

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Water Rate Increase and Changes to Rate Structure

On Wednesday, October 11th, District Board of Directors held a hearing during their Regular meeting and adopted a new uniform rate structure and water rate increase.

Adoption of the uniform rate structure eliminates tiered rates – the rate per unit will now remain the same for all units consumed and be the same for all water users. Additionally, Supplemental Water rates will now be blended into the bimonthly rates.

Under the new uniform rate structure, customers will see a decrease in their bi-monthly cost (Fixed Charge), depending on meter size, and all users will now pay \$4.97 per unit of water used (Volume Charge). The Fixed and Volume Charges will increase an average of approximately 9% per year for the 5-year period ending 2022.

The District's last rate increase in the Water Division became effective on November 1, 2015 and was based on a 5-year rate study adopted in September 2010. The last rate increase for supplemental water became effective July 1, 2017. Rate increases are necessary to ensure that the District has sufficient revenues to fund operating and capital needs and provide appropriate levels of operating, capital, and emergency reserves. Additionally, there are inflationary factors that put pressure on the cost of import water from the City of Santa Maria via the Nipomo Supplemental Water Project as well as supplies and services needed to operate and maintain the water system.

A typical single-family residential customer using 19 units of water can expect to see a Water Volume Charge increase of approximately \$14 on their two-month bill (\$7 monthly). The rate increase goes into effect December 1, 2017 and customers will see the increase beginning with their January/February water bill.

A breakdown of the new rate structure and comparisons of the adopted new rates with other local water purveyors can be found on the District's website.

Next Scheduled Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, October 25th, 2017, 9AM, District Jon S. Seitz Board Room 148 South Wilson, Nipomo.

For more information, please contact the Nipomo Community Services District at 929-1133, info@ncsd.ca.gov, or visit www.ncsd.ca.gov.

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Established in 1965 to meet the health and sanitation needs of the local community, Nipomo Community Services is pleased to provide a wide variety of services throughout its district including the provision of water, sewer, and waste management services as well as lighting and drainage in limited areas. The mission of Nipomo Community Services District is to provide its customers with reliable, quality, and cost-effective services now and in the future.