

**CITY OF LOS BANOS  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

TO RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE CONSIDERATION OF A  
RESOLUTION ADOPTING NEW UTILITY RATES FOR WATER, WASTEWATER,  
AND SOLID WASTE SERVICE FEES

**WHERE:** City Council Chambers  
520 J Street  
Los Banos, California

**WHEN:** July 6, 2011  
7:00 PM

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Notice is hereby given that the Los Banos City Council will conduct a Public Hearing to receive public comment on the consideration of a resolution adopting the new utility rates for water, wastewater and solid waste service fees.

The City of Los Banos has reviewed its water, waste water and solid waste rates. This review was performed to assess the adequacy of the revenues to maintain the physical integrity of these systems, to comply with all Federal and State regulations concerning potable water quality, wastewater effluent quality, recycling programs, waste diversion regulations, and landfill closure.

The proposed rates are designed to produce the minimum revenue needed to cover projected operating costs, including direct operating expenses, contractually agreed upon cost increases, administrative costs, bond repayment, and ongoing capital improvement repairs, replacements, and upgrades of the City's water, wastewater and solid waste utilities. Detailed descriptions of each component are included below.

Rate Models are detailed in the April 20, 2011 Rate Study prepared by HF&H Consultants and can be found on the City's website at [www.losbanos.org](http://www.losbanos.org) or by calling the Finance Department at 209-827-7000.

**Proposed Water Increases**

The rates for the City's water service fees are comprised of two components – fixed monthly service charge and a water usage charge. The water usage charge is imposed for monthly water usage in excess of 1,500 cubic feet of metered water. The rates are calculated to recover the costs of providing water services and to proportionately allocate those costs on a parcel basis among the various customer classes.

	<b>Proposed Monthly Water Rates by Percentage</b>				
	<b>Sept. 1, 2011</b>	<b>July 1, 2012</b>	<b>July 1, 2013</b>	<b>July 1, 2014</b>	<b>July 1, 2015</b>
<b>Percentage Increase</b>	5%	5%	5%	5%	7%

**Proposed Wastewater Increases**

The rates for the City's wastewater service fees for residential customers are comprised of a fixed monthly service charge. For non-residential customers, the rates are comprised of a fixed monthly service charge and a flow-based charge. The rates are calculated to

recover the costs of providing wastewater services and to proportionately allocate those costs on a parcel basis among the various customer classes.

	<b>Proposed Monthly Wastewater Rates by Percentage</b>				
	<b>Sept. 1, 2011</b>	<b>July 1, 2012</b>	<b>July 1, 2013</b>	<b>July 1, 2014</b>	<b>July 1, 2015</b>
<b>Percentage Increase</b>	55%	7%	7%	7%	5%

**Proposed Solid Waste Increases**

The rates for the solid waste service fees for residential customers are comprised of a fixed monthly charge based on the size of the refuse container used for such property. For commercial customers, the rates are comprised of a fixed monthly charge that is determined on the basis of the refuse container used to serve such property and the frequency of pick ups. The rates are calculated to recover the costs of providing solid waste services and to proportionately allocate those costs on a parcel basis among the various customer classes.

	<b>Proposed Monthly Solid Waste Rates by Percentage</b>				
	<b>Sept. 1, 2011</b>	<b>July 1, 2012</b>	<b>July 1, 2013</b>	<b>July 1, 2014</b>	<b>July 1, 2015</b>
<b>Percentage Increase</b>	5.5%	5.5%	5.5%	5.5%	5.5%

The Public Hearing will be held at the regular meeting of the Los Banos City Council on Wednesday, July 6, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Los Banos City Hall located at 520 J Street, or as near as possible thereafter, at which time and place interested persons may appear and be heard thereon. Questions regarding the above-referenced item may be directed to Sonya Williams, Accounting & Budget Supervisor, 520 J Street or at (209) 827-7000.

All interested persons will be given an opportunity to comment on this item at the Public Hearing. In addition, written protests may be submitted by mail or in person to the City Clerk at 520 J Street, Los Banos, CA 93635, or at the Public Hearing, so long as they are received prior to the conclusion of the public comment portion of the Public Hearing. Any property owner or any tenant directly responsible for the payment of water, wastewater, and/or solid waste service fees (i.e., a customer of record) may submit a written protest to the proposed rate increases described above; provided, however, only one protest will be counted per identified parcel. Any written protest must: (1) state the specific rate increase (water, wastewater, and/or solid waste) for which the protest is being submitted; (2) provide the location of the identified parcel (by assessor’s parcel number, street address, or customer account number); and (3) include the name and signature of the property owner or tenant submitting the protest. Any protest submitted via e-mail or other electronic means will not be accepted. Postmarks also cannot be accepted. Please identify on the front of the envelope for any protest, whether mailed or submitted in person to the City Clerk, that the enclosed protest is for the Public Hearing on the Proposed Increases to Utility Rates.

The City Council will hear and consider all written protests and oral comments to the proposed rate increases at the Public Hearing. Oral comments at the Public Hearing will

not qualify as formal protests unless accompanied by a written protest as described above.

It is the intention of the City to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you require special assistance beyond what is normally provided, the City will attempt to accommodate you in every reasonable manner. Please contact the City Clerk's Office at (209) 827-7000 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to inform us of your particular needs.