City of Emeryville City Clerk 1333 Park Avenue Emeryville, CA 94608

Property Owner or Ratepayer Name Street Address City, State, Zip

The City of Emeryville, in compliance with Article XIIID of the California State Constitution and the Proposition 218 Omnibus Implementation Act, is hereby notifying all affected property owners and sewer utility ratepayers of the following:



- The City is proposing an increase to the current sewer user fees and rates.
- A public hearing will be held on **November 15, 2016 at 7:16 pm** in the City of Emeryville City Council Chambers at 1333 Park Avenue, Emeryville, California to accept public comment and receive written protests on the proposed sewer user fee increase.
- More information regarding this notice and the City's proposed sewer user fee increase is available at emeryville.org/sewerstudy.

This notice is also available in Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, and Vietnamese:

Este aviso está también disponible en español. Visite emeryville.org/sewerstudy para obtener más información.

本通知也有中文版本。詳情請瀏覽 emeryville.org/sewerstudy.

Makukuha rin ang abisong ito sa wikang Tagalog. Bumisita sa <u>emeryville.org/sewerstudy</u> para sa karagdagang impormasyon. Thông báo này cũng có bằng Tiếng Việt. Vui lòng truy cập <u>emeryville.org/sewerstudy</u> để biết thêm thông tin.

When will the sewer user fee increase take place?

If approved, the proposed rate increase for the sewer user fee would phase in annually beginning January 1, 2017 and would be included with the East Bay Municipal Utility District bimonthly bills. The City of Emeryville sewer user fee appears on the bill as "Agency Fee". This is a separate fee from water service and wastewater treatment service charges billed by EBMUD.

Why are sewer user fee adjustments needed?

The City owns and maintains the sewer collection system within the City of Emeryville. The sewer system is made up of pipelines that collect and convey wastewater to the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) regional treatment facilities. The City's sewer facilities are self-supporting by the sewer user fee. Sewer user fees must be adequate to fund the operating, maintenance, and infrastructure costs of the City's sewer pipelines. The City has not raised its sewer user fees since January 1995. Adjustments to the current sewer user fee are needed to:

- Meet the legal mandates issued by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to complete certain minimum improvements to the City's sewer facilities. Failure to meet these requirements may result in strict penalties and/or fines.
- Fund the ongoing operating and maintenance expenses of the City's sewer facilities in accordance with regulatory permit requirements and keep revenues aligned with the costs of providing safe and reliable service.
- Develop emergency reserves to fund sewer repairs in the event of an earthquake or other natural disaster.

Absent a sewer user fee increase, the City will not have enough funding to repair and replace aging sewer pipelines that have degraded due to wear and tear over their years in service. In addition, the City would be at risk of violating its regulatory permit requirements, which could result in fines and penalties.

Proposed sewer user fees

The current and proposed sewer user fees are provided below. Single family residential customers are billed a fixed fee each bimonthly billing period based on the assumption that the average single family residence generates 6.4 ccf of sewer flow monthly. Duplex, triplex, and fourplex residential customers are billed a volume rate based on their metered water use because virtually all of their water use flows into the sewer system. All other customers are billed a volume rate based on their metered water use and are subject to a minimum fee equal to the single family residential fee. The minimum fee recovers the cost of maintenance for each sewer connection. If sewer flow is above the minimum amount, the customer is charged the volume rate. The sewer user fees for all customers are proposed to increase 9% annually over the next five years because the base unit costs for all customers are proposed to increase by 9% annually.

		Proposed				
Customer Class	Current	Jan 1, 2017	Jan 1, 2018	Jan 1, 2019	Jan 1, 2020	Jan 1, 2021
Single Family Residential [1]						
Monthly (\$ / Month)	\$8.00	\$8.72	\$9.50	\$10.36	\$11.29	\$12.31
Bimonthly (\$ / Bimonthly)	\$16.00	\$17.44	\$19.00	\$20.72	\$22.58	\$24.62
Duplex / Triplex / Fourplex (\$ / ccf) [2]	\$1.25	\$1.36	\$1.49	\$1.62	\$1.76	\$1.92
All other Classes (\$ / ccf) [3]	\$1.25	\$1.36	\$1.49	\$1.62	\$1.76	\$1.92
Minimum Fees						
Daily (\$ / day)	\$0.2667	\$0.2907	\$0.3168	\$0.3453	\$0.3764	\$0.4103
Monthly (\$ / month)	\$8.00	\$8.72	\$9.50	\$10.36	\$11.29	\$12.31
Bimonthly (\$ / bimonthly)	\$16.00	\$17.44	\$19.00	\$20.72	\$22.58	\$24.62

- [1] Accounts charged a flat rate monthly or bimonthly.
- [2] Accounts charged a volumetric rate. Accounts are NOT charged a minimum daily rate. Ccf hundred cubic feet (748 gallons)
- [3] Accounts charged a volumetric rate. Accounts ARE charged a minimum daily rate. Ccf hundred cubic feet (748 gallons)

Public notice and majority protest process

The City Council will conduct a public hearing on **November 15, 2016 at 7:16 pm** in the City of Emeryville City Council Chambers at 1333 Park Avenue, Emeryville, California to consider approving the proposed rates and fees. Any property owner or utility ratepayer may submit a written protest for the proposed increases. However, only one protest per parcel will be counted. If a majority of parcels submit protests, the City cannot adopt the proposed rates. Absent a majority protest, the City Council may consider adopting the rates shown in this notice. If you desire to submit a written protest, it must: 1) provide the location of the identified parcel (by assessor's parcel number or street address); and 2) include the name and signature of the property owner or ratepayer submitting the protest. Mail your protest to City of Emeryville, City Clerk, 1333 Park Avenue, Emeryville, CA 94608. Protests must be received prior to the close of the public hearing on this matter. If you do not want to protest the proposed rates, you do not need to take any action.

In addition, all members of the public are entitled to make comments at the Public Hearing, regardless of whether they choose to submit a written protest or own property that would be subject to the new or increased fee or charge. Verbal comments will not be counted as protests. Protests must be submitted in writing before the conclusion of the Public Hearing. The City Clerk will tabulate written protests immediately following the close of the Public Hearing and will report the results directly to the City Council.