



# NOVATO SANITARY DISTRICT

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Information Bulletin  
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## **Novato Sanitary District Board to Consider Increases to the Sewer Service Charge** APPROXIMATE 3% INCREASES FOR MOST RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS

Novato Sanitary District is developing a new, five-year schedule of proposed charges for each customer class. This will ensure continued fair distribution of sewer service charges and funding for quality sewer service. The proposed changes will be discussed at the March 14 meeting of the District's Board. At the meeting, the Board will review the rate plan and consider taking the next steps to implement the changes.

### **Charges Vary But Over 87% of Residential Customers Would Experience 3% Per Year Increases.**

The charges were developed by an independent outside rate firm that conducted an extensive study to determine the cost of serving each of its customer classes: Low-Use, Average-Use, and High-Use Residential customers, and Non-Residential customers. To address changes in the cost of service and ensure that each customer class continues paying their fair share of costs, the District is proposing a series of moderate rate adjustments. For the Average-Use class of customers over the next five years, the increases average about 3% or \$21 per year per household.

**Novato Sanitary's Sewer Service Charges Are Among the Lowest in the County.** The District has been proactive in controlling costs. As a result, we have among the lowest sanitary sewer service charges in the County. We expect they will remain among the lowest even if the proposed increases are approved.

**Low Income Sewer Rate Assistance Program (LISRAP).** Low-income, single-family residential customers who enroll in the District's LISRAP program will continue to receive discounts based on enrollment in the PG&E CARE Program. Low-Water-Use customers in the LISRAP Program would receive a 15% discount and experience a sewer service charge increase of only about \$12 per year. All other single-family residential customers in the LISRAP program would continue to receive a 10% discount.

**For More Information.** The Board of Directors conducted its first review of the proposed rate changes on February 14, 2022, at its regularly scheduled meeting. Next, the District will hold another public board meeting on March 14 to consider a final draft of the sewer service charge study. At the Board meeting, they may direct staff to mail a notice with a detailed explanation of the proposed sewer service charge changes to every property owner. Finally, the Board plans to conduct a public hearing on May 9 to vote on the charges. Customers interested in learning more, asking questions, and providing input can participate in any of these meetings, contact the District at [novatosan.com](http://novatosan.com), email [info@novatosan.com](mailto:info@novatosan.com), or call customer service at (415) 892-1694.

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Novato Sanitary District has been providing solid waste services since 1925 and sewage collection, treatment, disposal, and recycling in and around the City of Novato since 1949.

District facilities include over 200 miles of public sewers, 40 pump stations, a wastewater treatment and water recycling facility, and 800-acres of wetlands and pastureland supplied with recycled water.