



Notice of a Public Meeting and Public Protest Hearing on a Proposed Fee Increase for Sewer Services for County Service Area No. 34 Zone C

APN
«NAME1»
«ADDRESS1»
«ADDRESS2»

Dear Property Owner:

This is an important notice regarding your rights under Proposition 218 relating to a proposed increase on your sewer fees. The proposed increased fees would pay for the costs of sewer services necessary to deliver services within County Service Area No. 34, Zone C.

Read this notice carefully. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Zimmer-Belle, Staff Analyst, County of Fresno Department of Public Works and Planning, Resources Division, 2220 Tulare Street, 6th Floor, Fresno, California 93721, by telephone at (559) 600-4259 or by email at jzimmer@co.fresno.ca.us.

This notice is given under the California Constitution, Article XIII D, section 4, and California Government Code sections 53753 and 53954.6.

The proposed fee increase is supported by an Engineer's Report that is available online at: <http://www.co.fresno.ca.us/viewdocument.aspx?id=65512>

Notice of Public Meeting

You are notified that on **February 3, 2016**, at **6:00 p.m.**, there will be a public meeting at **17200 Burrows Ave. Friant, CA. 93626**. The meeting will be open to all members of the public. During the meeting, members of the public may give testimony regarding the proposed fee increases. Staff from the County of Fresno (County) will also be present to answer questions. There will be no official action to impose the proposed fee increases at this meeting. The County staff person who conducts the meeting may continue it to a later date without further notice by the Board of Supervisors, but in any case the meeting must be completed not later than February 17, 2016.

Notice of Public Protest Hearing

You are notified that on **March 1, 2016**, at **11:00 a.m.** (or as soon after as practicable), the Board of Supervisors (Board) will conduct a public protest hearing on the proposed fee increase. The public protest hearing will happen in the Board's regular meeting chambers in the **Hall of Records, 2281 Tulare Street, Third Floor, Fresno, California 93721**. The public protest hearing will be open to all members of the public. During the hearing, any person may present relevant oral or written testimony to the Board, and the Board will consider all objections or protests to the proposed fee increase.

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During the hearing, the Board may decide to continue the hearing to a later date without further notice.

How to Protest the Proposed Sewer Fee Increase

If you disagree with the proposed sewer fee increase, you may submit a written protest. The Board will not impose the increased fees if a majority of the County Service Area No. 34, Zone A (CSA 34C) property owners or tenants submit **written protests** against the proposal. **Only one written protest per parcel will be counted in calculating a majority protest.**

Written protests may be on any type of paper and may be typed or handwritten, but **must include all** of the following information:

- Information sufficient to identify the affected property that you own or rent, such as the address of your property in CSA 34C, the Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) for your property (the APN for your property is listed on the first page of this notice), or both;
- A brief written statement that you protest or disagree with the proposed sewer fee increase; and
- Your printed full name and signature.

Written protests must be addressed exactly as shown and mailed or hand delivered to:

**Clerk to the Board of Supervisors
CSA 34C Sewer Fee Protest Hearing (March 1, 2016)
HOLD UNTIL PROTEST HEARING
2281 Tulare Street, Room 301
Fresno, CA 93721**

To be valid and counted, written protests must be received by the Clerk to the Board of Supervisors before the close of the public protest hearing on March 1, 2016.

If there is not a majority protest, the Board may impose the proposed sewer fee increase.

Explanation of the Proposed Sewer Fee Increase

The proposed increased sewer fee is comprised of a flat sewer service fee that includes all of the cost to deliver sewer services, operation and maintenance of the sewer system and for sewage collection services.

The proposed increased sewer fee is described below:

Table 1 - Monthly Flat Sewer Fee For Sewer Services

The engineer also analyzed the average cost of the sewer system operations and maintenance, and administration over three years to develop and establish a flat fee for sewer services. The sewer service fee includes the cost to deliver sewer services, operation and maintenance of the sewer system and for sewage collection services.

Table 1 - MONTHLY SEWER FLAT FEE					
Service Connection Type	Effective 7/1/2016	Effective 7/1/2017	Effective 7/1/2018	Effective 7/1/2019	Effective 7/1/2020
Residential	*\$75.00	*\$70.96	\$94.49	\$96.56	\$98.65

***In the first two years of the fee increase the developers whose property is allocated the excess capacity in the sewer plant have agreed to subsidize \$21.53 per residential connection, per month, reducing the fee to \$75.00 in the first year and reducing the fee to \$70.96 in the second year.**

The proposed fees also include inflation increases of 1.026% annually over a five-year period (effective July 1st of each year beginning on July 1, 2017, with the last increase to occur on July 1, 2020).

Additional Information

The proposed sewer fees, if not opposed by a majority of the property owners, and if approved by the Board at the public protest hearing on March 1, 2016, will be implemented on July 1, 2016. Property owners would first see this increase on the July/August bill, which they can expect to receive in September 2016.

If proposed fee increase is not imposed due to a “majority protest,” as defined above, County staff will schedule a public community meeting. The purpose of that meeting will be to discuss strategies to reduce sewer services to avoid exceeding available revenues.