



Fall River Valley Community Services District
P.O. Box 427, 24850 3rd St.
Fall River Mills, CA 96028

**PROPOSITION 218 NOTIFICATION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON WATER/SEWER RATE INCREASES
February 15, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.**

WHY RATE INCREASES ARE NEEDED

Fall River Valley Community Services District (District) provides water and sewer services to ratepayers within its boundaries. While the District strives to be efficient and competitive with its rates, its costs continue to rise due to the replacement of aging infrastructure, labor, and maintenance of collection and distribution piping, manholes, lift stations, treatment ponds, well pumps and tanks. The District is proposing predictable, incremental increases to keep pace with these costs, which continue to increase. The District engaged an independent consultant to prepare rate studies to determine the appropriate user rates for water and sewer services in order that the District can meet its costs of service and revenue requirements.

The proposed rate increases are necessary to enable the District to: (1) recover current and projected increases in the costs of operating and maintaining the water and sewer system; (2) maintain the operational and financial stability of the District; (3) avoid operational deficits and depletion of reserves; (4) construct capital infrastructure improvements needed to repair, replace and update the District's aging systems so that services can continue to be provided in a manner that protects public health and safety; (5) replace aging equipment; and (6) comply with state and federal regulatory requirements. For further information regarding the rates and analysis, please refer to the 2022 Water and Sewer Rate Studies, which are available for review on the District's website www.FRVCSO.org or by request. For any questions, please contact the District Office at (530) 336-5263.

PUBLIC HEARING AND PROTESTS

The District's Board will hold a public hearing on February 15, 2023, at 6:00 P.M at 24850 3rd Street, Fall River Mills, CA.

Customers directly responsible for the payment of the rates and/or property owners, if different, may submit a written protest against the noticed rate changes; however, only one protest will be counted per identified parcel.

Any written protest must: (1) specifically identify what is being protested; (2) provide the location of the identified parcel (by assessor's parcel number or street address); and (3) include the printed name and signature of the person who is listed on the utility account and is responsible for paying the utility bill and/or the property owner.

Written protests must be submitted by mail to the District Board of Directors at P.O. Box 427, Fall River Mills, CA 96028, or in person by utilizing the drop box located 24850 3rd Street, Fall River Mills, CA 96028, or during the Public Hearing (date and time noted above), provided they are received prior to the conclusion of the public

comment portion of the Public Hearing. Please identify on the front of the envelope for any protest, whether mailed or submitted in person to the Board of Directors, **Attn: Public Hearing on Rate Increases.**

The Board will hear and consider all written and oral protests to the proposed rate increase at the Public Hearing on February 15, 2023. Oral comments at the Public Hearing will not qualify as formal protests unless accompanied by a written protest. If there is no majority protest upon the conclusion of the Public Hearing, the Board will consider and may adopt the increased rates. There is 120-day statute of limitations for challenging any new, increased or extended fee or charge

For more information, please contact the District office at (530) 336-5263.

PROPOSED SEWER and WATER RATES

If approved, the new rates would take effect from the billing period of April 2023 with the last increase in April 2027.

SEWER

Rates will be based on Equivalent Residential Units (hereafter referred to as ERU). Each connection will be billed one ERU per residence. Most residential customers will be billed 1 ERU. Commercial customers, and multi-unit residence will be subject to the modifiers below.

Current	April 2023	April 2024	April 2025	April 2026	April 2027
\$42.00	\$52.40	\$56.59	\$61.12	\$66.01	\$71.29

COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS

Rate calculation is based on usage history, rate study and the modifiers below.

Per Sewer Connection	1 ERU
<u>Modifier</u>	<u>Additional ERU</u>
4+ Employees	+1
Public Restroom	+1
1” Meter	+1
2” Meter	+2
3” Meter	+3
Commercial Laundry	+1
Commercial Kitchen	+1
Hotel	+6
Hospital	+49
School	+12
+Residence (or Unit)	+1 each

WATER

Meter Size	Existing Base Rate	Proposed 2023	Proposed 2024	Proposed 2025	Proposed 2026	Proposed 2027
5/8"	\$40.50	\$ 44.55	\$ 46.78	\$ 49.12	\$ 51.57	\$ 54.15
1"	\$103.68	\$ 114.05	\$ 119.75	\$ 125.74	\$ 132.02	\$ 138.63
1.5"	\$233.28	\$256.61	\$ 269.44	\$ 282.91	\$ 297.06	\$ 311.91
2"	\$414.72	\$ 456.19	\$479.00	\$502.95	\$ 528.10	\$554.50
4"	\$1,658.88	\$1,824.77	\$1,916.01	\$2,011.81	\$2,112.40	\$2,218.02

All Meter Sizes	Existing	April 2023	April 2024	April 2025	April 2026	April 2027
Rate per 100 cubic feet	\$2.00	\$2.93	\$3.08	\$3.23	\$3.39	\$3.56

For further details regarding the proposed rate increases to the District's sewer rates or for any questions you may have regarding the proposed fees that may be imposed on your parcel, please contact the District office at (530) 336-5263 and ask to speak with Cecil Ray, General Manager or Amber Beck, Office Manager.