



PROPOSITION 218 NOTICE

NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS OF PUBLIC HEARING
ON PROPOSED SEWER RATE ADJUSTMENTS
COUNTY SERVICE AREA NO. 29 (NORTH COAST)

HEARING DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, June 23, 2026, 10:30 A.M.
LOCATION: Board of Supervisors Hearing Room, Ventura County
Government Center, 800 S. Victoria Avenue, Ventura, CA 93009-1920

WHY ARE YOU RECEIVING THIS NOTICE?

The Ventura County Board of Supervisors (Board) will be conducting a Public Hearing on a proposed schedule of sewer rate adjustments for fiscal years 2026-27 through 2030-31 for County Service Area No. 29 (CSA 29). The County of Ventura Water and Sanitation Department (Department) has been proudly providing administration, operations, and maintenance of the sewer collection system for CSA 29, serving the communities of Solimar Beach, Faria Beach, Seacliff, and Mussel Shoals. The North Coast sewer system is a septic tank effluent pump (STEP) system (System) that serves 308 customers. The sewage from the System is pumped to the City of Ventura for wastewater treatment and disposal.

The Department assumed responsibility for the North Coast sewer collection system in CSA 29 after the cancellation of the maintenance contract on May 11, 2021. The North Coast sewer collection system was built in 1982 (44 years old) and consists of 308 service connections, 13 miles of force main, 3.6 miles of electrical conduit, and 155 STEP pumps w/ electric panels, 160 tanks, and 6 lift stations. This sewer collection system requires major upgrades to improve system reliability and reduce odor issues. Since 2021, the Department has made minor improvements to improve reliability and comply with the City of Ventura's discharge permit. CSA 29 sewer system remains expensive to operate.

WHY ARE RATE ADJUSTMENTS REQUIRED?

Annually, as part of the budget process, the sewer rate is reviewed to determine if adjustments are needed to accommodate projected expenses. This year, the Department completed a comprehensive rate study to identify the most equitable method for proportionally allocating the projected costs of wastewater services among all customers.

For Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 through FY 2031, rates are based on the actual cost of providing service, as determined by an independent consulting firm, and will be effective as shown in the table below. The purpose of the proposed rate adjustments is to modernize the North Coast sewer collection system, replace the Mussel Shoals Lift Station Generator, and improve the Solimar Lift Station’s Electrical System to ensure uninterrupted service to CSA 29. Other drivers include:

- Increasing costs related to fuel, labor, materials, and electrical power.
- Replacing aging infrastructure by planning, designing, and constructing a more efficient, reliable, and sustainable wastewater collection and conveyance system.
- Paying wastewater treatment costs managed by the City of Ventura’s wastewater treatment plant.
- Building a cash reserve balance that covers the cost of repairs due to emergencies, natural disasters, and enables the CSA to match grant funding opportunities.
- Evolving Regulatory and Lab Requirements.

To reduce costs associated with monthly service billing, the sewer charges are collected through the annual general County tax roll. An annual report has been prepared to identify which parcels benefit from the services provided by the Department and list each by Assessor’s Parcel Number. The annual amount of the sewer service charge for each parcel may be obtained by calling the Department at (805) 378-3000, Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. The report will also be filed with the Clerk of the Board before the public hearing.

WHAT ARE THE CURRENT AND PROPOSED RATES?

CSA 29 EFFECTIVE DATE	CURRENT RATE	EFFECTIVE 7/1/2026	EFFECTIVE 7/1/2027	EFFECTIVE 7/1/2028	EFFECTIVE 7/1/2029	EFFECTIVE 7/1/2030
Collection Per ERU* Per Month (\$)	\$274.14	\$287.87	+14%	+14%	+14%	+9%
City of Ventura Treatment Costs (\$/ERU)	Included in Current Rate	\$35.62	Pass-Through actual cost	Pass-Through actual cost	Pass-Through actual cost	Pass-Through actual cost
Total Per ERU Per Month (\$)	\$274.14	\$323.49	+14% + Pass-Through	+14% + Pass-Through	+14% + Pass-Through	+9% + Pass-Through
* Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) is the basis from which sewer demands service classifications are calculated; a single-family residence is one unit.						
Non-residential ERU calculated based on Rules and Regulations (publicworks.venturacounty.gov/wsd/publicationsanddocuments/)						

HOW DO YOU PARTICIPATE?

If you wish to oppose the proposed schedule of sewer rate increases, you must submit a written protest by mail before the public hearing at the following address: Water and Sanitation Department, Attn: CSA 29 Sewer Rate Protest, 6767 Spring Road, P.O. Box 250, Moorpark, CA, 93020-0250. Protests must contain the following information: (1) The property’s Assessor’s Parcel Number and address; (2) Whether you are the owner of record of the property or a leaseholder (if you were not the owner of the property as of Ventura County’s last tax roll on July 1, 2025 please include confirmation that you presently own the property); (3) A statement that you are protesting the sewer rate increase; and (4) Your name (printed), date, and original signature.

The Department will not count written protests received after the conclusion of the public hearing. Any verbal protests unaccompanied by a written protest or facsimile (fax) protest will not be counted. If you choose to submit your protest by regular mail, please allow sufficient time for the mail to be delivered to the Department before the public hearing; the Department is not responsible for U.S. Postal Service delays. Only one protest per property will be counted. If you own multiple properties affected by the proposed increases, you should submit separate protests for each affected parcel, as the protest threshold is based on a majority of the total number of parcels. Once tallied, protests are disclosable public records.

Per section 53759 of the Government Code, effective January 1, 2022, there is a 120-day statute of limitations for challenging any new, increased, or extended fee or charge from the effective date or the date of the final passage, adoption, or approval of the ordinance, resolution, or motion, whichever is later.