated by the District's homes and businesses. The proposed increase in the sewer service charge is necessary to enable the District to comply with increased regulations and the repair and replacement of aging infrastructure. The District has been running an operating and capital maintenance deficit for the past several years in an effort to maintain lower rates, but the aging sewer infrastructure within the District requires adequate funding to protect the public health and safety of the environment and comply with regulatory agency mandates. Upgrades and maintenance to the District's sewer treatment plant and sewer pump stations have increased dramatically in cost over the past several years. The District subsequently retained the firm of Bartle Wells Associates to prepare a sewer cost of service study, which can be found on the district website at wpcsd.net. The study recommended the following rate increases. The District's current Sewer Service Charge is \$450 per Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU). The District is proposing an increase to \$520 per EDU for Fiscal Year 2022/23, \$600 per EDU for Fiscal Year 2023/24, and \$690 per EDU for Fiscal Year 2024/25. As shown in the table below, the District has steadily held its rates low for the past 20 years prior to these increases. The table below shows the District's annual residential sewer service charge for the past 24 years.



Protest Procedures

Property owners may submit written protests against the proposed increased sewer service charge in advance of the hearing, or at the hearing itself. A written protest must include identification of the property involved by either listing the assessor's parcel number (APN) or the property address, and must be signed by the property owner. Mailed protests or delivered protests must be received by the Board of Directors on or before the close of the Board's public hearing on August 2, 2022 at 4:00 pm. Only one protest per parcel may be filed or will be counted. Prop. 218 provides if a majority of affected property owners file written protests against the proposed rates, the Board will not be able to increase rates. If you wish to mail a written protest, please send it in a sealed envelope addressed to:

Board of Directors
Whispering Palms Community Services District
605 Third Street
Encinitas, CA 92024
ATTN: SEWER SERVICE CHARGE INCREASE

At the Public Hearing noticed above, the Board of Directors of the Whispering Palms Community Services District will consider public comment as well as written protests by ratepayers and property owners against the proposed increases to sewer service charges. Any person may appear at the public hearing and be heard on any matter related to the proposed increase in rates. Ratepayers can also contact District Assistant General Manager Paula Melendrez at 760-479-4150 with questions concerning the proposed rate increase, or via email at pmelendrez@dudek.com.

Whispering Palms Community Services District
605 Third Street
Encinitas, CA 92024