



City of Needles, California Request for Commission Action

☐ CITY COUNCIL ☒ BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

☒ Regular ☐ Special

Meeting Date: September 1, 2026

Title: Water and Wastewater Cost of Living (COLA) Adjustments Effective October 1, 2026;
Adopted November 2025

Background: On November 12, 2025, the City Council accepted the Board of Public Utilities' recommendation and approved the rate increases established by Board of Public Utilities Resolution No. 11-12-25 BPU and Needles Public Utility Authority Resolution No. 11-12-2025-NPUA. The approved rate increases include annual cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) for water and wastewater services, as provided in the Attachment – Schedule of Rates.

The annual cost-of-living adjustment for 2026 is **3% for Water** and **6% for Wastewater**. Accordingly, the adopted rates effective October 1, 2026, are as follows:

Water Rates:		
Fixed Service Charge (per Month)	Current	Effective October 1, 2026 (3% COLA)
5/8 or 3/4 inch	\$ 48.78	\$ 50.25
1"	\$ 75.75	\$ 78.03
1.5"	\$ 143.17	\$ 147.47
2"	\$ 224.07	\$ 230.80
3"	\$ 439.82	\$ 453.02
4"	\$ 682.54	\$ 703.02
6"	\$ 1,353.76	\$ 1,397.47
8"	\$ 2,165.82	\$ 2,230.80
10"	\$ 5,671.75	\$ 5,841.91

Per HCF	\$ 3.37	\$ 3.48
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Wastewater Rates:		
Fixed Service Charge All customers	Current	Effective October 1, 2026 (6% COLA)
\$ / EDU	\$ 56.03	\$ 59.40

Fiscal Impact: Increase in water and wastewater revenues for the annual cost-of-living adjustments (COLA).

Environmental Impact: N/A

Recommended Action: Information only

Submitted By: Rainie Torrance, Utility Manager

City Manager Approval: Patrick J. Martinez

Date: 8/25/2026

Other Department Approval (when required): _____

Date: _____