



# Long Beach Water

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## Board of Water Commissioners

CHRISTOPHER J. GARNER, General Manager

May 4, 2022

### Subject

Adopt amended Resolution WD-1441A, a Resolution of the City of Long Beach Board of Water Commissioners Fixing Rates and Charges for Water and Sewer Services to All Customers, subject to the Approval of the City Council by Ordinance.

### Executive Summary

The Board adopted the Water Department’s Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Rate Resolution on June 24, 2021, which represented the planned expenditures and projected revenues needed to execute the Department’s mission for the next fiscal year.

In December 2021, an appellate court ruled against the City of Long Beach in a lawsuit challenging the legality of the City’s Measure M charter amendment. On March 23, 2022 the California State Supreme Court announced that it denied a petition to review the Measure M appellate court decision.

The Department has terminated the Measure M transfer to the City. This Rate Resolution reflects a Water rate decrease of 2.54%, reflecting the Water Fund no longer collecting rate revenue for the purpose of a Measure M transfer to the General Fund. Sewer rates remain unchanged.

The impact upon the reserve balance will then be factored by the Board of Water Commissioners into future budget and rate deliberations, as is always the case.

### Recommendation

Adopt amended Resolution WD-1441A, a Resolution of the City of Long Beach Board of Water Commissioners Fixing Rates and Charges for Water and Sewer Services to All Customers, Subject to the Approval of the City Council by Ordinance.

B. Anatole Falagan  
Assistant General Manager

Christopher J. Garner  
General Manager

Attachment



1 RESOLUTION NO. WD-1441A

2  
3 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH  
4 BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS AMENDING  
5 RESOLUTION NO. WD-1444 FIXING RATES AND  
6 CHARGES FOR WATER AND SEWER SERVICE TO ALL  
7 CUSTOMERS, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE  
8 CITY COUNCIL BY ORDINANCE  
9

10 The Board of Water Commissioners of the City of Long Beach resolves as  
11 follows:

12 Section 1. That the following rates and charges for potable and reclaimed  
13 water service and for sewer service are hereby established, and the Long Beach Water  
14 Department ("Water Department") of the City of Long Beach ("City") is hereby authorized  
15 and directed to charge and collect the same in accordance with the provisions of this  
16 resolution, subject to a Public Hearing. All of the following rates and charges shall be  
17 effective as of June 1, 2022.

18 Section 2. For all metered services the charge for potable and reclaimed  
19 water shall consist of both a service charge based on the size of the service and a  
20 quantitative charge for water delivered.

21 A. The service charge shall be as follows:

22 1. Single family residential, duplex residential, and multi-  
23 family residential customers of potable water who have been granted an  
24 exemption from the City's Utility Users Tax in accordance with Chapter 3.68  
25 of the Long Beach Municipal Code shall receive a monthly service charge bill  
26 credit of approximately Five Dollars (\$5.00) and the service charge rates shall  
27 be as follows:

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<u>Size of Service</u>	<u>Daily Service Charge</u>
5/8 or 3/4 inch	\$0.733
1 inch	\$1.087
1-1/2 inch	\$1.972
2 inch	\$3.034
3 inch	\$6.394
4 inch	\$10.812
6 inch	\$24.077
8 inch	\$49.717
10 inch	\$74.474
12 inch	\$93.926
16 inch	\$138.133

2. For commercial, industrial, irrigation, City of Long Beach Department, reclaimed, single family residential, duplex residential, and multi-family residential customers who have not been granted an exemption from the City's Utility Users Tax in accordance with Chapter 3.68 of the Long Beach Municipal Code the service charge rates shall be as follows:

<u>Size of Service</u>	<u>Daily Service Charge</u>
5/8 or 3/4 inch	\$0.733
1 inch	\$1.087
1-1/2 inch	\$1.972
2 inch	\$3.034
3 inch	\$6..394
4 inch	\$10.812
6 inch	\$24.077
8 inch	\$49.717
10 inch	\$74.474

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<u>Size of Service</u>	<u>Daily Service Charge</u>
12 inch	\$93.926
16 inch	\$138.133

B. The quantitative charge for all water delivered shall be as follows, based on monthly meter readings:

1. For single family residential, duplex residential, and multi-family residential customers of potable water who have been granted an exemption from the City's Utility Users Tax in accordance with Chapter 3.68 of the Long Beach Municipal Code:

Tier IA	First 6 Billing Units (or fraction thereof)	\$0.000
Tier II	Next 7 Billing Units (or fraction thereof)	\$4.908
Tier III	Over 13 Billing Units (or fraction thereof)	\$7.162

2. For single family residential, duplex residential, and multi-family residential customers of potable water who have not been granted an exemption from the City's Utility Users Tax:

Tier IB	First 6 Billing Units (or fraction thereof)	\$2.564
Tier II	Next 7 Billing Units (or fraction thereof)	\$4.908
Tier III	Over 13 Billing Units (or fraction thereof)	\$7.162

3. For commercial customers of potable water, \$3.814 per billing unit, or fraction thereof.

4. For industrial customers of potable water, \$3.814 per billing unit, or fraction thereof.

1                   5.     For irrigation customers of potable water, \$3.814 per  
2     billing unit, or fraction thereof.

3                   6.     For City of Long Beach Departments using potable  
4     water, \$3.814 per billing unit, or fraction thereof.

5                   7.     For reclaimed water users whose use is “peaking” as  
6     defined herein, \$2.479 per billing unit, or fraction thereof.

7                   8.     For reclaimed water users whose use is “non-peaking”  
8     as defined herein, \$2.105 per billing unit, or fraction thereof.

9                   9.     For reclaimed water users whose use is “interruptible”  
10    as defined herein, \$2.105 per billing unit or fraction thereof.

11                  10.    These quantitative charges shall be subject to  
12    adjustment as provided in Section 4 of this Section.

13                  11.    There shall be no charge for water used through fire  
14    hydrants for extinguishing fires.

15                   Section 3.

16                  A.     Unmetered water service may be rendered to unoccupied or  
17    occupied property where it is not practical to meter the water, and the rate for  
18    unmetered water service shall be:

<u>Size of Service</u>	<u>Daily Rate</u>
5/8 or 3/4 inch	\$3.184
1 inch	\$5.387
1-1/2 inch	\$13.270
2 inch	\$20.876

24                  B.     The rates for unmetered water service shall begin on the date  
25    of use of water by the customer, as determined by the General Manager of  
26    the Water Department (“General Manager”).

27                  Section 4. By Resolution the Board of Water Commissioners has  
28    established a Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Plan (the Plan). Pursuant

1 to the Plan, the Board may declare that a Stage 1, Stage 2 or Stage 3 Water Supply  
2 Shortage exists, in its sole discretion. Upon such declaration, the Board may increase  
3 water rates, by an amount necessary, as determined by the Board but not to exceed the  
4 following percentages:

5 Stage 1 Water Supply Shortage Rate. Water rates may be increased by an amount  
6 not to exceed 10% above the pre-shortage rate.

7 Stage 2 Water Supply Shortage Rate. Water rates may be increased by an amount  
8 not to exceed 25% above the pre-shortage rate.

9 Stage 3 Water Supply Shortage Rate. Water rates may be increased by an amount  
10 not to exceed 50% above the pre-shortage rate.

11 Section 5. Charges for water service through meters at temporary service  
12 connections from fire hydrants or otherwise shall be at the applicable quantitative charge  
13 plus the meter rental fee, together with a charge for installing, relocating, and removing the  
14 meter and fittings in accordance with the “Rules, Regulations and Charges Governing  
15 Potable Water, Reclaimed Water, Sewer Service and the Emergency Water Conservation  
16 Plan” of the Water Department.

17 Section 6.

18 A. The service charge for private fire protection service shall be in  
19 accordance with the following table:

20	<u>Size of Service</u>	<u>Daily Rate</u>
21	2 inch	\$0.434
22	3 inch	\$0.872
23	4 inch	\$1.631
24	6 inch	\$4.346
25	8 inch	\$9.031
26	10 inch	\$16.079
27	12 inch	\$25.846
28	16 inch	\$54.849

1                   The service charges in this Section shall only include water  
2 used for fire extinguishing purposes and a reasonable amount of water used  
3 for testing the fire line.

4                   B.       Whenever the Water Department finds that water through a  
5 private fire protection service is being used for purposes other than fire  
6 extinguishing or testing the fire line, the General Manager may make a  
7 determination of the quantity of water used, the quantitative charges for that  
8 water, and the service charges to be applied. The General Manager's  
9 determination shall be final. In addition, if water through a private fire  
10 protection service is used for purposes other than fire extinguishing or testing  
11 the fire line, the Water Department may discontinue the private fire protection  
12 service or may install a domestic or fire flow meter, at either the customer's  
13 or its expense as the General Manager may determine, and thereafter the  
14 service shall be classified as regular service and billed at the rates applicable  
15 thereto.

16                   Section 7.    The primary purpose of fire hydrants is extinguishing fires and  
17 they shall be opened and used only by the Water Department or the Long Beach Fire  
18 Department, or such other persons as may be authorized to do so by the General Manager  
19 or the Chief of the Fire Department. Where fire hydrants are installed and maintained by  
20 the Water Department, there shall be no standby charge made to the Fire Department.

21                   Section 8.

22                   A.       For all sewer service where the sewer lateral connects to a  
23 main line maintained by the Water Department, or the sewer lateral is located  
24 in the public right-of-way, the charge for sewer service shall consist of both a  
25 daily sewer rate and a volumetric sewer rate.

26                   B.       The daily sewer rate shall be in accordance with the following  
27 table:

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<u>Size of Service</u>	<u>Daily Sewer Rate</u>
5/8 or 3/4 inch	\$0.248
1 inch	\$0.366
1-1/2 inch	\$0.961
2 inch	\$1.658
3 inch	\$3.862
4 inch	\$5.587
6 inch	\$15.565
8 inch	\$16.499
10 inch	\$25.540
12 inch	\$32.212
16 inch	\$47.376

C. The volumetric sewer rate shall be \$0.393 per 100 cubic feet of water furnished where water service size is 5/8 inches or larger. The volumetric sewer rate shall not be applicable to fire services.

Industrial customers may apply for separately metered sewer discharge in accordance with the "Rules, Regulations and Charges Governing Potable Water, Reclaimed Water, Sewer Service, and the Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Plan" of the Water Department.

D. For volumetric sewer rates, there are the following customer classifications: single family residential; duplex residential; multi-family residential; City Departments; commercial; and industrial.

Volumetric sewer rates for single family residential, duplex residential and multi-family residential shall be computed based on the average of actual potable water use during the winter billing periods. The winter billing periods used will be determined by the meter reading schedule



1 for the account. The actual winter usage is divided by the number of winter  
2 days to obtain an average volume. The average volume will be the base  
3 volume on which the volumetric sewer rate is charged for the next twelve  
4 month period beginning with May's billing periods. Each year, the average  
5 volume will be recalculated for the succeeding twelve-month period.  
6 Exceptions to the above calculation methodology will use the average volume  
7 for the water service size in which the customer falls as the average volume  
8 or a calculation using available usage information for the account. For those  
9 residential customers with no previous history of use during the winter billing  
10 periods, the average volume for the water service size in which the customer  
11 falls will be used.

12 E. For all users of the sewer system that do not receive a water  
13 bill from the City but where the user's sewer lateral connects to a main line  
14 maintained by the Water Department, or where the sewer lateral is located in  
15 the public right-of-way, the charge for sewer service shall consist of both a  
16 daily sewer rate and a volumetric sewer rate. The daily sewer rate shall be  
17 as provided in Subsection 8(B) of this Resolution. For these customers, the  
18 volumetric sewer rate shall be based on the average volume for the  
19 customer's water service size.

20 F. The City shall collect from all developments and all  
21 developments shall be required to pay a capacity charge of One Hundred  
22 and Nine Dollars and Sixteen Cents (\$109.16) per equivalent fixture unit at  
23 the time application for sewer service is made, but in no event later than the  
24 time that the City issues a sewer permit for connection to the City sewage  
25 system, as set forth in the Long Beach Municipal Code and the "Rules,  
26 Regulations and Charges Governing Potable Water, Reclaimed Water,  
27 Sewer Service and the Emergency Water Conservation Plan" of the Water  
28 Department.

1           G.     Upon receipt of an application for sewer service, the City's  
2 Department of Development Services (through the Plan Checker for  
3 Plumbing) shall calculate the amount of the capacity charge by: 1)  
4 determining if this resolution applies to the development; and 2) if this  
5 resolution does not apply, indicating same on the application for sewer  
6 service and the reason this resolution does not apply, and processing the  
7 application in accordance with ordinances, resolutions, and regulations; or 3)  
8 if this resolution does apply, determining the number of equivalent fixture  
9 units in the development and multiplying that number by the capacity charge  
10 per equivalent fixture unit.

11           H.     The sewer capacity charge shall be subject to annual  
12 adjustment, effective October 1 of each year, to reflect the increase of the  
13 Construction Cost Index ("CCI") for Los Angeles as published in the  
14 "Engineering News-Record". The increase shall be calculated each  
15 September by dividing the CCI published in August of the current calendar  
16 year by the CCI published in August of the preceding calendar year; that  
17 figure multiplied by the sewer capacity charge in effect in October shall be  
18 the new sewer capacity charge. No adjustment shall be made to reflect a  
19 decrease in the CCI.

20           I.     Funds derived from capacity charges shall be placed in the  
21 Sewer Fund and shall be used only for the operation, construction,  
22 reconstruction, acquisition, or maintenance of the City sewage system.

23           J.     Anyone who has paid a capacity charge may apply for a full or  
24 partial refund if within one year after payment: 1) the applicant has not been  
25 permitted to connect to the City sewage system; or 2) the development on  
26 which the capacity charge was calculated has been modified pursuant to  
27 applicable City ordinances, resolutions, or regulations, resulting from a  
28 reduction in the number of equivalent fixture units. Refund applications shall

1 be made on forms provided by the City and shall contain a declaration under  
2 oath of those facts, along with relevant documentary evidence, which qualify  
3 the applicant for the refund. In no event shall a refund exceed ninety percent  
4 (90%) of the amount of the capacity charge actually paid.

5 K. Anyone subject to a capacity charge who constructs, deposits  
6 money into escrow with the City for the construction of, participates in an  
7 assessment district for the construction of, or otherwise contributes money or  
8 improvements to the City for the operation, construction, reconstruction,  
9 acquisition, or maintenance of the City sewage system shall be eligible for a  
10 credit for such contribution against the capacity charge otherwise due. The  
11 amount of the credit shall be the value of the contribution as determined by  
12 the City provided, however, that the credit shall not exceed ninety percent  
13 (90%) of the amount of the capacity charge. Applications for said credit shall  
14 be made on forms provided by the City and shall be submitted at or before  
15 the time of application for sewer service. The application shall contain a  
16 declaration under oath of those facts, along with relevant documentary  
17 evidence, which qualify the applicant for the credit.

18 L. The capacity charge and requirements pertaining thereto shall  
19 not affect in any way the permissible use of property, density of development,  
20 design and improvement standards, public improvement requirements, or  
21 any other aspect of the development of land or construction of buildings  
22 which may be imposed by the City pursuant to the Long Beach Municipal  
23 Code, Subdivision Regulations, or other state or local laws, ordinances or  
24 regulations which shall be in effect with respect to all developments.

25 M. The capacity charge is a charge on development that reflects a  
26 development's proportionate share of the present depreciated value of the  
27 existing City sewage system. As such the capacity charge is additional to  
28 and not in substitution of the following: 1) on-site sewer facility requirements

1 imposed by the City pursuant to the Long Beach Municipal Code, Subdivision  
2 Regulations, and other state or local laws, ordinances or regulations; 2)  
3 sewer permit fees; 3) connection charges; 4) sewer rates; and 5) other fees,  
4 rates, and charges including but not limited to sewer standby or immediate  
5 availability charges and capital facilities charges for services or facilities other  
6 than as a proportionate share of the present depreciated value of the existing  
7 City sewer system. In no event shall an applicant for sewer service be  
8 obligated to pay fees, rates, or charges in excess of those calculated  
9 pursuant to applicable City ordinances, which shall not individually or  
10 collectively exceed the reasonable cost of providing sewer service to the  
11 development.

12 Section 9. Any term not defined herein which is defined in the Long Beach  
13 Municipal Code or in the “Rules, Regulations and Charges Governing Potable Water,  
14 Reclaimed Water, Sewer Service, and the Emergency Water Conservation Plan” of the  
15 Water Department shall have the meaning stated therein.

16 Section 10.

17 A. Regular bills for water service and sewer service shall be  
18 issued at intervals of approximately one month (commonly called “monthly”)  
19 except in those cases where the General Manager or the Board of Water  
20 Commissioners shall prescribe another billing interval. Insofar as practical,  
21 meters shall be read at regular intervals for the preparation of regular bills,  
22 and meters shall be read as required for the preparation of opening, closing,  
23 and special bills.

24 B. Every water customer and every sewer customer shall be liable  
25 for payment of bills for water service and sewer service. Charges for water  
26 service and sewer service shall be included in municipal utility bills.

27 C. Anyone who has been granted an exemption under Chapter  
28 3.68 of the Long Beach Municipal Code as of the date of this resolution does

1 not need to file a separate application for exemption hereunder.

2 Section 11. Whenever the correctness of any bill for water or sewer service  
3 is questioned by a customer, the procedures established in the “Rules, Regulations and  
4 Charges Governing Potable Water, Reclaimed Water, Sewer Service, and the Emergency  
5 Water Conservation Plan” of the Water Department shall be followed.

6 Section 12. The following words shall have the meanings defined as  
7 follows:

8 A. “Billing unit” means one hundred (100) cubic feet of water and  
9 equals 748 gallons;

10 B. “Commercial” refers to activities devoted primarily to business,  
11 property management, or a profession;

12 C. “Industrial” refers to activities devoted primarily to  
13 manufacturing or processing;

14 D. “Interruptible” refers to reclaimed water service that can be  
15 suspended at any time at the Board’s discretion, without liability and  
16 dependent upon the Water Department’s reclaimed water system needs for  
17 such service.

18 E. “Non-peaking” means total average daily demand occurring at  
19 a continuous, constant level over a twenty-four (24) hour period;

20 F. “Peaking” means total average daily demand occurring  
21 between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.

22 G. “Winter billing period” means the time period used for sewer  
23 volumetric calculation purposes, which includes bills with a bill prepared date  
24 in December, January, February, or March.

25 Section 13. All other resolutions of the Board of Water Commissioners, or  
26 provisions thereof, which conflict with this resolution are hereby rescinded. The charges,  
27 conditions, and provisions established in this Resolution shall supersede all others  
28 previously established.

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Section 14. The Secretary of the Board of Water Commissioners shall certify to the passage of this resolution and it shall take effect by operation of law following its approval by the City Council by ordinance.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Board of Water Commissioners of the City of Long Beach at its meeting held on May 4, 2022, by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Noes: Commissioners: \_\_\_\_\_

Absent: Commissioners: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Secretary  
Board of Water Commissioners