



Town of Apple Valley

A Better Way of Life

TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED INCREASES TO RATES FOR SEWER SERVICE FEES

The Town Council of the Town of Apple Valley (the “Town”) invites the public to attend a public hearing to be held **on May 8, 2018, at 6:30pm** in the Town Council Chambers at **14955 Dale Evans Parkway, Apple Valley, CA 92307**. The purpose of the public hearing is to consider all oral testimony and written protests to, and the adoption of, the proposed increases in the rates for its sewer service fees.

REASONS FOR THE PROPOSED RATE INCREASES

The Town is dedicated to providing exceptional sewer services at the lowest possible cost while protecting the water resources and public health of our community. The Town does not provide treatment service for sewer flows, but rather collects and conveys the flows to the Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority (“VWVRA”) for treatment. While the Town continually strives for cost reductions and better utilization of the assets it holds, it needs to keep pace with inflation and other cost increases, including, among others, the cost to comply with regulations governing the treatment and the disposal of wastewater, and the capital facilities necessary to provide those services and the cost of wastewater treatment provided by VWVRA.

The Town anticipates that there will be future increases in the costs of operating and maintaining the sewer system. The proposed sewer rate increases are necessary to enable the Town to: (1) recover current and projected increases in the costs of operating and maintaining the sewer system; (2) construct capital infrastructure improvements needed to repair, replace and update the Town’s aging sewer system; (3) maintain the operational and financial stability of the utility; (4) avoid operational deficits and depletion of reserves; (5) comply with regulatory requirements; and (6) fund increases in the cost of wastewater treatment by VWVRA. As described below, the rates are being proposed to be increased annually for a five-year period for increases in the cost of providing these services.

BASIS UPON WHICH THE RATES ARE CALCULATED AND PROPOSED RATES

VWVRA charges the Town for wastewater treatment based on the amount of wastewater the Town conveys to VWVRA. The Town’s current and proposed sewer rates therefore are based on the estimated amount of wastewater flow contributed by each property to the Town’s sewer system. The current and proposed rates of the sewer service fees are flat monthly fees per the number of assigned equivalent dwelling units (EDU) for each property, with an EDU being the basis for estimated sewer flow. One EDU represents the estimated wastewater flow of a single family residential customer of 245 gallons per day of wastewater discharges based on the average single family residential customer having 20 plumbing fixtures (or 12.25 gallons per day of domestic wastewater flow per plumbing fixture unit). In other words, each single-family customer is assigned 1 EDU. The amount of the sewer service fee assessed on a monthly basis is reflective of each customer’s proportionate share of estimated sewer flows contributed to the sewer system. For example, if a property contributes the equivalent flow of two single family residences, the property would be assigned 2 EDUs and

monthly fee charged to the property will be two times the monthly rate per single EDU. For sewer service provided for the month of January 2019, the property would be charged \$67.84 (2 x \$33.92). By way of further example, a commercial property with 162 plumbing fixture units would be assigned 8.1 EDUs (162 / 20). For sewer services provided for the month of January 2019, the commercial customer would be charged \$274.75 (8.1 x \$33.92).

If approved, the proposed rates will take effect on July 1 of each year beginning July 1, 2018, through and including July 1, 2021. The proposed maximum rates and effective dates for the Town's sewer service fees are shown in the table below.

CURRENT AND PROPOSED RATES FOR SEWER SERVICE FEES					
Monthly Charge	Current	7/1/18	7/1/19	7/1/20	7/1/21
\$/EDU	\$31.43	\$32.92	\$34.26	\$35.67	\$37.14

PUBLIC HEARING

Any record owner of a parcel upon which the sewer service fees are proposed for imposition, or any tenant directly responsible for the payment of sewer service fees (i.e., a customer of record who is not a property owner), may submit a written protest to the proposed rate increases to the Town's sewer service fees; provided, however, only one protest will be counted per identified parcel. Each protest must: (1) be in writing; (2) state the protest is submitted in opposition to the proposed rates; (3) provide the location of the identified parcel (by service address or assessor's parcel number); and (4) include the name and signature of the person submitting the written protest. Written protests may be submitted by mail to the Town Clerk at 14955 Dale Evans Parkway, Apple Valley, CA 92307. Written protests may also be submitted in person at the Town Clerk's office or at the public hearing (see date, time and location above). All written protests must be received prior to the conclusion of the public input portion of the Public Hearing. Any protest submitted via e-mail or other electronic means will not be accepted as a formal written protest. Please identify on the front of the envelope for any protest, whether mailed or submitted in person, that the enclosed letter is for the Public Hearing on Proposed Sewer Rates.

The Town Council will consider all written protests timely submitted and hear and consider all public comments made at the public hearing. Oral comments at the public hearing will not qualify as formal protests unless accompanied by a written protest. At the conclusion of the Public Hearing, the Town Council will determine whether to adopt the proposed rate increases described in this notice. If, after the close of the public hearing, written protests against the proposed rate increases as outlined above are not presented by a majority of the record owners of the identified parcels upon which they are proposed to be imposed or tenants who are directly liable for the payment of sewer service fees, the Town Council will be authorized to impose the rate increases.

If you have any questions regarding the information provided in this notice, the number of EDUs assigned to your parcel, or the amount of fees applicable to your property, please contact Kofi Antobam, Director of Finance at (760) 240-7000 or you may email him at kantobam@applevalley.org. The documents supporting the rate increases are available for review at the Town Clerk's office between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. and 4 p.m. on alternating Fridays or on the Town's website at www.applevalley.org.