



410 Grand Avenue  
Oroville, CA 95965

Thermalito Water and Sewer District  
Proposition 218 Notification

NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS OF PUBLIC HEARING  
ON WASTEWATER RATES

Hearing Date & Time: May 21, 2024, at 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM or as soon thereafter as possible  
Hearing Location: District Office, 410 Grand Avenue Oroville, CA 95965  
Questions / More Information

***Why Am I Receiving This Notice?***

You are receiving this notice in accordance with Proposition 218, a state law which requires providers of public utility services (including wastewater service) to notify rate payers of increases in proposed rates. The property listed above receives wastewater service from **Thermalito Water and Sewer District ("the District")**.

This notice is intended to provide you with information on the service provided by the District, the reasons for the proposed rates, and the methods by which you can protest the proposed rates if you desire.

***What Service Do Rates Fund?***

The District provides wastewater service to approximately 2,900 equivalent dwelling units in the District service area.

***Why is a Rate Increase Needed?***

Current rates do not reflect the full cost necessary to provide wastewater services. The proposed rates are designed to sustainably operate and maintain the wastewater utility.

- Increase in staffing costs and projected future inflation in operating costs.
- District is projected to incur approximately \$250,000 per year for wastewater enterprise collection system capital improvement projects.
- The District's rate also contemplates a pass through for Wastewater Treatment Costs which are established by Sewerage Commission Oroville Region, and collected as a line item on the District's bill.

### ***Basis of Proposed Rates***

Article XIID of the California Constitution (also known as Proposition 218) requires that providers of public utility services levy service charges that are clearly linked to the cost of providing the service to each parcel. The cost of service calculation includes expenses such as debt service, labor, energy, chemicals and other supplies, and the cost of providing required maintenance of the system. The rates proposed herein are designed to meet all legal requirements and fairly and equitably recover the required revenue from all customers. The rates were developed by an independent consultant retained by the District. The supporting rate study is available upon request.

### ***Wastewater Rate Background***

Wastewater customers are charged a fixed monthly rate per equivalent dwelling unit. The District provides wastewater collection, while Sewerage Commission – Oroville Region (“SCOR”) provides wastewater treatment.

### ***Wastewater Treatment Charge Passthrough***

SCOR establishes the Wastewater Treatment Charge, which the District collects as a line item on customer bills. If SCOR increases the Wastewater Treatment Charge, the District will pass through the increase to customers in accordance with Government Code section 53756. The District will provide 30 days’ notice before passing through an increase in the Wastewater Treatment Charge. The District will not convene another public hearing before passing through any increase in the Wastewater Treatment Charge.

### ***Current and Proposed Wastewater Rates***

#### **Current and Proposed Wastewater Rates**

#### **Fixed Monthly Rates Per Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU)<sup>1</sup>**

<b><u>Charge Category</u></b>	<b><u>Current</u></b>	<b><u>July 1, 2024</u></b>	<b><u>July 1, 2025</u></b>	<b><u>July 1, 2026</u></b>	<b><u>July 1, 2027</u></b>	<b><u>July 1, 2028</u></b>
Wastewater Collection <sup>1</sup>	\$20.90	\$25.79	\$30.95	\$32.19	\$33.48	\$34.82
Wastewater Treatment <sup>2</sup>	\$23.85	\$24.49	\$25.71	\$27.00	\$28.35	\$29.77
Total	\$44.75	\$50.28	\$56.66	\$59.19	\$61.83	\$64.59

1 Proposed mobile home units are equivalent to 0.85 EDUs and multifamily units 0.88 EDUs. (Currently 1 EDU).

2 Sewerage Commission – Oroville Region provides wastewater treatment for the District.

### ***Community Input, Written Protest Procedures & Statute of Limitations***

Members of the public are invited to attend the Public Hearing and provide input on the proposed rates. Property owners and customers may also submit written protests against the proposed rates. Written protests must: a) identify the affected property or properties, such as by address, Assessor’s Parcel Number, or customer account number, b) include the name and original signature of the customer or property owner submitting the protest and c) indicate opposition to the proposed wastewater rate increases. Written protests should be mailed or delivered to: Attn: Board of Directors, 410 Grand Avenue Oroville, CA 95965.

Pursuant to California law, one written protest will be counted per parcel. Protests submitted by e-mail, facsimile or other electronic means will not be counted. The proposed rates cannot be adopted if written protests are received from a majority of affected parcels. Written protests must be submitted prior to the close of each Public Hearing. Additionally, pursuant to California Government Code 53759, there will be a 120 day statute of limitations for challenging any new, increased, or extended fees, including wastewater service charges.