

## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, April 14, 2021

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## City to Hold Virtual Community Meetings on Proposed Water Rate Adjustments

STOCKTON, Calif. – The City of Stockton Municipal Utilities Department will host two virtual community meetings about the proposed water rate adjustments on:

- Thursday, April 22, 2021, 6:00 p.m., and
- Tuesday, May 4, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

Community members can participate by clicking on the "meeting link" available on <a href="www.stocktonca.gov/WaterRates">www.stocktonca.gov/WaterRates</a> just prior to or during the meeting hour. To join and listen to the meeting by telephone, please visit the dedicated City of Stockton Water Rates <a href="webpage">webpage</a> or call (209) 937-5001 in advance of the meetings for the dial-in instructions.

At the meetings, City of Stockton representatives will provide information about the City's water sources and water customer groups, explain how water rates are calculated and why rate adjustments are necessary, present the final report for the comprehensive Water Rate Study, answer questions about the proposed water rate adjustments, and the impact on City of Stockton water utility customers. A <u>video presentation</u> is also available at <a href="https://www.stocktonca.gov/WaterRates">www.stocktonca.gov/WaterRates</a>.

City of Stockton News Release – Proposed Water Rate Adjustments Wednesday, April 14, 2021 Page 2 of 2

The City of Stockton is committed to providing the highest quality water at the lowest possible rates to approximately 49,000 residential and commercial connections in north and south Stockton. To meet this commitment, the City hired independent rate consultant HDR Engineering, Inc. to evaluate the Water Utility revenue requirements, prepare a cost-of-service analysis and the 2021 Water Rate Study Report. The Report supports a new five-year rate schedule that provides sufficient revenue to operate and maintain the City's water infrastructure and capital improvement projects. It is considered a good financial practice to develop rate studies periodically to ensure the water utility is sustainable in the long-term. The 2021 Water Rate Study Report also determines how customers equitably and fairly pay for the water services.

Members of the community are encouraged to participate in one or both meetings to learn about the proposed water rate adjustments and ask questions. The same information will be shared at both meetings.

For questions about the proposed water rate adjustments, call (209) 937-5001 or visit <a href="https://www.stocktonca.gov/WaterRates">www.stocktonca.gov/WaterRates</a>. To submit a question, visit Ask Stockton at <a href="https://www.stocktonca.gov/AskStockton">www.stocktonca.gov/AskStockton</a>, click "Water" and select "Water – Proposed Rate Adjustments." To find out more about your address, including the water service provider for your property, please visit <a href="https://www.stocktonca.gov/AskStockton">About Your Address</a>.

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