

CITY OF COLUSA

WATER RATE STUDY

February 2010

BARTLE WELLS ASSOCIATES

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February 25, 2010

City of Colusa
425 Webster Street
Colusa, CA 95932

Attn: Jan McClintock, City Manager

Re: Water Rate Study

Bartle Wells Associates is pleased to submit the attached Water Rate Study report. The study develops water rate recommendations based on financial projections developed with substantial input from City staff and the Water Rate Advisory Committee.

The City's water enterprise is facing major challenges. The water utility has an ongoing operating deficit, current revenues do not cover current expenses. The February 2009 Water Master Plan identified \$14.5 - \$18.9 million of existing deficiencies with capital improvement needed for current users. The recommendations developed in our study are designed to ensure the long-term financial health of the water enterprise. Key recommendations include five years of water rate increases as well as some adjustments to the water rate structure to encourage conservation, better align rates with the cost of service, and improve equity among ratepayers.

BWA recommends the City phase-in five rate increases over the next five years pursuant to the procedural requirements of Proposition 218. This will eliminate the need for the City to go through the Proposition 218 process each year. The City would still retain flexibility to revise the rate adjustments, if needed, as long as the increases did not exceed the rates adopted under the Proposition 218 procedure. Water rate recommendations are summarized on the attached tables.

We enjoyed working with the City on this assignment and appreciate the cooperation and assistance provided by City staff throughout the project. Special thanks to Jan McClintock, City Manager; Leigh Keicher, Finance Director; and the Water Rate Advisory Committee who volunteered their time to attend four meetings with BWA. Members of the committee included Nancy Newlin, Cheri White, Marilyn Acree, Jack Jacobson, Dennis Sanders, and Donna Critchfield, Mayor. The Committee provided valuable insight and feedback in crafting a water rate recommendation that 1) phases-in rate increases over time to try to lessen the impact on rate payers who have already been affected by the current state of the economy and rate increases to other utilities, 2) is fair and equitable to ratepayers, and 3) encourages conservation. Please do not hesitate to contact us any time in the future if you have any questions about this study or other issues regarding water and sewer rates and finance.

Sincerely,

BARTLE WELLS ASSOCIATES

Doug Dove, CIPFA
President

Stephanie Osborn, CIPFA
Financial Analyst

Summary of Proposed Rates

Inside City - Proposed Water Rates Effective Every May 2010 through 2014					
Monthly Meter Charge	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
5/8" or 3/4"	\$15.11	\$18.14	\$21.76	\$25.03	\$28.78
1"	27.02	32.42	38.91	44.75	51.46
1 1/2"	46.86	56.23	67.48	77.60	89.24
2"	79.41	95.29	114.35	131.50	151.23
3"	126.22	151.46	181.75	209.02	240.37
4"	205.58	246.69	296.03	340.44	391.50
6"	403.97	484.77	581.72	668.98	769.33
Single Family Residential Usage Tiers (per HCF consumed)					
Keep Colusa Green Landscaping Allocation					
0 -3 HCF	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tier 1					
4 - 10 HCF	0.24	0.41	0.51	0.59	0.68
Tier 2					
11 - 32 HCF	0.63	1.07	1.34	1.54	1.77
Tier 3					
over 32 HCF	1.19	2.02	2.53	2.91	3.35
Multi-family Residential & Commercial Usage Tiers (per HCF consumed)					
Keep Colusa Green Landscaping Allocation					
0 -3 HCF	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Over 3 HCF	0.64	1.08	1.36	1.56	1.79

Outside City - Proposed Water Rates Effective Every May 2010 through 2014					
Monthly Meter Charge	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
5/8" or 3/4"	\$18.89	\$22.67	\$27.21	\$31.29	\$35.98
1"	33.78	40.53	48.64	55.93	64.32
1 1/2"	58.58	70.29	84.35	97.00	111.55
2"	99.26	119.12	142.94	164.38	189.04
3"	157.77	189.33	227.19	261.27	300.46
4"	256.97	308.37	370.04	425.54	489.38
6"	504.97	605.96	727.15	836.22	961.66
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Keep Colusa Green Landscaping Allocation					
0 -3 HCF	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tier 1					
4 - 10 HCF	0.30	0.51	0.64	0.74	0.85
Tier 2					
11 - 32 HCF	0.79	1.34	1.68	1.93	2.22
Tier 3					
over 32 HCF	1.49	2.53	3.16	3.63	4.17
Multi-family Residential & Commercial Usage Tiers (per HCF consumed)					
Keep Colusa Green Landscaping Allocation					
0 -3 HCF	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Over 3 HCF	0.80	1.36	1.69	1.95	2.24

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BACKGROUND & OBJECTIVES

The City of Colusa provides water service to approximately 2,265 customers within approximately a 2.0 square-mile service area. The City's customer base is predominantly single family residential with some commercial and industrial customers. The City serves a population of approximately 5,800 residents. The water utility is accounted for as self-supporting enterprise fund; revenues are derived primarily from utility service charges and must be adequate to fund operating and capital needs.

In September 2009, the City retained Bartle Wells Associates (BWA) to develop a rate and fee study for the water enterprise. Prior to this study, the City's water rates and fees had not been independently reviewed in many years. Basic objectives of our study include:

- Conduct an independent analysis of water rates and finances.
- Develop cash flow projections incorporating reasonable estimates of future operating expenses. Coordinate construction and financing capital improvement projects with the City of Colusa Water Master Plan, February 2009.
- Determine the annual revenue requirement.
- Evaluate water rate structure.
- Recommend rate adjustments to support the long-term financial health of the water enterprise.
- Phase in rate adjustments over time, to the extent possible, to minimize the annual impact on ratepayers.

This report presents key findings and recommendations of our study. The recommendations were developed with substantial input from the City.

WATER RATE STUDY

Water System & Supply

The City owns and operates approximately 33 miles of water transmission and distribution pipelines, five wells, and two elevated storage tanks. The City relies on three wells to meet day to day demand and uses the other two wells as back-up supply. The City's storage capacity of about 0.25 million gallons is used to supplement peak demand and maintain system pressure.

The City's water supply is from groundwater wells. The City pumps on average 1.8 million gallons per day (mgd) of groundwater. The groundwater contains naturally occurring manganese, sulfates, and salts.

The Water Master Plan identified \$14.5 - \$18.9 million of existing deficiencies with capital improvement needed for current users. The City is preparing to implement the recommended capital improvements including two new wells with filtration for manganese removal, manganese treatment for existing wells, and pipeline replacements. For more information about the City of Colusa Water Master Plan you may find the entire Plan on the City's website www.cityofcolusa.com.

A draft 5-year capital improvement plan (CIP) totaling \$7.0 million was developed with the assistance of City staff and the Water Rate Advisory Committee. The rate increases recommended in this report are to support the 5-year draft CIP with funding from a USDA grant/loan and a combination of a \$420,000 loan and pay-as-you-go financing. Additional water capital projects will be needed after the first five years to complete the capital projects identified in the Water Master Plan and additional future rate increases are likely.

5-year Draft Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

Project	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	Total
<u>New Wells</u>							
Well			1,300,000				\$1,300,000
Well or storage tank				1,300,000			\$1,300,000
Install filters at wells			700,000	700,000			\$1,400,000
Contingencies 20%	0	0	400,000	400,000	0	0	\$800,000
Administration, Engineering 20%	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>480,000</u>	<u>480,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>\$960,000</u>
<u>Total USDA grant/loan funded</u>	\$0	\$0	\$2,880,000	\$2,880,000	\$0	\$0	\$5,760,000
<u>Distribution</u>							
Pipeline replacements	0	0	0	0	200,000	200,000	\$400,000
Contingencies 20%	0	0	0	0	40,000	40,000	\$80,000
Administration, Engineering 20%	0	0	0	0	48,000	48,000	\$96,000
Magnetic flow meters on 4 wells	10,000	10,000	10,000	4,720			\$34,720
Sand tester at 4 wells	5,600						\$5,600
Pickup truck w. hoist (shared w. WW Dept)						42,000	\$42,000
Backhoe (shared w. WW Dept)				56,100			\$56,100
Paint water work bldg 9th & Main					10,000		\$10,000
2 generators		80,000	80,000				\$160,000
Annual repair and replacement	<u>60,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>	<u>\$360,000</u>
<u>Total cash funded</u>	\$75,600	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$120,820	\$358,000	\$390,000	\$1,244,420
<u>Future Project</u>							
Paint water towers							\$450,000
<u>Grant Funded</u>							
Replace meters							\$100,000

Projects in the current CIP benefit existing customers. Existing customers pay for their share of the projects through their monthly water bill.

Current Water Rates

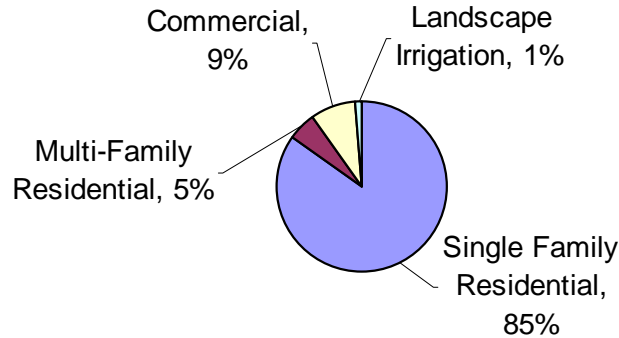
The City's current water rates include a minimum monthly service charge based on the size of the water meter which includes a water consumption allowance. The minimum monthly charge and the water consumption allowance increase with meter size. Water consumption over the allowance is billed on a four-tier schedule based on the amount of water consumed. The monthly consumption rate is an inclining block, but the price increase per tier is so small that it does not provide substantial incentive to conserve water. The minimum monthly service charge and water consumption charge have not been adjusted since October 2002. All customers are billed monthly for water service.

Current Water Rates - Effective October 2002				
Minimum monthly service charge and water allowance				
Meter Size	Minimum Monthly Service Charge		Maximum Consumption before excess usage is charged	
5/8" or 3/4"	\$11.45		10 HCF	
1"	\$20.47		25 HCF	
1 1/2"	\$35.50		50 HCF	
2"	\$60.16		100 HCF	
3"	\$95.62		150 HCF	
4"	\$155.74		250 HCF	
6"	\$306.04		500 HCF	
Consumption Charges for water used above allowance				
Excess Usage Rates 4-tiers:				
	Inside City Limits		Outside City Limits	
Tier 1	\$0.40 per HCF		\$0.50 per HCF	
Tier 2	\$0.45 per HCF		\$0.55 per HCF	
Tier 3	\$0.50 per HCF		\$0.60 per HCF	
Tier 4	\$0.55 per HCF		\$0.65 per HCF	
Usage tiers, shown in HCF, for each meter size:				
Meter Size	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4
5/8" or 3/4"	10 - 60	61 - 110	111 - 160	160 and over
1"	25 - 75	76 - 125	126 - 175	175 and over
1 1/2"	50 - 100	101 - 150	151 - 200	200 and over
2"	100 - 150	151 - 200	201 - 250	250 and over
3"	150 - 200	201 - 250	251 - 300	300 and over
4"	250 - 300	301 - 350	351 - 400	400 and over
6"	500 - 550	551 - 600	601 - 650	650 and over

Water Customers

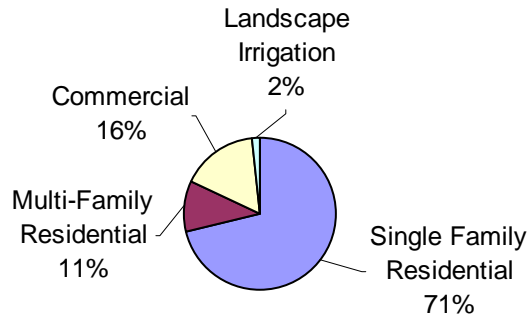
The City currently provides water service to approximately 2,265 predominantly residential connections. Single family residences account for 85% of the water customers.

Water Customers by Customer Class



In fiscal year 2008/09, single family residences accounted for 71% of the water consumption.

Water Usage by Customer Class



In fiscal year 2008/09 average monthly water consumption for a single family residence inside the City with a 5/8" or 3/4" meter was 20.8 HCF.

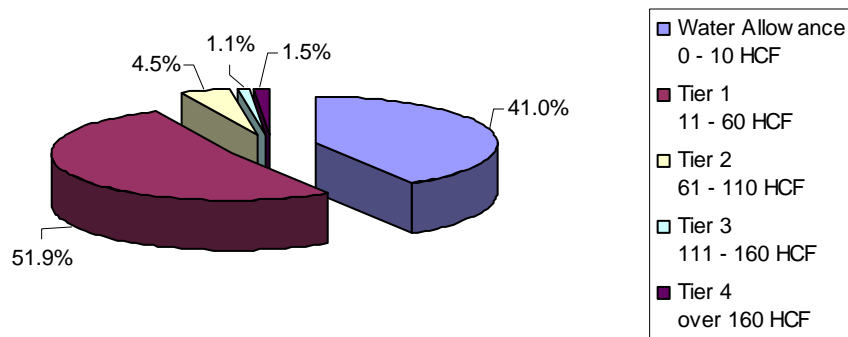
Recommended Rate Structure Modifications

Based on evaluation of the City’s rate structure, and input provided by City staff and the Water Rate Advisory Committee, BWA recommends the City adopt some modifications to the water rate structure. Please note that single family residential water analysis is based on fiscal year 2008/09 data for a customer with a 5/8” or 3/4” meter (the most common meter sizes) living inside the City. These rate structure modifications include:

Revise Single Family Residential Water Tiers Based on Analysis of Water Consumption Data

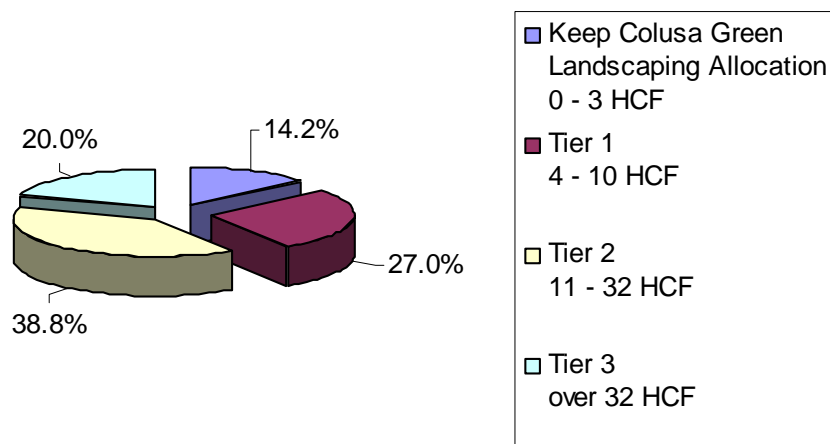
In fiscal year 2008/09, about 41% of single family residential water was included as a water allocation with the monthly meter charge. The next 52% of water consumed was purchased in Tier 1, 5% in Tier 2, 1% in Tier 3, and 1% in Tier 4. BWA recommends the City revise its tier structure to better distribute water sales among the various rate tiers.

Single Family Residential Usage Analysis with Current Tier Structure



Applying the fiscal year 2008/09 single family water usage to the recommended tier structure spreads out the consumption over all of the tiers. About 14% of the water consumption would be in the proposed 3-hcf landscaping allocation, 27% in Tier 1, 39% in Tier 2, and 20% in Tier 3.

Single Family Residential Usage Analysis with Recommended Tier Structure

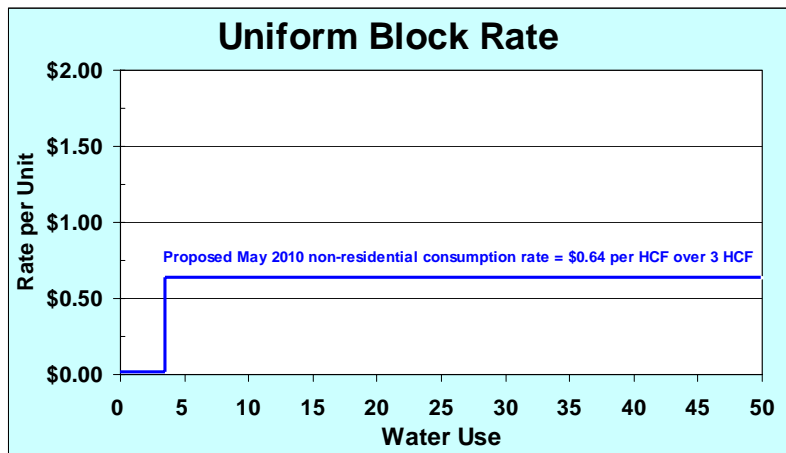


With the recommended tier structure single family residential customers would be billed a monthly consumption charge including a 3 HCF landscaping allocation plus an inclining three-tier structure to encourage water conservation.

The landscaping allocation plus three-tier structure is designed to encourage wise use of water, particularly in the dry summer months when system peaks occur. Revenue from the higher tiers is used to fund conservation programs and costs related to accommodating system peak use.

Uniform Block Rate for All Non-single Family Residential Water Consumption

BWA recommends the City bill all non-single family water customers (multi-family, commercial, industrial) a uniform consumption charge for all water consumed. The uniform rate is based on a weighted average of the single family residential tiers. All water is sold at the same price per unit which provides good conservation incentive. There are large differences in water use for different types of businesses. For example, a restaurant and a warehouse are likely to use vastly different amounts of water. It is difficult to establish an equitable tiered rate structure for different commercial uses.



While the uniform block rate structure for non-single family residential customers differs from the multi-tiered rate structure for single family residential, the overall consumption revenues for both classes are equivalent on an average unit basis.

	Water Usage by Customer Class (FY 2008/09)	Estimated Revenues with Proposed Rates by Customer Class
Single family residential	71%	74%
Multifamily residential	11%	9%
Commercial (all)	18%	17%

Water Customers Outside City

Currently, there is a 25% surcharge for 1st Tier water sold outside of the City. BWA recommends that the 25% surcharge be applied to the monthly meter charge and all the usage tiers to recover costs associated with these customers.

A surcharge for customers outside of the City is common throughout California. A surcharge is appropriate since:

- These users have not paid annexation costs to annex to the City
- In the past, the General Fund was subsidizing the Water Enterprise by over \$100,000 annually
- Extras costs are incurred to serve outside users as they are located further from the downtown core, corporation yard and City Hall
- The City can exercise its discretion consistent with *Hansen v. City of San Buenaventura*, 42 cal.3d 1172 (1986) to enact a rate for property owners outside the City which is greater than the rate for property owners within the City
- Outside users are not mandated to connect to the City water system and can disconnect at any time and connect to an alternate water source.

Encourage Conservation

BWA recommends that most of the water allocation currently included in the fixed monthly meter charge (10 to 500 hcf depending on meter size) be eliminated. A small water allocation called “The Keep Colusa Green Landscaping Allocation” of 3 HCF per meter per month is recommended in the proposed rates. This allocation is for watering street trees and grass on City owned right-of-way adjacent to streets. The recommended three tiers for single family residential customers will encourage conservation with higher rates kicking in as usage increases. Tier 1 includes enough water (up to 10 hcf/month) for average household interior water use. Tier 2 (up to 32hcf/month) includes enough water to cover the average year-round water usage of 21 HCF per month as well as average peak summer month water use of 32 hcf. In the future all of the City’s water will need to be treated to improve the taste and smell and to remove the manganese and sulfates. Reducing the demand through water conservation will reduce the amount of water that needs to be treated and could reduce the number of new wells that are needed. Wasting water is an unnecessary use of energy and resources.

Conservation based rates are also needed to qualify for and comply with grants and loans.

Due to the proposed increase in the consumption rates, an allowance for conservation was factored into the revenue projections. If City water users do not cut back on their water use as expected, additional revenue would be generated as a result. This additional revenue could be used to fund additional pipeline upsizing projects as called for in the Master Plan. The proposed rates with the anticipated conservation only fund a portion of the pipeline upsizing called for in the Master Plan.

Fixed vs. Variable Revenue

To provide meaningful conservation incentive, BWA recommends that consumption charges (variable revenue) should produce at least 50% of the rate revenues. Under the current rate structure, consumption charges provide only 28% of the revenue and the monthly meter charges (fixed revenue) provide 72% of the revenue. With the proposed rate structure, consumption charges would account for about 50% of the revenue and monthly meter charges would account for about 50% of the revenue beginning in 2011/12.

Recommended Rates

Water rates were developed to cover O&M costs, the 5-year draft capital improvement plan, and provide debt service funding for water capital improvement projects financed through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Utility grant/loan program. An application has been submitted to the USDA for a \$5.76 million grant/loan. Roughly \$1.7 million of the financing would be in the form of a grant, the remainder would be a 40 year loan at a 1.2% interest rate. If the USDA grant/loan does not come through for the City, the new rates will ensure that water enterprise revenues cover operating expenses and that the City is in the position to borrow money from other sources to cover a scaled-back capital program with no new wells.

Water bills include two components: a monthly meter charge based on the size of the water meter and a monthly consumption charge based on the amount of water consumed. The recommended monthly consumption charge is an inclining block rate with a landscape allocation plus three tiers. Under this structure low water users save money on their bill, this encourages water conservation.

All non-single family water customers (multi-family, commercial, industrial) will be billed a monthly meter charge based on meter size plus a uniform consumption charge for all water consumed above the landscape allocation.

Inside City - Proposed Water Rates Effective Every May 2010 through 2014					
Monthly Meter Charge	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
5/8" or 3/4"	\$15.11	\$18.14	\$21.76	\$25.03	\$28.78
1"	27.02	32.42	38.91	44.75	51.46
1 1/2"	46.86	56.23	67.48	77.60	89.24
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over 32 HCF	1.19	2.02	2.53	2.91	3.35
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Over 3 HCF	0.64	1.08	1.36	1.56	1.79

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over 32 HCF	1.49	2.53	3.16	3.63	4.17
Multi-family Residential & Commercial Usage Tiers (per HCF consumed)					
Keep Colusa Green Landscaping Allocation					
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Over 3 HCF	0.80	1.36	1.69	1.95	2.24

Rate Survey

A rate survey of the surrounding area shows that the City of Colusa's current water rates are comparatively low. After the final proposed increase in May 2014, the City's bill for 20 HCF of water consumption will be slightly higher than the City of Willows (California Water Service Co.) current rates. This assumes that other area agencies have no rate increases between 2010 and 2014 which is unlikely.

Monthly bill for local agencies	Hundred cubic feet		
	10	20	60
City of Orland	\$12.00	\$14.25	\$23.25
City of Colusa - current	11.45	15.45	31.45
City of Yuba City	17.36	21.70	65.10
City of Colusa - proposed May 2010	16.79	23.09	63.97
City of Corning - current	18.39	26.94	61.14
City of Corning - April 1, 2010	18.93	27.70	62.80
City of Colusa - proposed May 2011	21.01	31.71	101.11
City of Williams	20.09	32.29	81.09
City of Gridley	30.50	37.40	65.00
City of Colusa - proposed May 2012	25.33	38.73	125.65
City of Colusa - proposed May 2013	29.16	44.56	144.52
City of Willows (California Water Service Co)	37.62	47.68	93.57
City of Colusa - proposed May 2014	33.54	51.24	166.28

Drought Rates

In the unlikely even that the City Council declares a drought and calls for water use cutbacks, a drought surcharge should be implemented equal to the requested or required cutback. E.g. if the City implements a 15% cutback, a corresponding 15% drought surcharge would be imposed. In a drought, water sales decrease, but expenses are likely to stay the same or increase slightly due to drought-related costs. The drought surcharge is designed to preserve the water system's revenue stream during the drought.

Cash Flow Projections

BWA developed five-year financial projections to evaluate long-term finances and determine rate increases. Water cash flow projections are shown on the next page. The financial projections are based on the best information currently available as well as a number of reasonable and slightly conservative assumptions including:

- Interest income estimated at 2% of beginning fund reserves over the next five years.
- Operating costs are based on the 2009/10 budget and escalate at the annual rate of 5% for salaries and benefits and 4% for operations and maintenance.
- Funding for current capital improvement projects using proceeds from the USDA grant/loan and a \$420,000 interfund or external loan in 2010/11.

The cash flow projections indicate the need for rate increases to fund the water system expenses and capital improvements. The recommended adjustments are needed to enable the water enterprise to:

- Bring sufficient revenues to cover operating costs and annual inflation.
- Fund the 5-year draft capital improvement plan.
- Start to rebuild fund reserves.

Under the current recommendation water rates would be increased in May 2010 and each May thereafter with the last scheduled increase taking place May 2014. Revenues from each rate increase will apply be seen on the July bill, according to current billing practices.

City of Colusa
5-year Water Fund Cash Flow

City of Colusa Cash Flow - USDA 30% grant / 70% loan									
	Actual	Unaudited	Adopted						
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	
Rate Increase - service fees				32%	20%	20%	15%	15%	
Rate Increase - usage fees				90%	70%	25%	15%	15%	
Rate Increase - average				61%	45%	23%	15%	15%	
Average Monthly Residential Water Bill (5/8" meter, 21 HCF/month)			\$15.85	\$23.72	\$32.78	\$40.07	\$46.10	\$53.01	
Beginning Fund Balance			\$538,986	\$67,641	\$138,141	(\$15,459)	\$8,621	(\$40,079)	
fixed revenue	73%	67%	72%	59%	50%	49%	49%	49%	
variable revenue	27%	33%	28%	41%	50%	51%	51%	51%	
Revenues									
Water service fees	389,847	442,133	383,192	495,000	594,000	712,800	819,700	942,700	
Water usage fees	144,822	217,224	146,355	345,000	586,500	733,100	843,100	969,600	
Interest earnings & penalties	54,019	25,601	32,000	1,000	3,000	0	0	0	
Check service charges	1,150	850	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Connection fees	4,717	34,000	5,200	0	0	0	0	0	
Loan Proceeds	0	0	0	420,000	0	0	0	0	
Total all revenues	594,555	719,808	567,747	1,262,000	1,184,500	1,446,900	1,663,800	1,913,300	
Expenses									
Salary & Benefits									
Salaries & benefits	234,953	338,629	372,503	391,100	410,700	431,200	452,800	475,400	
1/2 FTE Finance	0	0	0	30,000	31,500	33,100	34,800	36,500	
Workers compensation	3,256	10,801	6,084	6,400	6,700	7,000	7,400	7,800	
Car allowance	510	160	840	900	900	900	900	900	
Overtime	778	20,833	27,028	28,400	29,800	31,300	32,900	34,500	
Uniform allowance	0	0	1,073	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	
Misc	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Subtotal Salary & Benefits Expenses	239,497	370,423	407,528	457,900	480,700	504,600	529,900	556,200	
Operations & Maintenance									
Benefits	8,451	3,200	11,604	12,200	12,800	13,400	14,100	14,800	
Office expense & supplies	7,391	4,950	4,950	5,100	5,300	5,500	5,700	5,900	
Chemicals & Gasses	14,327	11,500	10,500	10,900	11,300	11,800	12,300	12,800	
Professional/contractual services	63,005	30,000	169,267	176,000	183,000	190,300	197,900	205,800	
Fuel	6,767	7,000	6,000	6,200	6,400	6,700	7,000	7,300	
Fees & permits	5,659	12,000	12,000	12,500	13,000	13,500	14,000	14,600	
Utilities	103,652	105,000	114,450	119,000	123,800	128,800	134,000	139,400	
Testing	7,859	8,000	8,000	8,300	8,600	8,900	9,300	9,700	
Insurance/bonds	0	0	9,432	9,800	10,200	10,600	11,000	11,400	
Dues & memberships	2,286	2,000	2,500	2,600	2,700	2,800	2,900	3,000	
Advertising & communications	4,542	5,250	5,250	5,500	5,700	5,900	6,100	6,300	
Maintenance	80,427	65,000	64,000	66,600	69,300	72,100	75,000	78,000	
Groundwater monitoring				4,000	4,200	4,400	4,600	4,800	
Bad debt expense	8,466	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Transfer out	0	162,888	138,011	144,900	152,100	159,700	167,700	176,100	
Misc	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Subtotal Operations & Maintenance Expense	312,832	416,788	555,964	583,600	608,400	634,400	661,600	689,900	
Total O&M expenses	552,329	787,211	963,492	1,041,500	1,089,100	1,139,000	1,191,500	1,246,100	
Net Operating Revenues	42,226	(67,403)	(395,745)	220,500	95,400	307,900	472,300	667,200	
Capital & Debt Service									
Cash Funded CIP			75,600	150,000	150,000	120,820	358,000	390,000	
Loan Repayment					35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	
New Water System Debt				0	64,000	128,000	128,000	128,000	
Subtotal Capital & Debt Service			75,600	150,000	249,000	283,820	521,000	553,000	
Total Annual Expenditures			1,039,092	1,191,500	1,338,100	1,422,820	1,712,500	1,799,100	
Net Revenues			(471,345)	70,500	(153,600)	24,080	(48,700)	114,200	
Ending Fund Balance			67,641	138,141	(15,459)	8,621	(40,079)	74,121	
Debt Service Coverage (min 1.2x)					0.96	1.89	2.90	4.09	

Source:
City of Colusa 2009-10 Budget Summary by Fund
City of Colusa Special and Restricted Funds Revenues
City of Colusa Expenditure Budget 200/10

Proposition 218

Proposition 218, the “Right to Vote on Taxes Act”, was approved by California voters in November 1996 and is codified as Articles XIIC and XIID of the California Constitution. Proposition 218 establishes requirements for imposing or increasing property related taxes, assessments, fees and charges. For many years, there was no legal consensus on whether water and sewer rates met the definition of “property related fees”. In July 2007, the California Supreme Court essentially confirmed that Proposition 218 applies to water rates. The prevailing legal consensus is that Proposition 218 also applies to wastewater rates.

BWA recommends the City follow the procedural requirements of Proposition 218 for all future water rate increases. These requirements include:

- The City must mail a notice of proposed rate increases to all affected property owners or utility rate payers. The notice must also specify the date/time/location of a public rate hearing at which the proposed rates will be adopted, and other related information.
- The City must hold a public hearing prior to adopting the proposed rate increases. The public hearing must be held not less than 45 days after the required notices are mailed.
- At the public hearing, the proposed rate increases are subject to majority protest. If more than 50% of affected property owners or utility rate payers submit written protests against the proposed rate increases, the increases cannot be adopted.

Charges for water, sewer, and refuse collection are exempt from the additional voting requirements of Proposition 218 provided the charges do not exceed the cost of providing service and are adopted pursuant to procedural requirements of Proposition 218.

Proposition 218 also has substantive requirements. This rate study meets these substantive requirements due to the following:

- As shown in the cash flow on page 13, the revenues derived from the water fees over the next five years does not exceed the funds required to cover the projected water system operating and capital costs.
- Revenues from the water rates and charges are used exclusively to fund water operating and capital costs.
- As shown in the table on page 7, under the proposed rates, the revenues generated from the various classes of users very closely matches the overall water use data. The rate design includes shifting a higher percent of the charge on the variable consumption based portion of the rate. This is done with concurrence from the Water Rate Advisory Committee to provide more incentive to conserve and to generate approximately 50% of revenues from variable charges. This percentage of revenues from the variable charge is based on guidelines from the California Public Utilities Commission.
- Water rates and charges are only levied on customers that actually use the water service or for which the service is immediately available.

The Proposition 218 notice mailed to City ratepayers and property owners is attached in Appendix A

Additional Recommendation from Water Rate Advisory Committee

The City assembled a Water Rate Advisory Committee who volunteered their time to attend four meetings with BWA and Jan McClintock, City Manager. The Committee provided valuable insight and feedback in crafting a water rate recommendation that phases-in rate increases over time to try to lessen the impact on rate payers who have already be affected by the current state of the economy and rate increases to other utilities, is fair and equitable to rate payers, and encourages conservation.

The committee also believes that public outreach is very important. To inform rate payers about the proposed water rate increase the committee recommended putting information inserts in with water bills, in local newspapers, and in the City newsletter and website. Inform the public about water audits that are currently available from the City and provide education on lawn watering.

The committee also thought that it would be very help to water customers to have people available at the Town Hall meeting and Proposition 218 hearing to help customers calculate their bills with the proposed rate increases.

WATER CAPACITY FEE

Water Capacity Fee Recommendation

The February 2009 Water Master Plan estimates \$28.1 million of improvements will be needed to serve a projected 8,150 equivalent dwelling units (EDU) of growth through build-out. These costs should be recovered from new growth. Capacity fees fund backbone facilities such as water supply, storage, pumping, and transmission system improvements. Capacity fees do not include in-tract piping and improvements which are installed by a developer. BWA recommends adopting the capacity charges developed in the Water Master Plan, but adjust them for changes in the Engineering News Record -Construction Cost Index 20-Cities Average (ENRCCI) from the date of the study to February 2010.

Recommended Water Capacity Fees:

Meter Size	Capacity (gpm)	Ratio	Capacity Charge
1" or less	50	1.0	\$3,504
1.5"	100	2.0	7,008
2"	160	3.2	11,214
3"	350	7.0	24,529
4"	630	12.6	44,153
6"	1400	28.0	98,117

Future Capacity Fee Adjustments

The City should consider adjusting its capacity fees annually by the change in the ENRCCI to prevent the charges from falling behind the costs of constructing new facilities. The Engineering News-Record magazine publishes construction cost indices monthly for 20 major U.S. cities and an average of 20 cities around the U.S. These indices can be used to estimate the change in the construction cost of facilities each year. For example, if the ENRCCI increases by two percent, capacity fees should also increase by two percent.

APPENDIX A

Proposition 218 Notice

**Proposition 218 Notification
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ON PROPOSED WATER RATES**

City of Colusa
425 Webster Street
Colusa, CA 95932

Hearing Date & Time: May 4, 2010 at 7:00 PM or as soon thereafter as possible
Hearing Location: City of Colusa
City Council Chambers
425 Webster Street, Colusa, CA 95932

Why a Rate Adjustment is Needed

Cost of Service Water rates have not increased since 2002. During that time expenses have increased while revenues have remained about the same. At times the water utility was subsidized by the General Fund. The water utility needs to collect revenue sufficient to cover the costs of operating the water system. These costs include electricity, equipment and supplies, ongoing maintenance and replacements, treatment chemicals, salaries and benefits for water staff, and capital improvement projects.

Capital Improvement Projects The City of Colusa Master Plan (February 2009) identifies \$14.5 – 18.9 million of capital improvements needed to correct existing deficiencies for current users. Over the next five years, the City will implement a capital improvement plan with approximately \$7 million of projects to improve water quality and meet regulatory requirements. These projects include:

- Replacement of 50 year old wells
- Pipeline replacements
- Removing naturally occurring salts, as mandated by California State DPH
- Removing naturally occurring manganese and sulfates that discolor the water and have an unpleasant odor

Note: It is expected that these capital projects will result in much improved water quality, taste, and reduced odors.

Basis of Proposed Rates

The City needs to collect revenues sufficient to cover the costs of operating the water system. These costs include electricity, equipment and supplies, ongoing maintenance and replacements, treatment chemicals, and salaries and benefits for water enterprise staff. Additionally, revenue generated from these water rates will be used to meet the City of Colusa Master Plan capital improvement projects to correct existing deficiencies in the water system and improve the water quality.

A study by an independent consulting firm working closely with a Citizens Advisory Committee concluded that the proposed rates will provide enough funds for the City to recover the cost of operation, maintenance, administration, and capital improvement projects.

Water Rates

The City currently charges customers a minimum monthly service charge based on the size of the water meter which includes a water consumption allowance that increases with meter size. Water consumption over the allowance is billed on a four-tier schedule based on the amount of water consumed. The monthly consumption rate is an inclining block, but the price increase per tier is so small that it does not provide a substantial incentive to conserve water.

Have questions, attend a Town Hall meeting:

Meetings will be held at City of Colusa City Hall
425 Webster Street on March 25th at 10am,
March 30th at 6pm, and on April 8th at 2pm

Current Water Rates

Minimum monthly service charge and water allowance			Consumption Charges for water used above allowance				
Meter Size	Minimum Monthly Service Charge	Maximum Consumption before excess usage is charged	Excess Usage Rates 4-tiers:				
			Inside City Limits		Outside City Limits		
5/8" or 3/4"	\$11.45	10 HCF	Tier 1	\$0.40 per HCF		Tier 1	\$0.50 per HCF
1"	\$20.47	25 HCF	Tier 2	\$0.45 per HCF		Tier 2	\$0.55 per HCF
1 1/2"	\$35.50	50 HCF	Tier 3	\$0.50 per HCF		Tier 3	\$0.60 per HCF
2"	\$60.16	100 HCF	Tier 4	\$0.55 per HCF		Tier 4	\$0.65 per HCF
3"	\$95.62	150 HCF	Usage tiers, shown in HCF, for each meter size:				
4"	\$155.74	250 HCF	Meter Size	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4
6"	\$306.04	500 HCF	5/8" or 3/4"	10 - 60	61 - 110	111 - 160	160 and over
			1"	25 - 75	76 - 125	126 - 175	175 and over
			1 1/2"	50 - 100	101 - 150	151 - 200	200 and over
			2"	100 - 150	151 - 200	201 - 250	250 and over
			3"	150 - 200	201 - 250	251 - 300	300 and over
			4"	250 - 300	301 - 350	351 - 400	400 and over
			6"	500 - 550	551 - 600	601 - 650	650 and over

1 HCF = one hundred cubic feet = 750 gallons of water

Inside City Proposed Water Rates

Starting in May 2010, the proposed rate increases would modify the existing tier structure for single family residential customers. Customers would continue to be billed a monthly service charge based on meter size plus a three-tier monthly consumption charge for all water consumed over three HCF. All non-single family water customers (multi-family, commercial, industrial) will be billed a monthly service charge based on meter size plus a uniform consumption charge for all water consumed over three HCF.

Proposed Water Rates Effective Every May 2010 through 2014					
Inside City					
Monthly Meter Charge	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
5/8" or 3/4"	\$15.11	\$18.14	\$21.76	\$25.03	\$28.78
1"	27.02	32.42	38.91	44.75	51.46
1 1/2"	46.86	56.23	67.48	77.60	89.24
2"	79.41	95.29	114.35	131.50	151.23
3"	126.22	151.46	181.75	209.02	240.37
4"	205.58	246.69	296.03	340.44	391.50
6"	403.97	484.77	581.72	668.98	769.33
Single Family Residential Usage Tiers (per HCF consumed)					
Keep Colusa Green Landscaping Allocation					
0 -3 HCF	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tier 1					
4 - 10 HCF	0.24	0.41	0.51	0.59	0.68
Tier 2					
11 - 32 HCF	0.63	1.07	1.34	1.54	1.77
Tier 3					
over 32 HCF	1.19	2.02	2.53	2.91	3.35
Multi-family Residential & Commercial Usage Tiers (per HCF consumed)					
Keep Colusa Green Landscaping Allocation					
0 -3 HCF	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Over 3 HCF	0.64	1.08	1.36	1.56	1.79

Calculating Your Single Family Residential Water Bill

A single family residence inside the City with a 5/8" or 3/4" meter consuming 21 HCF of water per month would have a monthly bill of \$23.72, with the proposed water rates effective May 2010.

Monthly meter charge: 5/8" or 3/4"				\$15.11
Monthly water consumption: 21 HCF	Keep Colusa Green (0-3 HCF)	3 HCF * \$0.00 per HCF		0.00
	Tier 1 (4 - 10 HCF)	7 HCF * \$0.24 per HCF		1.68
	Tier 2 (11 - 32 HCF)	11 HCF * \$0.63 per HCF		6.93
		Monthly Water Bill		\$23.72

Each year a single family residence inside the City with a meter 5/8" or 3/4" meter consuming 21 HCF of water per month would see approximately a \$6.00 to \$9.00 increase in their monthly bill.

	Current	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Monthly Single Family Residential Water Bill	\$15.85	\$23.72	\$32.78	\$40.07	\$46.10	\$53.01
Monthly Increase		\$7.87	\$9.05	\$7.30	\$6.02	\$6.91

Calculating Your Non-Single Family Water Bill

A non-single family water customer (multi-family, commercial, industrial) inside the City with a 5/8" or 3/4" meter consuming 25.0 HCF of water per month would have a monthly water bill of \$29.19, with the proposed water rates effective May 2010.

Monthly meter charge: 5/8" or 3/4"				\$15.11
Monthly water consumption: 25 HCF	Keep Colusa Green (0-3 HCF)	3 HCF * \$0.00 per HCF		0.00
	Over 3 HCF	22 HCF * \$0.64 per HCF		14.08
		Monthly Water Bill		\$29.19

Outside City Proposed Water Rates

Proposed Water Rates Effective Every May 2010 through 2014					
Outside City					
Monthly Meter Charge	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
5/8" or 3/4"	\$18.89	\$22.67	\$27.21	\$31.29	\$35.98
1"	33.78	40.53	48.64	55.93	64.32
1 1/2"	58.58	70.29	84.35	97.00	111.55
2"	99.26	119.12	142.94	164.38	189.04
3"	157.77	189.33	227.19	261.27	300.46
4"	256.97	308.37	370.04	425.54	489.38
6"	504.97	605.96	727.15	836.22	961.66
Single Family Residential Usage Tiers (per HCF consumed)					
Keep Colusa Green Landscaping Allocation					
0 -3 HCF	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tier 1					
4 - 10 HCF	0.30	0.51	0.64	0.74	0.85
Tier 2					
11 - 32 HCF	0.79	1.34	1.68	1.93	2.22
Tier 3					
over 32 HCF	1.49	2.53	3.16	3.63	4.17
Multi-family Residential & Commercial Usage Tiers (per HCF consumed)					
Keep Colusa Green Landscaping Allocation					
0 -3 HCF	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Over 3 HCF	0.80	1.36	1.69	1.95	2.24

Drought Rates

If the City Council declares water consumption cutbacks due to a drought, a drought surcharge will be implemented equal to the cutback. E.g. if the City implements a 15% cutback, a corresponding 15% drought surcharge would be charged.

Compliance with Proposition 218

In 1996 California voters approved Proposition 218, which amended the state constitution as it relates to the passage of property related fees. Today, "Prop 218" requires that local governments follow a defined process when setting fees such as water bills. The City must 1) inform property owners and/or rate payers who are responsible for the bill that a proposed rate increase is being considered, 2) clearly demonstrate the basis on which these fees are calculated (the rate study), and 3) hold a public hearing at least 45 days after notice where the City hears all protests to the rate increase. Water rates are subject to "majority protest" meaning they **cannot be passed** if a majority of property owners or rate payers impacted by the rate change submit written protests opposing the increase.

Concerns, Please Contact Us

If you have questions or comments about the proposed water rate increases or wish to protest, you may:

Attend a Town Hall Meeting: Meetings will be held at City of Colusa City Hall 425 Webster Street on March 25, 2010 at 10am, March 30, 2010 at 6pm, and April 8, 2010 at 2pm.

Write: Written protests against the proposed rate change have to identify the address or the parcel number of the impacted property, and include the signature(s) of the owner of record or utility ratepayer. Written protests must be received by the City at 425 Webster Street Colusa, CA 95932 before the time set for the public hearing. If the City receives written protests against the proposed water rates by a majority of the affected property owners or ratepayers prior to the end of the hearing, the Council will not approve the change. Only one protest for each property will be counted.

Address the Council: Attend the Public Hearing on May 4, 2010

Questions: If you have any question about this notice, please call the City at (530) 458-4740 during regular business hours.

**Aviso sobre la Propuesta 218
 AVISO DE AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA
 SOBRE EL AJUSTE PROPUESTO
 A LAS TARIFAS DEL AGUA**

Ciudad de Colusa
 425 Webster Street
 Colusa, CA 95932

**Fecha y hora de la audiencia: 4 de mayo del 2010 a las 7:00 PM o
 posteriormente tan pronto como sea posible
 Lugar de la audiencia: Ciudad de Colusa
 Despacho del Concejo Municipal
 425 Webster Street, Colusa, CA 95932**

¿Por qué es necesario ajustar las tarifas?

Costo del servicio Las tarifas del agua no han aumentado desde 2002. Durante ese periodo, los gastos se han incrementado mientras que los ingresos han permanecido más o menos al mismo nivel. Ocasionalmente, el servicio de agua estuvo subsidiado por el Fondo General. El servicio de aguas necesita recolectar una cantidad de ingresos suficientes para cubrir los costos de operación del sistema de aguas. Estos costos incluyen electricidad, equipo y materiales, mantenimiento y repuestos continuos, tratamientos químicos, salarios y beneficios para el personal de aguas, y proyectos de mejoras de capital.

Proyectos de mejoras de capital El Plan maestro de la Ciudad de Colusa (febrero de 2009) identifica de \$14.5 a 18.9 millones en mejoras de capital necesarios para corregir las deficiencias que actualmente sufren los usuarios. Durante los próximos cinco años, la Ciudad implementará un plan de mejoras de capital con aproximadamente \$7 millones en proyectos diseñados para mejorar la calidad del agua y satisfacer requisitos reglamentarios. Estos programas incluyen:

- Reemplazo de pozos de 50 años de antigüedad
- Reemplazo de tuberías
- Eliminación de sales naturales, tal como lo exige el Departamento de Salud Pública del Estado de California
- Eliminación de manganeso y sulfatos naturales que decoloran el agua y tienen un olor desagradable

Nota: Se espera que estos proyectos de mejoras de capital resulten en agua de mejor calidad y sabor, y una reducción en su olor.

Base de las tarifas propuestas

La Ciudad necesita recolectar una cantidad de ingresos suficiente para cubrir los costos de operación del sistema de aguas. Estos costos incluyen electricidad, equipo y materiales, mantenimiento y repuestos continuos, tratamientos químicos, salarios y beneficios para el personal de la compañía de aguas. Asimismo, los ingresos generados a partir de estas tarifas del agua serán utilizados para satisfacer los proyectos de mejoras de capital contemplados por el Plan Maestro de la Ciudad de Colusa a fin de corregir las deficiencias actuales del sistema de aguas y mejorar la calidad del agua.

Un estudio realizado por una firma independiente de asesoría que trabaja estrechamente con un Comité de Asesoría Ciudadana concluyó que las tarifas propuestas le brindarán a la Ciudad una cantidad suficiente de fondos para recuperar los costos de operación, mantenimiento, administración y proyectos de mejoras de capital.

Tarifas del servicio de agua

La Ciudad actualmente les cobra a los clientes un cargo mínimo de servicio mensual que está basado en el tamaño del medidor e incluye una asignación de consumo de agua que aumenta según el tamaño del medidor. El consumo de agua que sobrepase la asignación es facturado de acuerdo a un programa de cuatro niveles basado en la cantidad de agua consumida. La tarifa de consumo mensual es mayor en cada nivel, pero el aumento de precios por nivel es tan pequeño que no proporciona un incentivo sustancial que promueva la conservación del agua.

Si tiene alguna pregunta, le invitamos a asistir a una de las reuniones en el Ayuntamiento:

Las reuniones se llevarán a cabo en el Ayuntamiento de la Ciudad de Colusa
 425 Webster Street el 25 de marzo a las 10am, el 30 de marzo a las 6pm, y el 8 de abril a las 2pm

Tarifas actuales del servicio de agua

Cargo de servicio mensual y asignación mínimos			Cargos por consumo de agua que sobrepase la asignación de agua				
Tamaño del medidor	Cargo de servicio mensual mínimo	Consumo máximo antes de cobrar consumo excesivo	Tarifas de consumo excesivo en 4 niveles:				
			Dentro de los límites de la ciudad		Fuera de los límites de la ciudad		
5/8" ó ¾"	\$11.45	10 CPC	Nivel 1	\$0.40 por CPC	\$0.50 por CPC		
1"	\$20.47	25 CPC	Nivel 2	\$0.45 por CPC	\$0.55 por CPC		
1 1/2"	\$35.50	50 CPC	Nivel 3	\$0.50 por CPC	\$0.60 por CPC		
2"	\$60.16	100 CPC	Nivel 4	\$0.55 por CPC	\$0.65 por CPC		
3"	\$95.62	150 CPC	Niveles de consumo, mostrados en CPC, por cada tamaño de medidor:				
4"	\$155.74	250 CPC	Tamaño del medidor	Nivel 1	Nivel 2	Nivel 3	Nivel 4
6"	\$306.04	500 CPC	5/8" ó ¾"	10 - 60	61 - 110	111 - 160	160 o más
			1"	25 - 75	76 - 125	126 - 175	175 o más
			1 1/2"	50 - 100	101 - 150	151 - 200	200 o más
			2"	100 - 150	151 - 200	201 - 250	250 o más
			3"	150 - 200	201 - 250	251 - 300	300 o más
			4"	250 - 300	301 - 350	351 - 400	400 o más
			6"	500 - 550	551 - 600	601 - 650	650 o más

1 CPC = cien pies cúbicos = 750 galones de agua

Tarifas del servicio de agua propuestas dentro de la ciudad

A partir de mayo de 2010, los aumentos en las tarifas que se han propuesto modificarían la estructura actual en niveles para clientes residenciales unifamiliares. A los clientes se les seguirá facturando un cargo de servicio mensual basado en el tamaño del medidor además de un cargo de consumo mensual de tres niveles por toda el agua consumida que sobrepase tres CPC. A todos los clientes que no son unifamiliares (multifamiliares, comerciales, industriales) se les facturará un cargo de servicio mensual basado en el tamaño del medidor además de un cargo de consumo mensual uniforme por toda el agua consumida que sobrepase tres CPC.

Tarifas de servicio de agua propuestas a partir de cada de mayo de 2010 a 2014					
Dentro de la Ciudad					
Cargo mensual por medidor	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
5/8" ó ¾"	\$15.11	\$18.14	\$21.76	\$25.03	\$28.78
1"	27.02	32.42	38.91	44.75	51.46
1 1/2"	46.86	56.23	67.48	77.60	89.24
2"	79.41	95.29	114.35	131.50	151.23
3"	126.22	151.46	181.75	209.02	240.37
4"	205.58	246.69	296.03	340.44	391.50
6"	403.97	484.77	581.72	668.98	769.33
Niveles de consumo residencial unifamiliar (por CPC consumidos)					
Asignación para el programa de jardinería ornamental Keep Colusa Green					
0 a 3 CPC"	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Nivel 1					
0 a 3 CPC"	0.24	0.41	0.51	0.59	0.68
Nivel 2					
0 a 3 CPC"	0.63	1.07	1.34	1.54	1.77
Nivel 3					
más de 32 CPC	1.19	2.02	2.53	2.91	3.35
Niveles de consumo residencial multifamiliar y comercial (por CPC consumidos)					
Asignación para el programa de jardinería ornamental Keep Colusa Green					
0 a 3 CPC"	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Más de 3 CPC	0.64	1.08	1.36	1.56	1.79

Cálculo de la factura de servicio residencial unifamiliar del agua

Una residencia de una sola familia que se encuentre dentro de la Ciudad y tenga un medidor de 5/8" o ¾" que consuma 21 CPC de agua al mes recibiría una factura mensual de \$23.72, bajo las tarifas de agua propuestas a partir de mayo de 2010.

Cargo mensual por medidor: 5/8" ó ¾"		\$15.11
Consumo mensual de agua: 21 CPC	Keep Colusa Green (0 a 3 CPC)	3 CPC * \$0.00 por CPC 0.00
	Nivel 1 (4 - 10 CPC)	7 CPC * \$0.24 por CPC 1.68
	Nivel 2 (11 - 32 CPC)	11 CPC * \$0.63 por CPC 6.93
		Factura mensual de servicio de agua \$23.72

Cada año, una residencia para una sola familia que se encuentre dentro de la Ciudad y tenga un medidor de 5/8" o ¾" que consuma 21 CPC de agua al mes estaría sujeto a un aumento aproximado de \$6.00 a \$9.00 en su factura mensual.

	Actual	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Factura de servicio residencial unifamiliar de agua	\$15.85	\$23.72	\$32.78	\$40.07	\$46.10	\$53.01
Aumento mensual		\$7.87	\$9.05	\$7.30	\$6.02	\$6.91

Cálculo de la factura de servicio no unifamiliar del agua

Un cliente del servicio del agua que no sea unifamiliar (multifamiliar, comercial, industrial) que se encuentre dentro de la Ciudad y tenga un medidor de 5/8" o ¾" que consuma 25.0 CPC de agua recibiría una factura mensual de \$29.19, bajo las tarifas de agua propuestas a partir de mayo de 2010.

Cargo mensual por medidor: 5/8" ó ¾"		\$15.11
Consumo mensual de agua: 25 CPC	Keep Colusa Green (0 a 3 CPC)	3 CPC * \$0.00 por CPC 0.00
	Más de 3 CPC	22 CPC * \$0.64 por CPC 14.08
		Factura mensual de servicio de agua \$29.19

1 CPC = cien pies cúbicos = 750 galones de agua

Tarifas del servicio de agua propuestas fuera de la ciudad

Tarifas de servicio de agua propuestas a partir de cada de mayo de 2010 a 2014					
Fuera de la Ciudad					
Cargo mensual por medidor	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
5/8" ó ¾"	\$18.89	\$22.67	\$27.21	\$31.29	\$35.98
1"	33.78	40.53	48.64	55.93	64.32
1 1/2"	58.58	70.29	84.35	97.00	111.55
2"	99.26	119.12	142.94	164.38	189.04
3"	157.77	189.33	227.19	261.27	300.46
4"	256.97	308.37	370.04	425.54	489.38
6"	504.97	605.96	727.15	836.22	961.66
Niveles de consumo residencial unifamiliar (por CPC consumidos)					
Asignación para el programa de jardinería ornamental Keep Colusa Green					
0 a 3 CPC"	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Nivel 1					
0 a 3 CPC"	0.30	0.51	0.64	0.74	0.85
Nivel 2					
0 a 3 CPC"	0.79	1.34	1.68	1.93	2.22
Nivel 3					
más de 32 CPC	1.49	2.53	3.16	3.63	4.17
Niveles de consumo residencial multifamiliar y comercial (por CPC consumidos)					
Asignación para el programa de jardinería ornamental Keep Colusa Green					
0 a 3 CPC"	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Más de 3 CPC	0.80	1.36	1.69	1.95	2.24

Tarifas de sequía

Si el Concejo Municipal declara reducciones en el consumo de agua debidas a una sequía, se implementará un sobrecargo por sequía que será igual a la reducción. Por ejemplo, si la ciudad implementa una reducción del 15%, se cobraría un sobrecargo por sequía correspondiente del 15%.

Cumplimiento de la propuesta 218

En 1996, los electores de California autorizaron la Propuesta 218, la cual enmendó la constitución estatal en cuanto a la autorización de cuotas relacionadas con la propiedad. Actualmente, la "Propuesta 218" exige que los gobiernos locales sigan un procedimiento definido al determinar cuotas como los cargos por concepto de agua. La Ciudad debe 1) informar a los dueños de las propiedades y/o individuos responsables del pago de la factura que se está considerando un aumento propuesto en las tarifas, 2) demostrar claramente la base en la que se están calculando estas tarifas (el estudio sobre las tarifas), y 3) realizar una audiencia pública al menos 45 días después del aviso, durante la cual la Ciudad pueda escuchar todas las protestas al aumento en las tarifas. Las tarifas del agua están sujetas a una "protesta mayoritaria", lo que significa que **no pueden ser autorizadas** si una mayoría de los dueños de las propiedades o individuos encargados de pagar la factura que se vean afectados por el cambio de tarifas presentan por escrito protestas oponiéndose al aumento.

Comuníquese con nosotros si tiene alguna inquietud o duda

Si tiene alguna pregunta o comentario sobre los aumentos propuestos en las tarifas del agua o si desea protestar, usted puede:

Asistir a una de las reuniones en el Ayuntamiento: Las reuniones se llevarán a cabo en el Ayuntamiento de la Ciudad de Colusa City Hall 425 Webster Street el 25 de marzo de 2010 a las 10am, el 30 de marzo de 2010 a las 6pm, y el 8 de abril de 2010 a las 2pm.

Escribir: Las protestas por escrito en contra del cambio propuesto en las tarifas deben identificar la dirección o el número de lote de la propiedad impactada, además de incluir la(s) firma(s) del propietario en archivo o el individuo encargado de pagar la factura. Las protestas por escrito deben ser recibidas por la Ciudad en 425 Webster Street Colusa, CA 95932 antes de la hora determinada para la audiencia pública. Si la Ciudad recibe protestas por escrito en contra de las tarifas del agua propuestas por parte de una mayoría de los dueños de las propiedades o individuos encargados de pagar la factura antes de la conclusión de la audiencia, el Concejo no autorizará el cambio en las tarifas. Sólo se tomará en cuenta una protesta por cada propiedad.

Dirigirse al Concejo: Asistir a la audiencia pública el 4 de mayo de 2010

Preguntas: Si tiene alguna pregunta sobre este aviso, por favor llame a la Ciudad al (530) 458-4740 durante horas hábiles regulares.