



#### **Department of Public Works**

Fritz Buchman, Director

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# NOTICE

## of Proposed Service Charge Increase & Public Hearing

August 14, 2024

Dear Property Owner:

You are receiving this Notice because you own property within the County Service Area (CSA) 12 - Thornton (District), which is a special district administered by San Joaquin County (County). The District provides domestic water services to the properties within the District's boundaries. The Department of Public Works is advising you of a proposed increase to the rates that you pay for this service and the Public Hearing regarding the increases.

The annual charges you pay to the District are property-related fees collected as part of your property tax bill. The fees fund labor for maintenance and repairs, electricity, and administration costs associated with this services. The County's costs for this service have increased with inflation and an adjustment to your rates is necessary to keep revenues in line with expenses. The County is proposing a 2.6% inflationary increase to your rates that would be effective fiscal year 2024-2025.

District flat rate charges are based on the Single-Family Equivalent (SFE) unit. This is the level of service received by the average single-family residence. The proposed charges, if approved, will be effective fiscal year 2024-25. Beginning fiscal year 2025-26 through 2028-2029, an annual adjustment factor for inflation, not to exceed 5%, **may** be applied. The adjustment for inflation will be based on the percent change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) – All Urban Consumers for the San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose areas. Increases after this time would require another notice of proposed increase and Public Hearing. The service charges are annual and will continue indefinitely for the purpose of covering all the necessary expenses to operate, maintain, and replace the District's public utilities for services.

The table below shows the current and proposed charges per SFE per fiscal year:

Service	Current Rate 2023-2024	Proposed Rate 2024-2025
Annual Water Service Charge (per SFE)*	\$584	\$599

\*Parcels with one single family home and undeveloped lots = 1 SFE. Parcels with two dwelling units = 1.3 SFE.

The San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors will consider adoption of the increase at a Public Hearing on:

## Tuesday, October 8, 2024 9:00 AM – Chambers of the Board of Supervisors 44 N. San Joaquin Street, Sixth Floor, Suite 627 Stockton, CA 95202-2924

Any written protests must be received by the San Joaquin County Public Works Department office at 1810 E. Hazelton Ave., Stockton, CA 95205 by 5:00 PM on October 7, 2024, or submitted at the Public Hearing prior to the close of the hearing.

If a rate increase is not passed, service levels within the District will need to be reduced to generate cost savings. The following cost reduction measures may be implemented:

- Reduction of after-hours and weekend service calls
- Reduction of regular maintenance of the fire hydrant system

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Engineer's Report detailing the rate calculation methodology and revenue requirements are available at the County's website at:

https://www.sjgov.org/department/pwk/special-districts-home/csa/county-service-area-12

The Engineer's Report can be reviewed at the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors or at the Public Works' office.

Additionally, a recorded presentation prepared by Public Works Staff of the proposed inflationary increases to your district will be made available on your district's web page by August 30, 2024.

If you have any questions, please contact Robert Davalos, Community Infrastructure Engineering Manager, at (209) 468-3697, at the San Joaquin County Department of Public Works.