



## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED SERVICE CHARGE INCREASES FOR :

1. WATER MAINTENANCE; AND
2. SEWER MAINTENANCE

FOR CASTLEWOOD COUNTY SERVICE AREA (CSA R-1967-1)

**May 14, 2024, Board Meeting Room, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor,  
1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612**

**11:00 AM, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.**

*The County of Alameda allows both in-person and remote observation and participation at the hearing location. More information will be on the agenda. The agenda will be posted 72 hours before the hearing at <https://bos.acgov.org/regular-meetings>.*

This notice is being provided by the County of Alameda, as the governing body of the Castlewood County Service Area (CSA), pursuant to Article XIII D of the California Constitution (Proposition 218).

The CSA is considering an increase to two existing annual service charges for properties in the CSA. If approved, the new service charges will annually appear on your property tax bill, beginning fiscal year (FY) 24/25. A public hearing will be held to accept public comment and receive protests on the two proposed service charge increases.

This notice provides information on (1) why the proposed service charge increases for the Water and Sewer Maintenance Programs are needed, (2) the amount of the two service charge increases, (3) the basis upon which the two service charge increases were calculated, (4) how you can receive more information, and (5) the date, time, and location of a public hearing on the service charges, at which protests will be considered.

**Why the proposed service charge increases are needed.** The service charges associated with the Water and Sewer Operations and Maintenance within the CSA have not kept with the cost of providing these services. For decades, the service charges paid by the members of the CSA have not been adjusted in alignment with the cost. The CSA performs water and sewer maintenance through contract services, and is in the final stages of negotiations with a vendor for fiscal years 24/25 through 28/29. The proposed service charge increases are based on the vendor's bid prices.

**Proposed service charge increases.** The service charge increases per RDE or Connection are shown in the table below:

**Proposed Service Charges**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Road Services (per Parcel)</b>	<b>Sewer Maintenance (per RDE)</b>	<b>Sewer Capital (per RDE)</b>	<b>Water Capital (per Meter/ Connection)</b>	<b>Water Maintenance (per Meter/ Connection)</b>	<b>Total</b>
<i>Current - 23/24</i>	\$ 224	\$ 675	\$ 416	\$ 1,099	\$ 1,089	\$ 3,503
24/25	\$ 224	\$ 785	\$ 416	\$ 1,099	\$ 2,958	\$ 5,482
25/26	\$ 224	\$ 809	\$ 416	\$ 1,099	\$ 3,047	\$ 5,595
26/27	\$ 224	\$ 833	\$ 416	\$ 1,099	\$ 3,138	\$ 5,710
27/28	\$ 224	\$ 858	\$ 416	\$ 1,099	\$ 3,232	\$ 5,829
28/29	\$ 224	\$ 884	\$ 416	\$ 1,099	\$ 3,329	\$ 5,952

RDE=Residential Discharge Equivalent

The proposed service charge increases reflect the estimated cost of the water and sewer operation and maintenance services provided.

**How you can receive more information.** Detailed information regarding the proposed service charge increases is available at <https://www.acpwa.org/programs-services/County-Service-Areas/CastlewoodAR.page>. Reference is made to the engineer’s report, available at this site, and incorporated herein by reference, for a complete description of the maintenance services and the calculation of the proposed service charge increases.

**How to participate in the Public Hearing.** The County of Alameda Board of Supervisors will conduct a public hearing at the date, time, and location identified above. You are invited, but not required, to attend the public hearing. At the public hearing, the Board will consider written protests to each of the proposed service charge increases described herein. Any property owner or tenant may submit a written protest. Only one protest per parcel will be counted, even if there are co-owners. The written protest must include: (i) a statement that it is a protest against the proposed charge for 1. Water Services and/or 2. Sewer Services, that is the subject of the hearing; (ii) the name of the record owner or tenant who is submitting the protest; (iii) identification of the assessor’s parcel number or street address of the parcel with respect to which the protest is made; and (iv) an original signature and legibly printed name of the record owner or tenant who is submitting the protest. The County welcomes public comment and testimony at the hearing, but a protest must be in writing and include the required elements above to be counted as a protest.

***The written protest must be received by delivery or mail to Alameda County Public Works Agency at 399 Elmhurst Street, Hayward, CA 94544, Attn: Anita Franklin, or at the public hearing. Protests will be received at 399 Elmhurst by delivery or mail through May 13. Written protests submitted on May 14 will be accepted by in-person delivery at the public hearing (1221 Oak Street, Oakland).***

If a majority of the parcels submit a protest, the increased service charge will not be imposed. If there is no majority protest, the increased service charge will take effect subject to approval by the Board Of Supervisors.