

RESOLUTION 23-34-*

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF SUTTER CREEK APPROVING SEWER SERVICE RATE INCREASE
PURSUANT TO PROPOSITION 218**

WHEREAS, the City of Sutter Creek (“City”) provides sewer collection, treatment, and conveyance/disposal services to residential and business accounts located within the City as well as to the City of Amador and the Martell wastewater service areas of the Amador Water Agency;

WHEREAS, on April 15, 2024, the City Council received the 2024 Sewer Rate Study, which proposes increases in sewer-service rates to accomplish a multi-year management plan for both capital and operational projects;

WHEREAS, the City timely mailed notices to ratepayers of proposed increases in the rate schedule for the sewer services it provides in accordance with California Constitution, Article XIII, § 6(a), and Government Code section 53755(a);

WHEREAS, pursuant to Proposition 218, the City duly noticed and held a “majority protest hearing” on June 3, 2024 regarding its intention to approve the requested rate increases;

WHEREAS, as verified by the counting of protests following the June 3, 2024 public hearing in which this matter was considered, a majority protest was not made prior to the close of the hearing in opposition to the proposed rate increases stated in Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the California Environmental Quality Act is not applicable to the proposed rate increase because the increase is not a “project,” as defined by California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15378(a), and because of the exceptions set forth in California Code of Regulations, Title 14 (CEQA Guidelines), section 15378(b)(3) and (4) for proposals submitted to voters and fiscal decisions.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that effective January 1, 2020, the City may begin charging customers the rates set forth in Exhibit A, determined on an equivalent single-family unit (“ESFU”) basis, and pursuant to the methodology specified therein.

The foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Sutter Creek on June 3, 2024, by the following vote.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

Claire Gunselman, Mayor

Karen Darrow, City Clerk

**EXHIBIT A
APPROVED RATE INCREASE**

Sewer Service Charge Rate Schedule

Sewer customers are charged based on equivalent single-family units (ESFUs) which reflects the average volume of flows from residential dwellings during the winter months of January, February, and March (131 gallons per day (gpd)). All residential accounts pay a Sewer Service Charge rate of 1 ESFU per dwelling unit (which includes multifamily dwelling units and accessory dwelling units (ADUs)). Commercial customers are assigned an ESFU value based on the respective account’s average daily winter water usage (per Amador Water Agency water usage records) divided by 131 gallons. Commercial accounts are assigned a minimum value of one (1) ESFU.

	Current	July 1, 2024*	July 1, 2025	July 1, 2026	July 1, 2027	July 1, 2028
ESFU Rate:	\$76.93	\$111.55	\$133.86	\$145.91	\$159.04	\$162.22
ESFU Rate Increase:	(na)	45.0%	20.0%	9.0%	9.0%	2.0%
Vacancy Rate:**	\$52.31	\$75.85	\$91.02	\$99.21	\$108.14	\$110.30

* The proposed rate increase replaces the 2% increase that was previously adopted for this date

** Based on 68% of standard ESFU rate, based on utility fixed costs. Vacancy rate goes into effect six months after notifying the City.