



Sausalito-Marín City Sanitary District

Environmental and Regulatory Benefits

The proposed sewer service charge increase will help fund rapid upgrades to the sewer system that will allow improved handling of storm water inflow and salt water infiltration.

The goal: elimination of sewer spills and overflows, as well as higher quality discharge to the Bay environment.

The proposed facility investments and accompanying sewer service charge increases will protect the community and Bay environment under even severe storm conditions.

PROPOSED SEWER CHARGE INCREASE TO BE INTRODUCED AT COMMUNITY FORUM

MANDATED SEWER IMPROVEMENTS

Wet weather storms are the enemy of a sewer system. Stormwater enters through improper connections, and cracks and breaks in sewer lines, overwhelming the treatment processes.

A proposed increase in the sewer service charge will pay for critically needed improvements in wastewater collection and treatment facilities.

\$7.50 per Month Increase Proposed

The District has already invested more than \$5 million to improve wastewater systems. However, the total cost is expected to be about \$42 million or more over the next 10 years. This cost will be shared by the agencies that contribute wastewater to the treatment plant.

The current annual sewer service charge is \$298 for a single family Sausalito residence. The Board of Directors is proposing an increase of about \$90 per year (\$7.50 per month), paid on the annual tax bill. Non-residential customers would pay an equivalent, approximately 30 percent increase.

Additional increases of the same magnitude are expected to be needed in the coming two years, but will not be set until additional engineering is complete and the costs can be more accurately estimated.

Learn More at a Community Forum on May 29

A full presentation of the upgrade program and the proposed increase will be given at a public meeting on **Thursday, May 29 at 7:00 p.m. at the City of Sausalito Council Chambers, 42 Litho St. Sausalito, CA 94965.** There will be ample opportunity for customers of the District to learn more and provide their input before a final decision is made in July by the Board of Directors.

Learn More at a Community Forum on May 29. See Details Above.

We use a bulk mailing system to lower costs. If you receive this and are not a customer, we apologize.

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Sanitary District**

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SOLVING THE WET WEATHER FLOW PROBLEM

The District's completion of major treatment plant improvements in recent years allows effective handling of wastewater flows during dry weather. Now the District is turning its attention to the more challenging problem of wastewater flows during very rainy weather.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING STORMS

Storms can increase wastewater flows by as much as 1,000% compared with dry weather conditions. Leaks, breaks, and improper connections overload sewer pipelines and cause unacceptable spills and overflows that violate strict new sewer regulations.

High flows also impact the treatment plant. The current treatment plant was designed and approved to use a process called blending during high wet weather flows. This technique is still permitted, but is expected to be phased out in future regulations.



A PLAN FOR NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS

A two-year wet weather flow study has provided the District with a blueprint for how best to deal with the issue. The study lays out a plan for capital improvements that will solve the problem. The District is working closely with the other agencies that send flows to the treatment plant to implement the study recommendations and make the improvement as rapidly as possible.

Regulatory agencies are expected to endorse the recommendations and mandate that they be completed within a limited time frame.



CRITICAL UPGRADE PROGRAM

The District is committed to protecting the Southern Marin and Bay environments. In addition, strict regulations require assertive action to improve the sewer and wastewater treatment systems. The proposed rate increase is necessary to begin funding the approximately \$42 million in necessary upgrades. Following two years of engineering studies, the Board has carefully developed an upgrade program that is both practical and effective.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A COMMUNITY FORUM

Learn more about this important program to upgrade our wastewater system and a proposed Sewer Service Charge Increase to fund it.

Thursday, May 29 at 7:00 p.m.

**City of Sausalito Council Chambers,
42 Litho St. Sausalito, CA 94965**

Details about the upgrades and proposed rate change will be provided. There will be ample opportunities to have your questions answered.

 Printed on recycled paper. Each ton of recycled paper saves 7,000 gallons of water.

Check Out Our New Website at smcsd.net for Detailed Information on the District's Programs to Protect Public Health and the Environment.