



Pasadena Water and Power

Public Hearing to Approve Recommended Water Rate Adjustments

City Council

June 3, 2024

Item #11





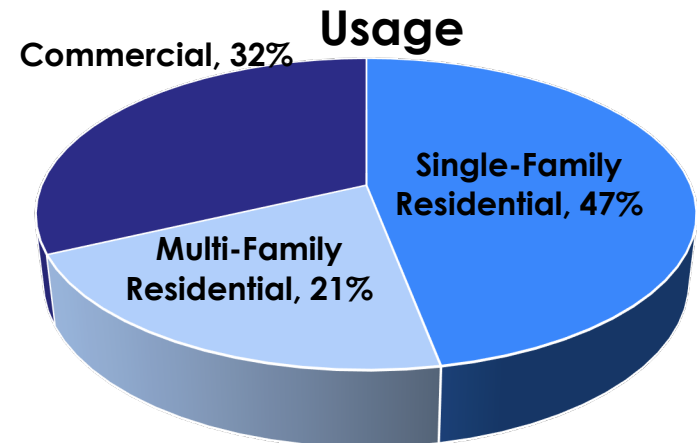
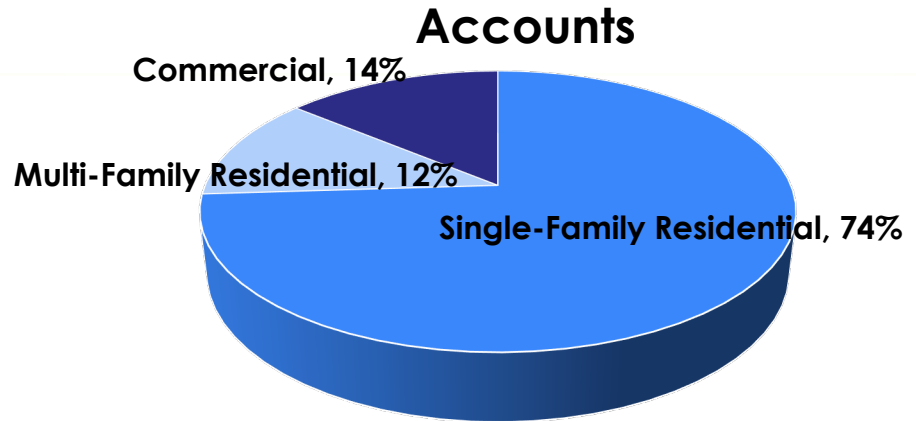
Recommendation

- Find that the proposed action is not a project subject to CEQA;
- **Open a Public Hearing** to receive public comment on the recommended water rate adjustments to be effective beginning July 1, 2024, or as soon as practicable thereafter (for five fiscal years);
- **Close the Public Hearing and approve the recommended water rate structure and rate adjustments;** and
- **Direct the City Attorney** to prepare an ordinance amending the **Water Rate Ordinance** implementing the changes to the water rates.



Pasadena's Community-Owned Water System

- Formed in 1912 for reliable water service
- One of the founding members of the Metropolitan Water District, established in 1928
- Today, PWP provides approximately **162,000** customers with water services
- Service area of approximately **26** square miles, including some areas outside of the City
- Delivered **9.8 million HCF** (7.3 billion gallons; 22 thousand acre-feet) of water during FY 2023
- **Water Sources:** ~1/3 local, 2/3 imported



*Hundred Cubic Feet ("HCF") = One Billing Unit ("BU")



Continue to Augment Supplies with Enhanced Stormwater Capture and Groundwater Replenishment



4.7 billion gallons actively captured and recharged stormwater at Arroyo Seco and Eaton spreading basins

Continue to actively capture stormwater for groundwater replenishment
Photo by Urte Barker (Pasadena Resident)

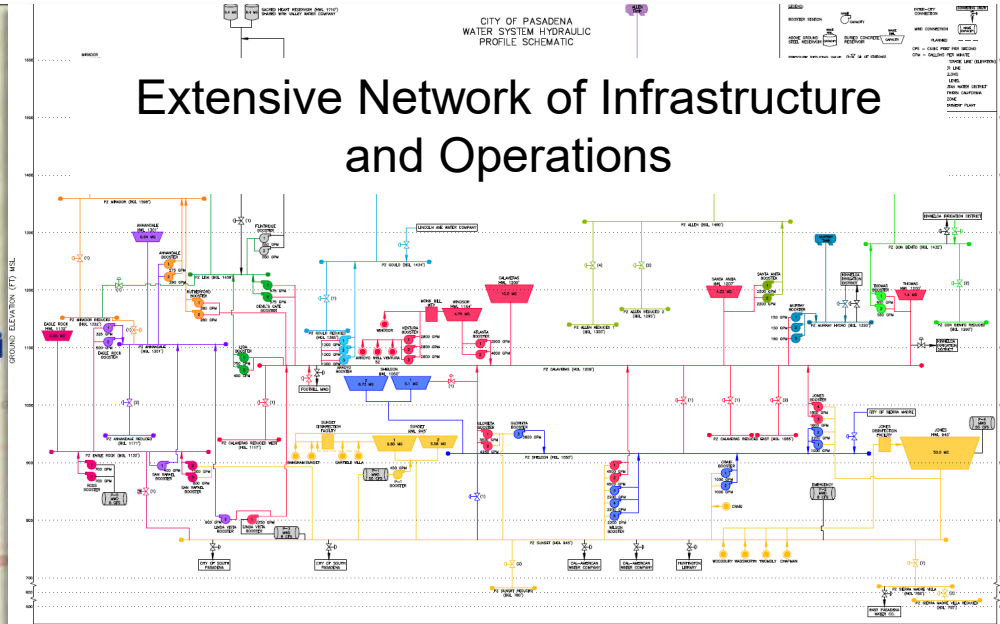
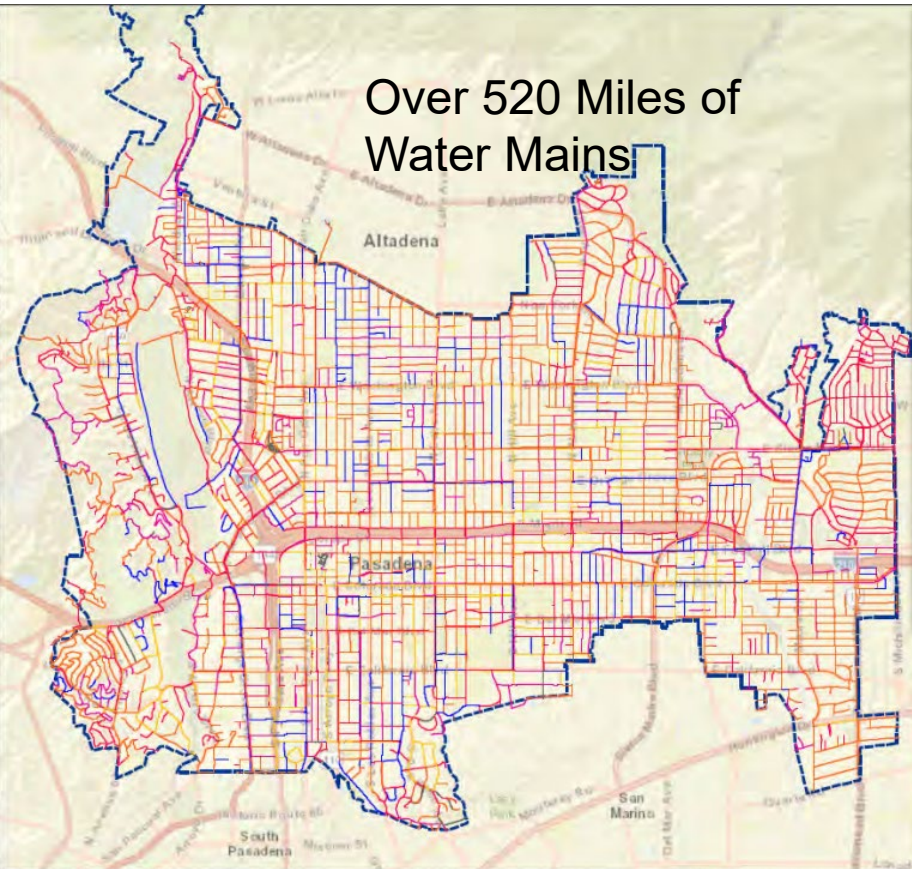


New program for 815 million gallons of additional groundwater storage augmentation

Implemented In-Lieu Program with Metropolitan, significantly reducing groundwater pumping



Delivering Water to Homes and Businesses with a Resilient System



• SERVICE AREA SQUARE MILES	26
• MILES OF WATER MAINS IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM	520
• NUMBER OF WELLS	12 (MORE ONLINE SOON)
• NUMBER OF RESERVOIRS	14
• WATER SYSTEM TOTAL STORAGE CAPACITY	105 MG
• GROUNDWATER TREATMENT PLANT	2 (MORE ONLINE SOON)
• BOOSTER STATIONS	19
• NUMBER OF WATER SERVICES	38,000
• METER SIZES	5/8" - 10"

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Providing Safe, High Quality Drinking Water Meeting All Regulatory Standards

Continuing to Meet All Federal and State Drinking Water Standards

Enhancing Local Groundwater Quality

Informing Customers on Water Quality



2022

PASADENA Water & Power
SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1914

Consumer Confidence Report on Water Quality

Pasadena continues to provide safe drinking water that meets all regulatory standards.

Parameter	Unit	DAW	SWA	Groundwater	MWD	Regulatory Standard	Compliance	Special Source of Contamination
Regulatory Standard for health protection								
Aluminum (as Al ³⁺)	mg/L	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	Yes	None of concern
Barium	mg/L	1	1	1	1	1	Yes	None of concern
Bromide	mg/L	5	5	5	5	5	Yes	None of concern
Calcium	mg/L	175	175	175	175	175	Yes	None of concern
Chloride	mg/L	250	250	250	250	250	Yes	None of concern
Copper	mg/L	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	Yes	None of concern
Fluoride	mg/L	4	4	4	4	4	Yes	None of concern
Iron	mg/L	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	Yes	None of concern
Manganese	mg/L	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	Yes	None of concern
Nitrate (as N)	mg/L	10	10	10	10	10	Yes	None of concern
Nitrite (as N)	mg/L	1	1	1	1	1	Yes	None of concern
Phosphate	mg/L	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	Yes	None of concern
Sulfate	mg/L	250	250	250	250	250	Yes	None of concern
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	mg/L	500	500	500	500	500	Yes	None of concern
Total Hardness	mg/L	300	300	300	300	300	Yes	None of concern
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	5	5	5	5	5	Yes	None of concern
Zinc	mg/L	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	Yes	None of concern


Understanding the Water Quality Chart
The Water Quality Chart is a summary of the water quality data for the City of Pasadena. It provides a clear and concise overview of the water quality parameters that are monitored and regulated. The chart is organized into sections based on the regulatory standards that apply to the water. The sections include: Regulatory Standard for health protection, Regulatory Standard for aesthetic quality, and Regulatory Standard for taste and odor. The chart also includes a section for the units of measurement for each parameter. The chart is a valuable tool for understanding the water quality data and for ensuring that the water meets all regulatory standards.



New Wadsworth Treatment Facility




PWP's Certified Accredited Water Quality Laboratory


 **Water Safety & Quality**

Providing Safe, Reliable Drinking Water is Our Priority
As a community-owned utility, PWP has been serving Pasadena and parts of Altadena for more than a century. With the added benefit of having its own Water Quality Laboratory, PWP's team is state certified and monitors daily (including weekends and holidays), drawing samples from 300 locations to test for more than 170 elements to ensure the high standards are maintained. Through innovation, conservation and education, Pasadena plans to continue to provide a safe, reliable water supply for generations to come.


Troubleshooting




Water Quality FAQs



Water Quality Reports



Public Health Goals Report

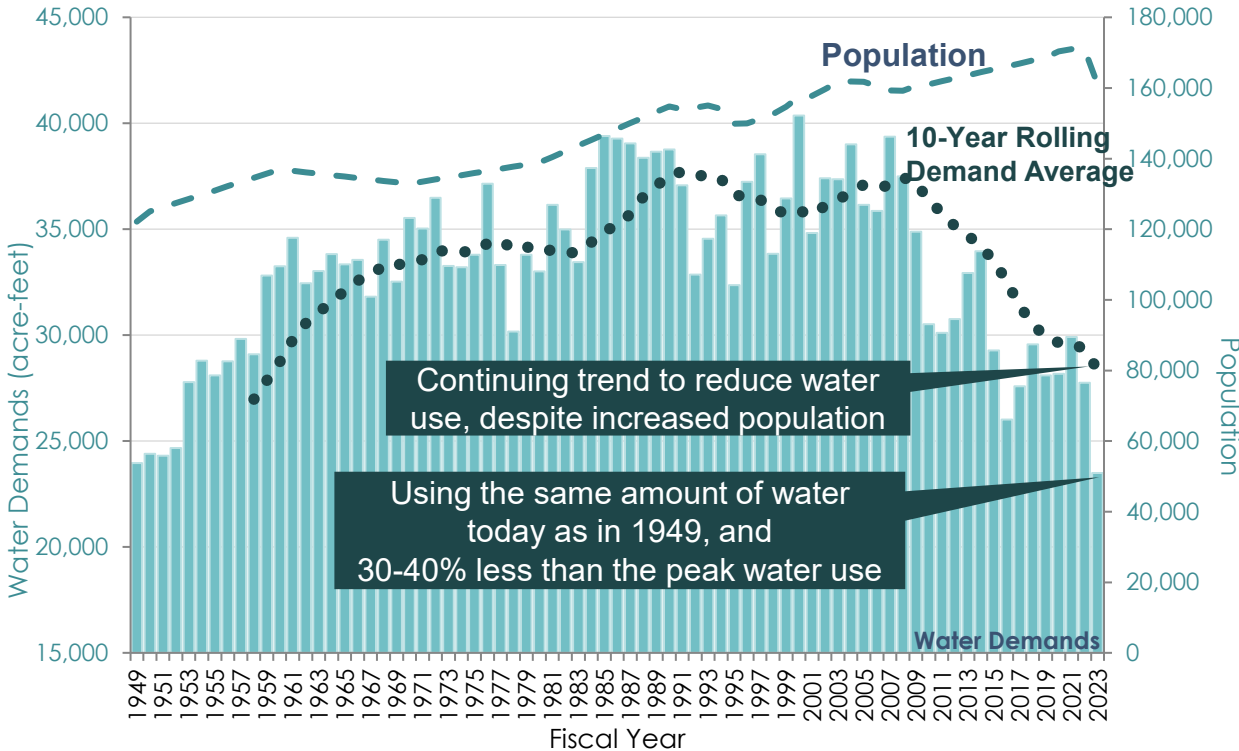


<https://pwp.cityofpasadena.net/watersafetyquality/>



Foundation of Water Conservation for Climate Resilience

Actively Advancing Water-Use Efficiency as a Community





Building a More Resilient Water Future Continuing to Invest in the Community



Replace and upgrade aging infrastructure



Capture and store more water when available



Expand water supply



Maintain water quality



Modernize large-scale regional water delivery systems



Modernize technology and optimize operations



Workforce development



Support customer conservation efforts

Sunset Complex Project

Existing

- Sunset Reservoir 2
- Glorieta Pump Station
- Sunset Reservoir 1
- Sunset Well
- Disinfection Plant
- MWD P-1 Connection

Future

- Bangham Well
- Groundwater Treatment Facility
- Disinfection Plant
- Sunset Reservoir 2
- Glorieta Pump Station
- Sunset Reservoir 1
- MWD P-1 Connection

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WATER & POWER DEPARTMENT

THE RIPPLE EFFECT

You are the key to building a more resilient future for our community.

PASADENA



Water Fund

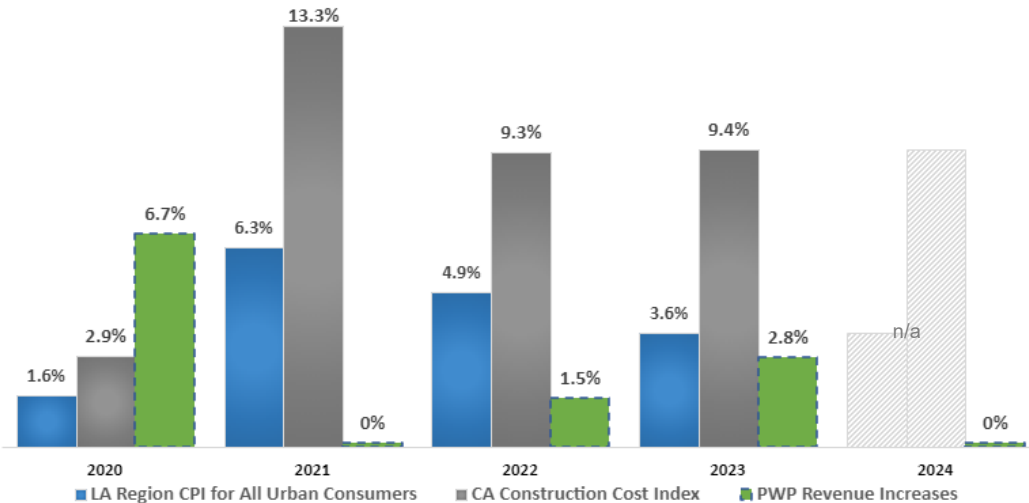
AAA
Rated Fitch + S&P

-\$4M
FY 2023 Under
Collection

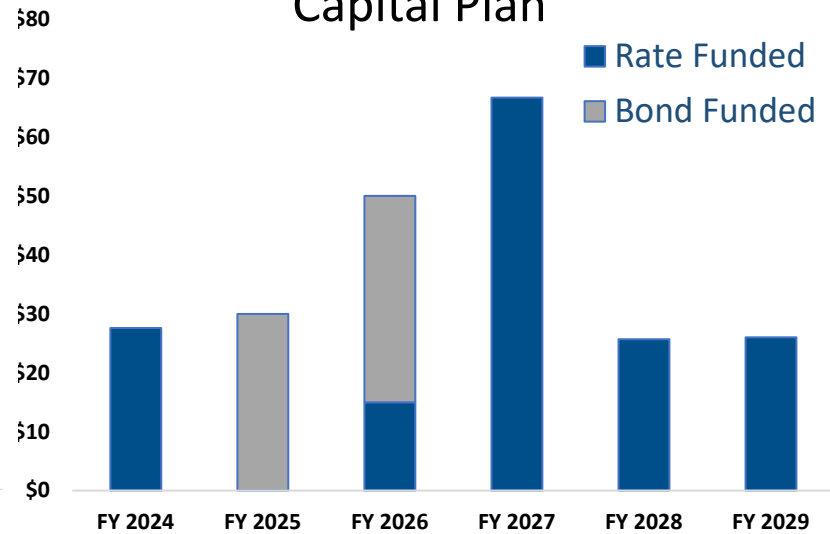
-18%
FY 2023 from FY
2022 Water Sales in
HCF

**Less
Than 1¢
per Gallon**
with Delivery
Included

PWP Revenue Increases vs. Inflation
(LA Region Consumer Price Index and CA Construction Cost Index)



Capital Plan

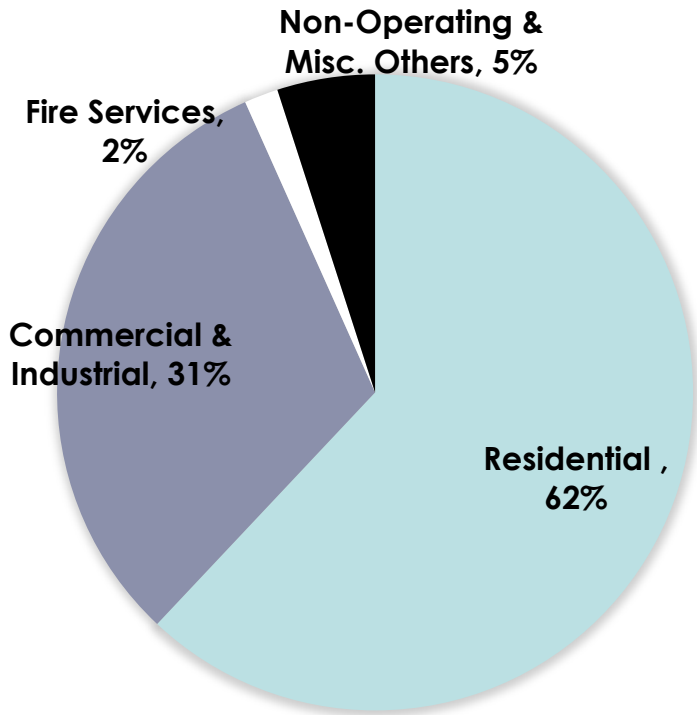


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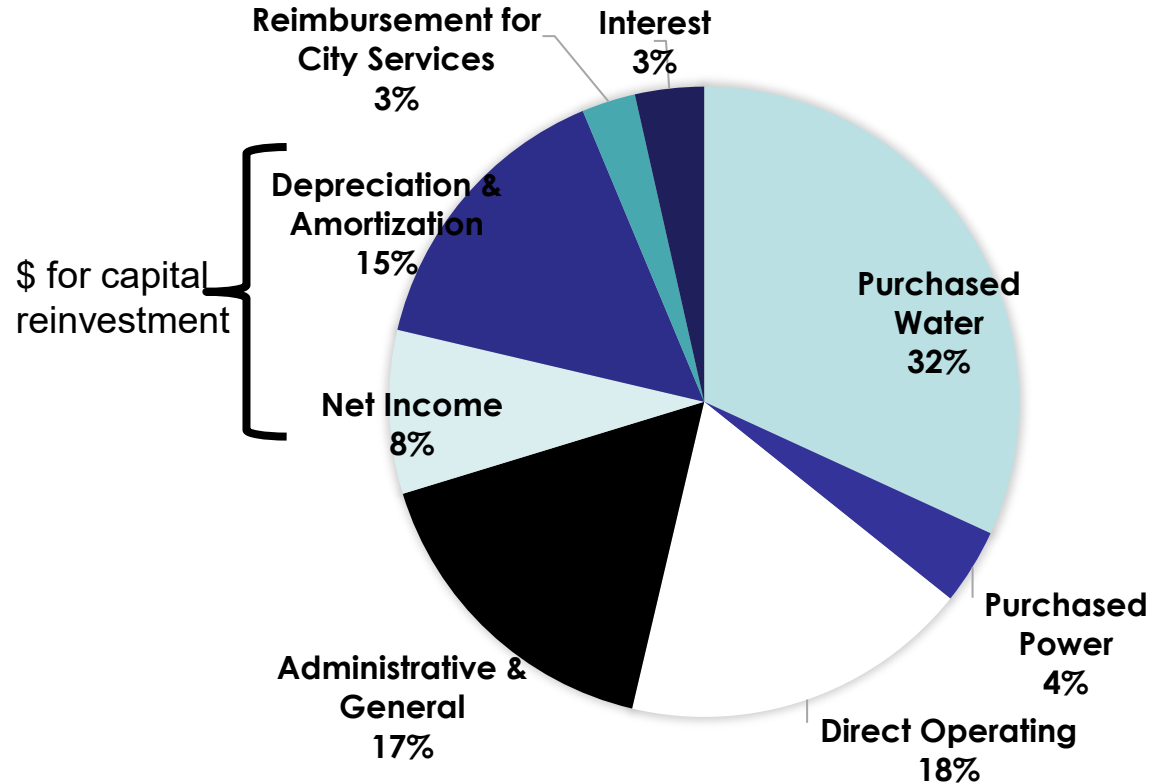


Sources & Uses of Funds (FY 2023)

\$68.7 Million in FY 2023



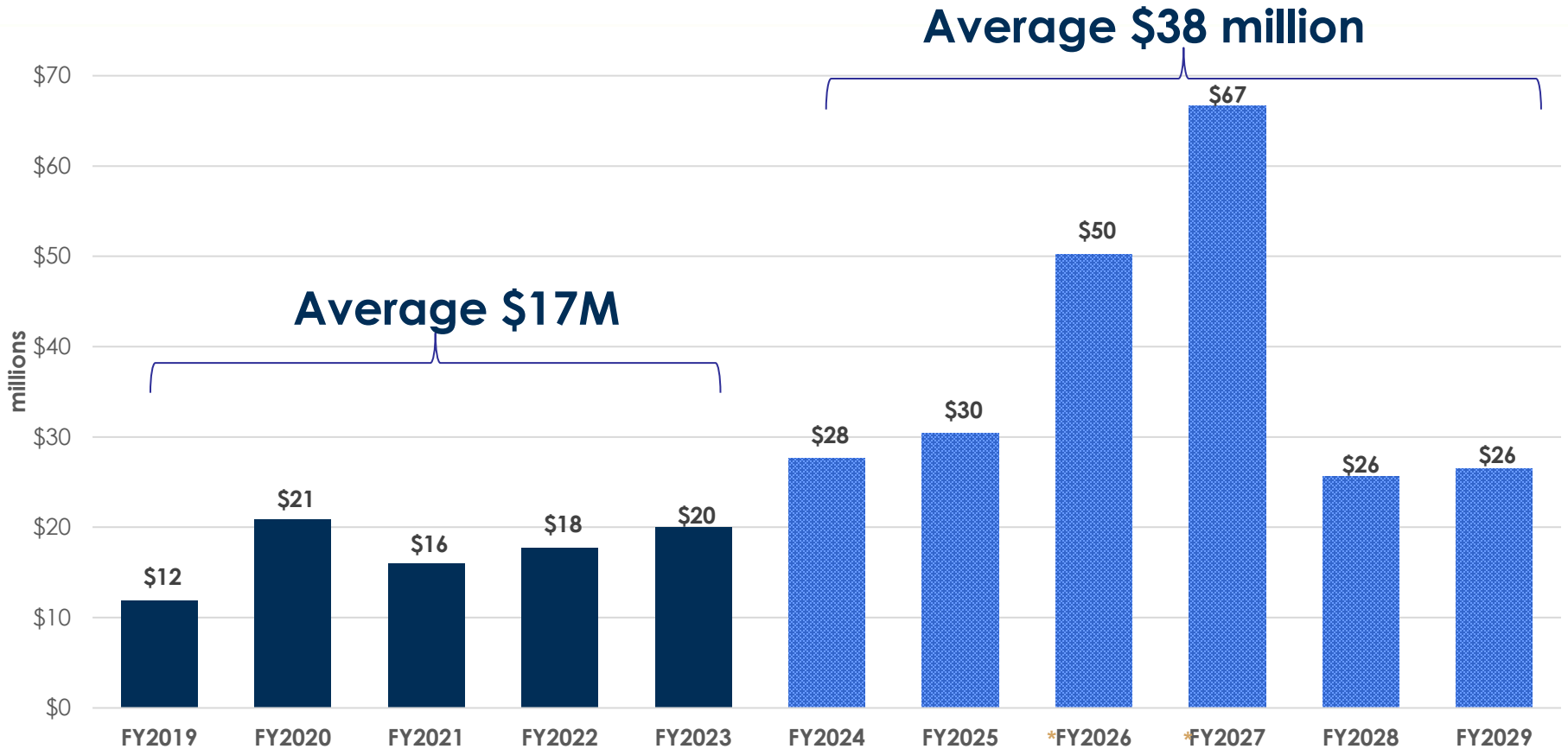
SOURCES OF FUNDS



USES OF FUNDS



Historical and Planned Capital Spend



* Increase driven by Sunset Complex Project Construction



Tap water – what a great deal!

- This is what one “billing unit” looks like – 748 gallons
- Less than 1¢ per gallon
- 25¢ for a 10-minute shower (with low flow shower head)
- Bottles of water at least 100xs the cost, \$1.06/gallon





Why Did We Do a Water Rate Study?

- PWP is a self-funding enterprise - is not like other government services (Police, Fire, Parks) that are funded by tax dollars from the General Fund
 - Funded by customer rate revenue
 - Non-profit business
- Rate revenue pays for:
 - O&M expenses (labor, supplies, electricity)
 - Capital costs (projects to rehabilitate pipes, tanks, wells etc.)
 - Debt service to pay back loans
 - Reserve funding
- **Rates must keep up with costs to operate the water system**
- **To review the equity and fairness of the rate structure (who pays what)**



What is a Rate Study?

A financial planning process to set rates that:



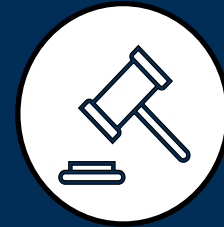
Promotes Utility Financial Viability

- Operations & Maintenance
- Infrastructure Investment
- Debt
- Reserves



Considers Community Values

- Conservation
- Affordability
- Fairness/Equity

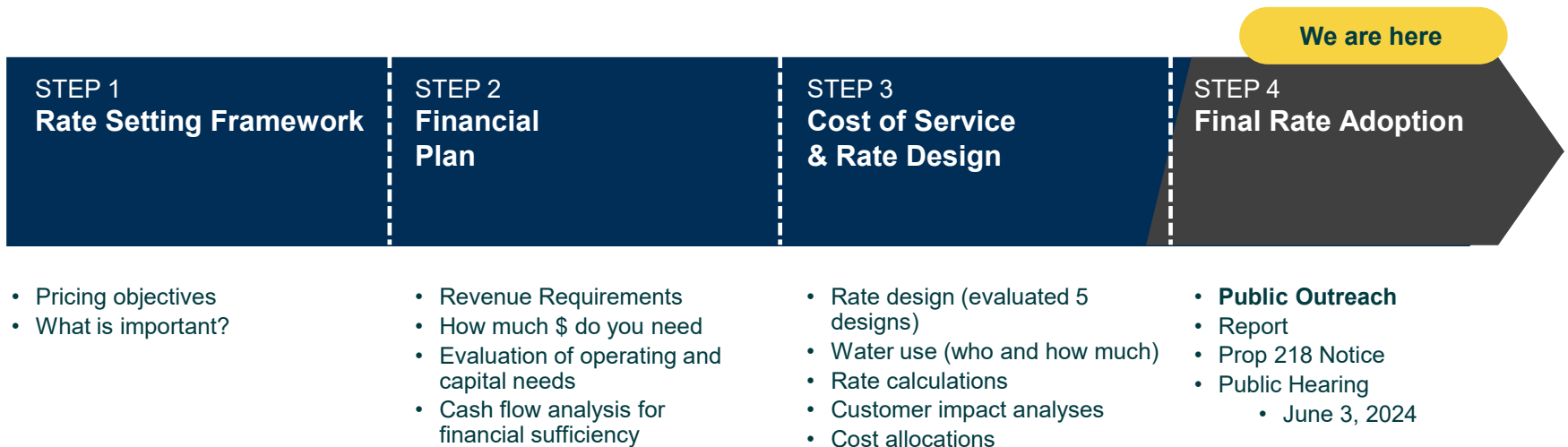


Must be Legally Defensible

- Proposition 218

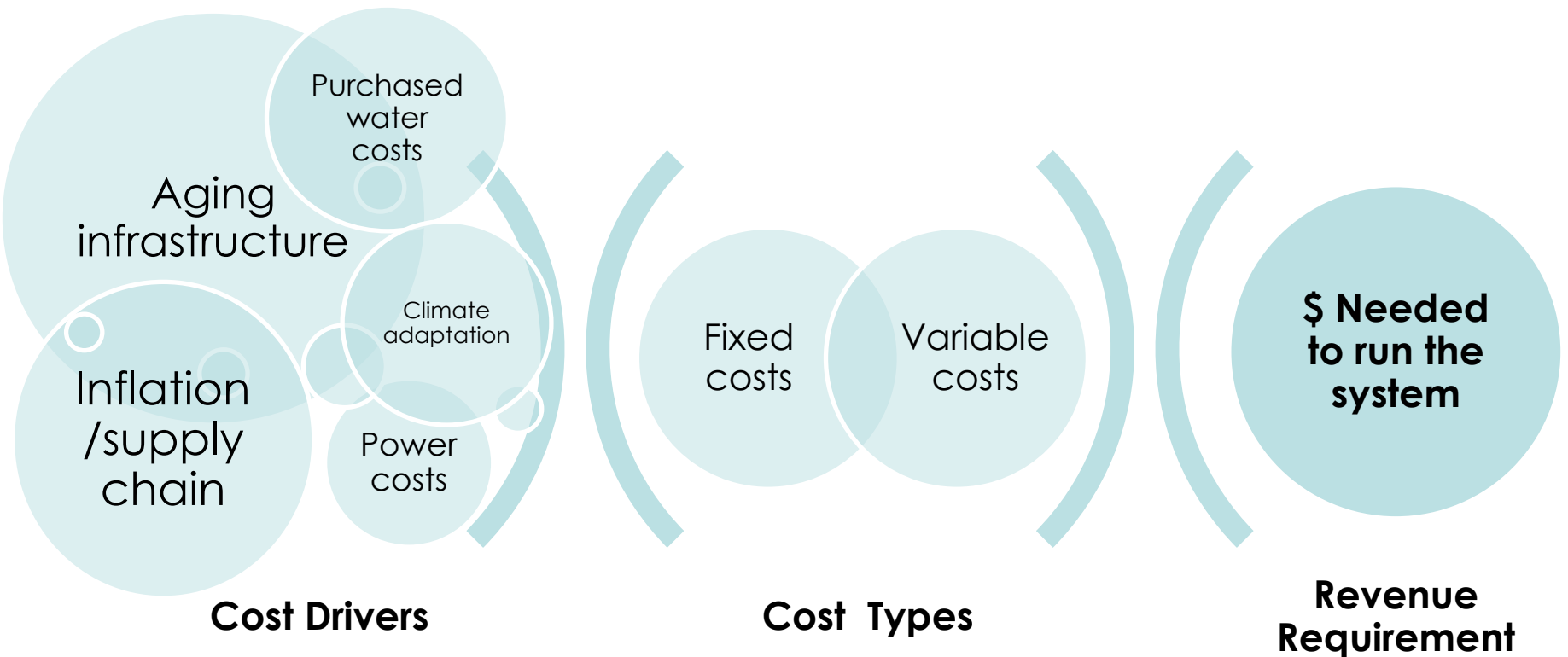


Steps in Conducting a Rate Study

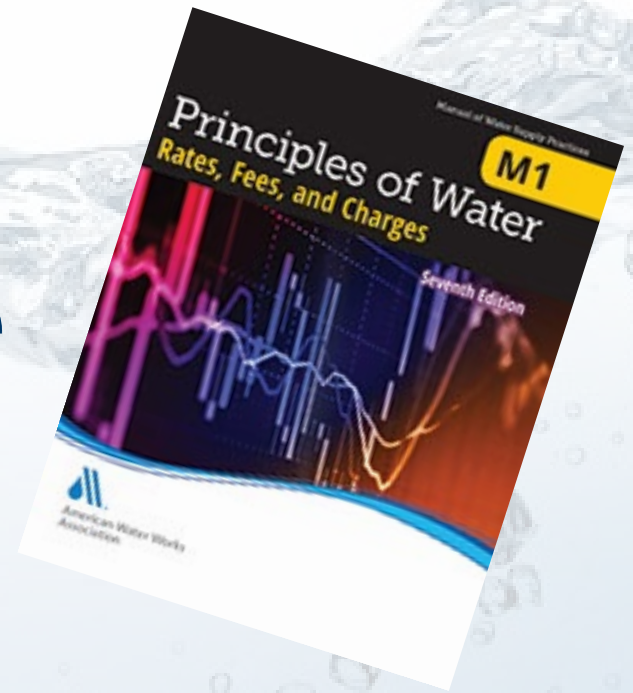




Why Do Rates Need Adjustment?



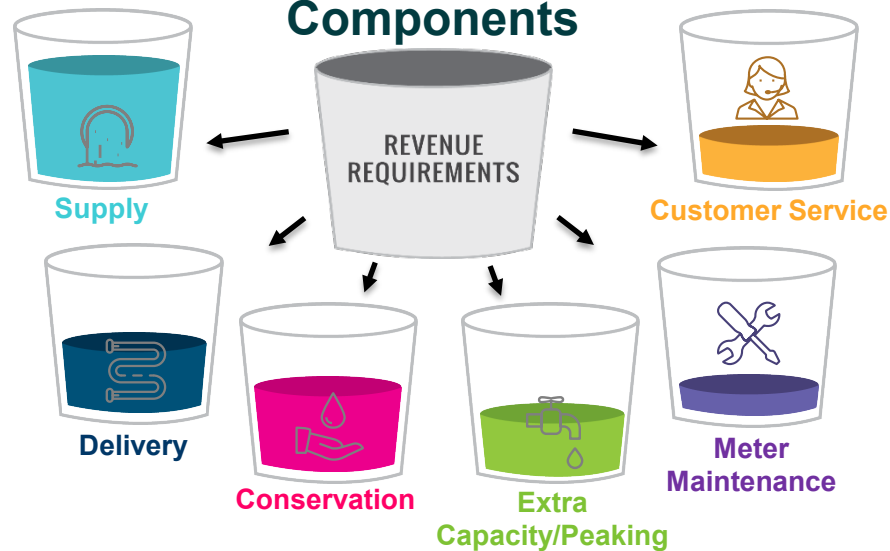
Cost-of-Service





Cost-of-Service

Allocate Revenue Requirements to Cost Causation Components

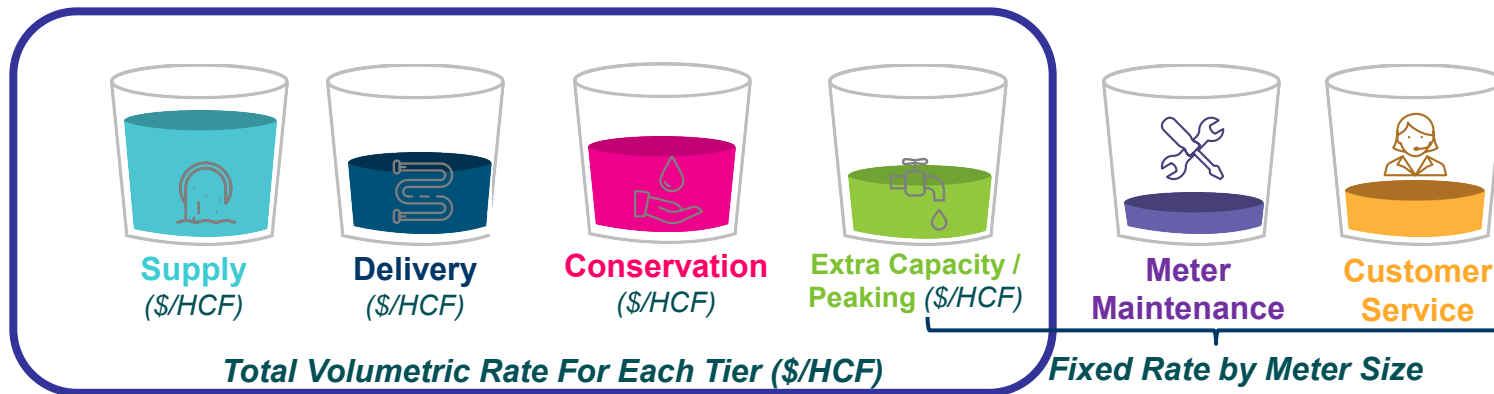


Distribute Cost Components to Each Class = Cost to Serve Each Class

(Single-Family, Multi-Family, Commercial)



Rate Design

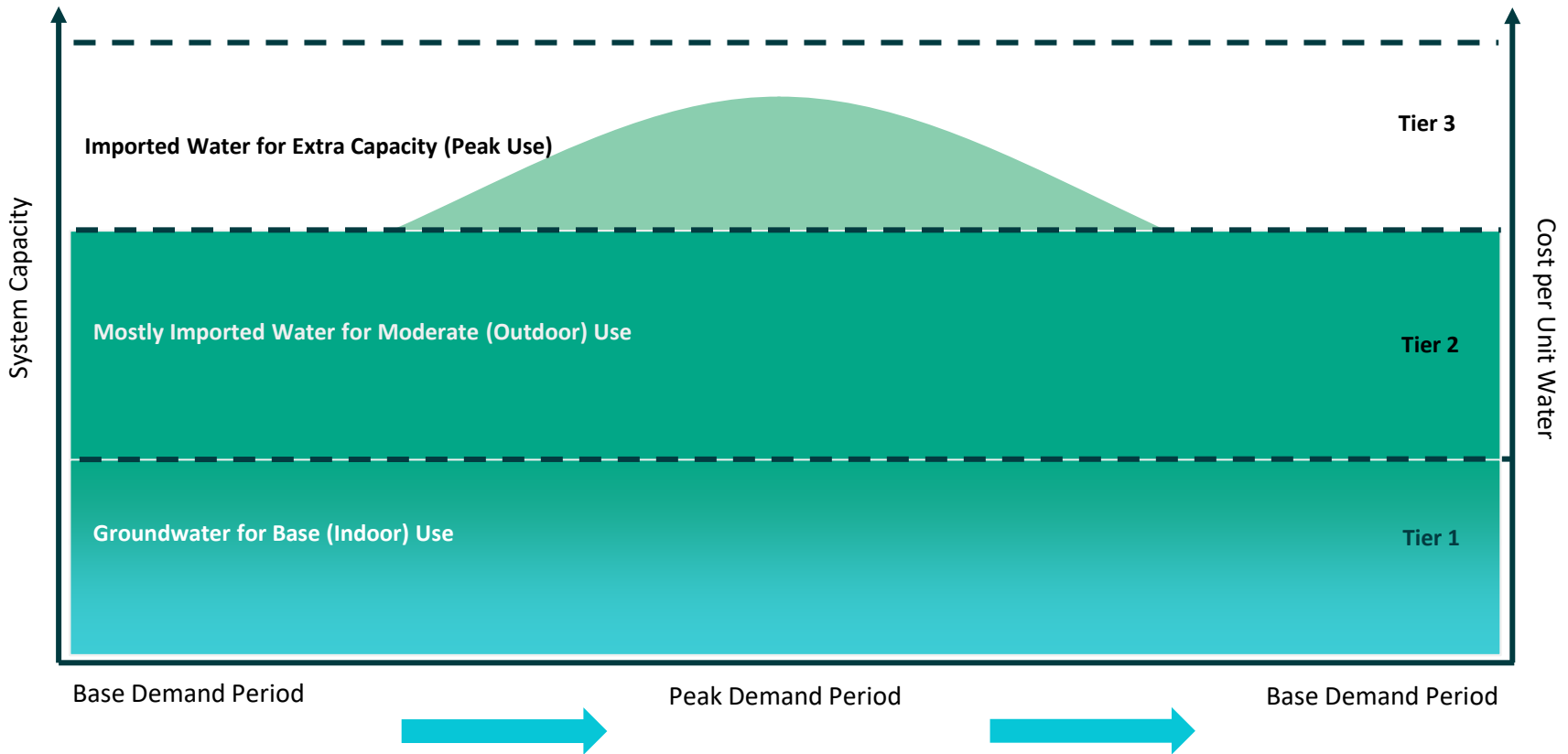


- **Calculate Commodity Rate (Volumetric Rate)**

- Combine the unit (\$/HCF) rate of supply, delivery, conservation costs, extra capacity/peaking
- Must develop a nexus between tiered rates and costs to serve those tiers by adding unit rates for each cost component



Volumetric Cost Allocation to Tiers



A high-speed photograph of water splashing, creating a dynamic, textured background with many small bubbles and droplets. The water is clear and bright, set against a light blue background.

Rate Design

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Recommended Rate Design Adjustments

Created Customer Classes/Type

- Single family residential (1 dwelling unit); 77% of customers
- Multi-family residential (2+ dwelling units); 12% of customers
- Commercial customers; 11% of customers

Adjusted Block/Tier Breakpoints (formerly tier breakpoints were by meter size)

- Single family (HCF): tier 1 @ 7, tier 2 @ 29, tier 3 @ 29+
- Multi-family (HCF per dwelling unit): tier 1 @ 5, tier 2 @ 10, tier 3 @ 10+
- Commercial (Small/Medium/Large): The % of water sold in each tier is the same as SFR for each meter size (small, med, large)

Capital Improvement Charge Incorporated into Fixed and Variable Rates

- More consistent with base extra capacity standard methodology
- Recovery is based on capital needs and reinvestments of the system
- Simplifies rate structure

Drought Charges

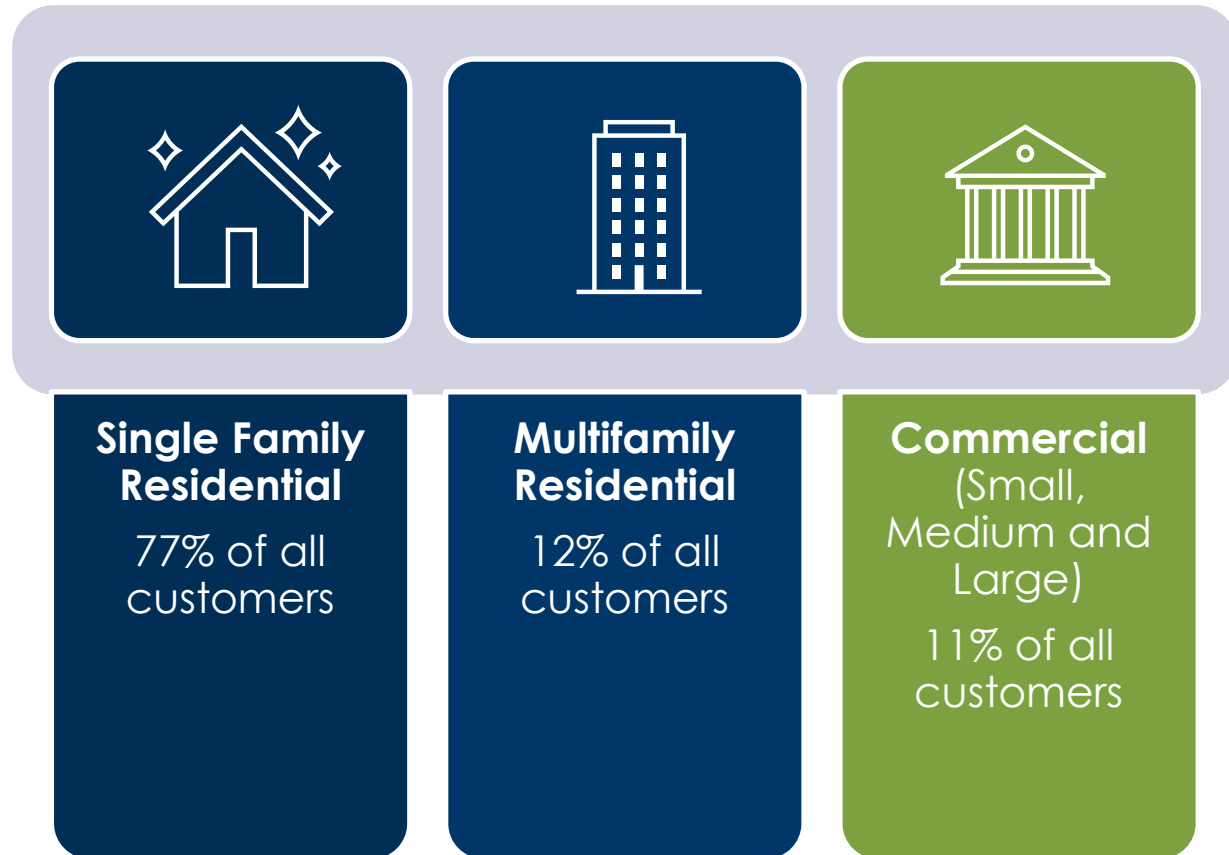
- An **optional** charge to recover lost revenue to pay for fixed costs during a drought
- Pricing developed to accommodate the various drought stages



Customer Classes/Type

All rates are currently based on meter-size only

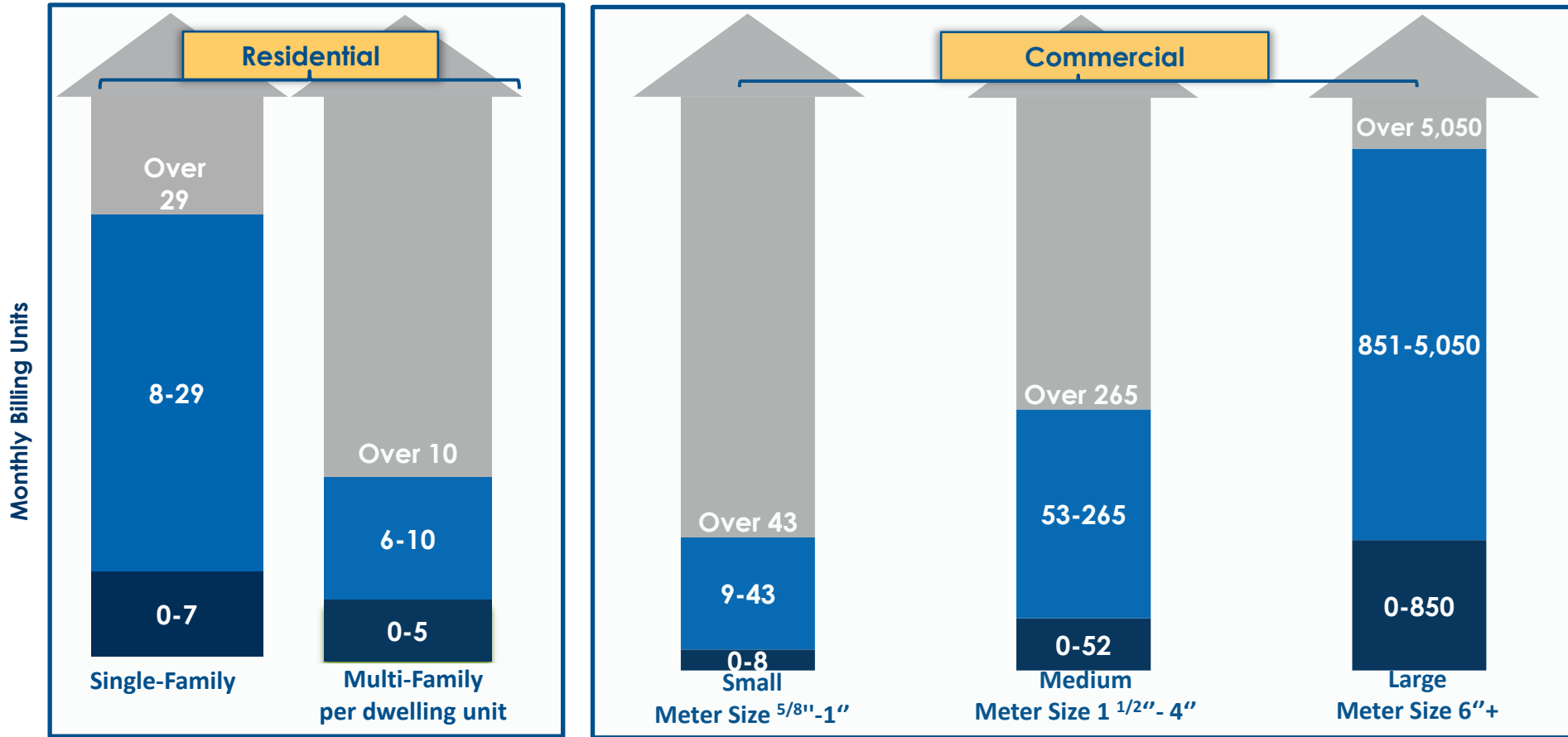
Proposed rates will create customer classes based on distinctive use patterns





Adjusted Block/Tier Break Points

Tier 1 Tier 2 Tier 3

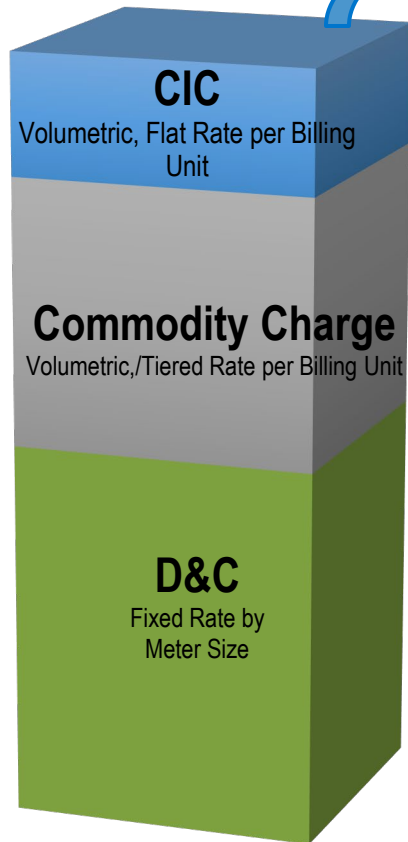


Not to scale

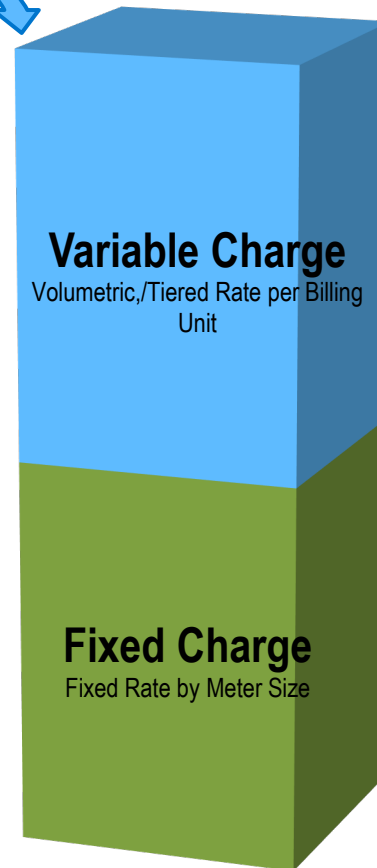


Rate Components

Current



Recommended





Drought Rates

- % increase to variable charges portion of a customer’s bill IF enacted
- Recovers revenue to cover fixed costs and costs associated with drought
- Once Council declares a drought level, the General Manager has the **option** to implement drought rates to the variable charge for the different drought stages as defined in the “2020 Urban Water Management Plan”
- Drought rates send a stronger price signal when water is in short supply in addition to other programmatic measures

The variable rates in place at the time would be increased by the percentages shown

Pasadena's Water Shortage Plan Levels	Level 1	Level 2		Level 3	Level 4	
California's Water Shortage Contingency Plan Stages	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5	Stage 6
Tier 1	0%	0%	10%	35%	58%	125%
Tier 2	11%	29%	52%	89%	152%	178%
Tier 3	17%	51%	77%	127%	175%	225%

A background image featuring a dynamic splash of water with bubbles and ripples, set against a light blue gradient. The water splash is centered horizontally and extends across most of the width of the slide.

Revenue Recovery Analysis

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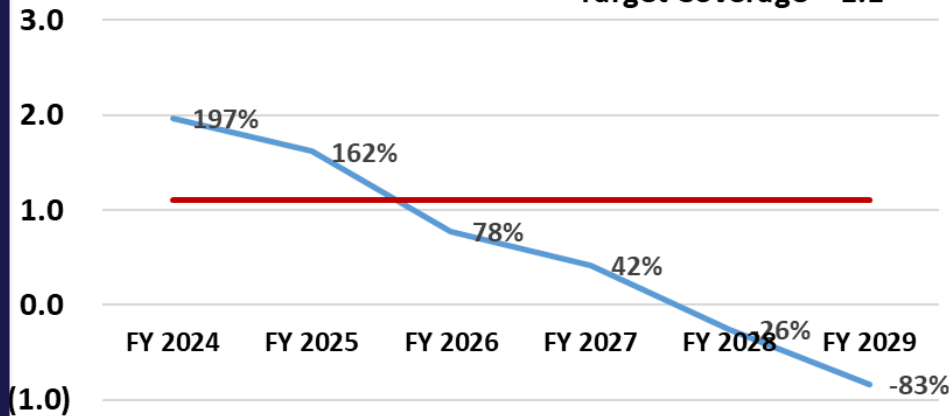
Revenue Increase Development

WITHOUT REVENUE INCREASES

WITH REVENUE INCREASES

DEBT SERVICE COVERAGE

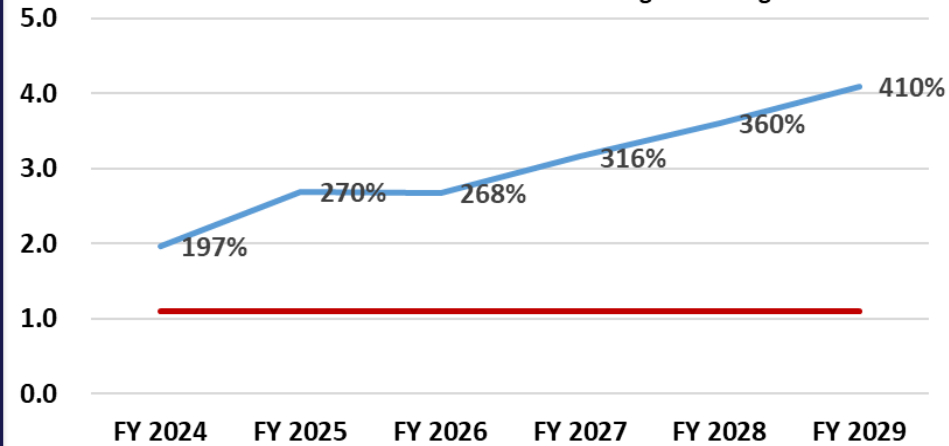
— Calculated Coverage
— Target Coverage = 1.1



Debt coverage inadequate

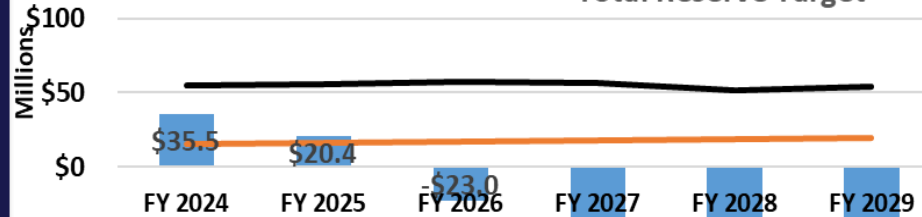
DEBT SERVICE COVERAGE

— Calculated Coverage
— Target Coverage = 1.1



ENDING CASH BALANCE

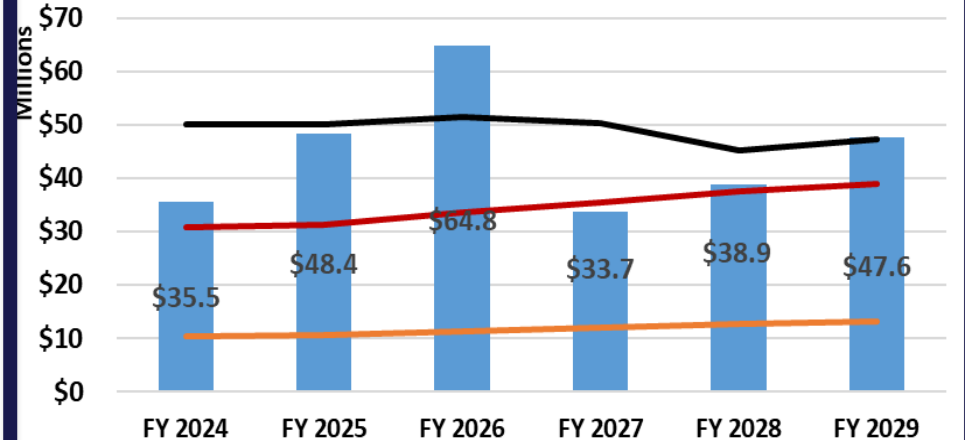
■ Ending Balances
— Operating Res Target
— Total Reserve Target



Rapid Depletion of Reserves

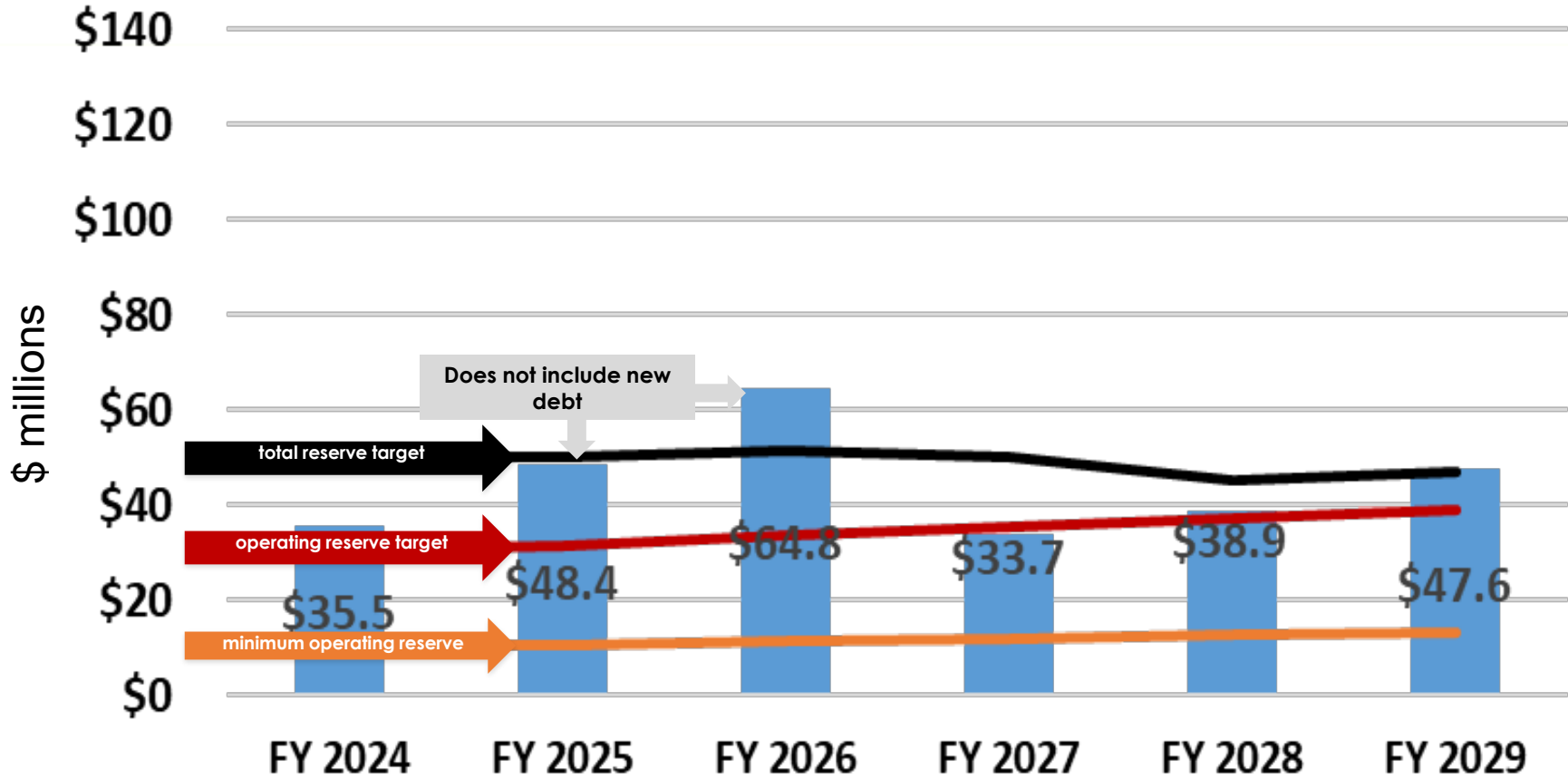
CASH BALANCE

■ Ending Balances
— Operating Res Target
— Total Reserve Target
— Max Operating Res Target





Recommended Revenue Increases

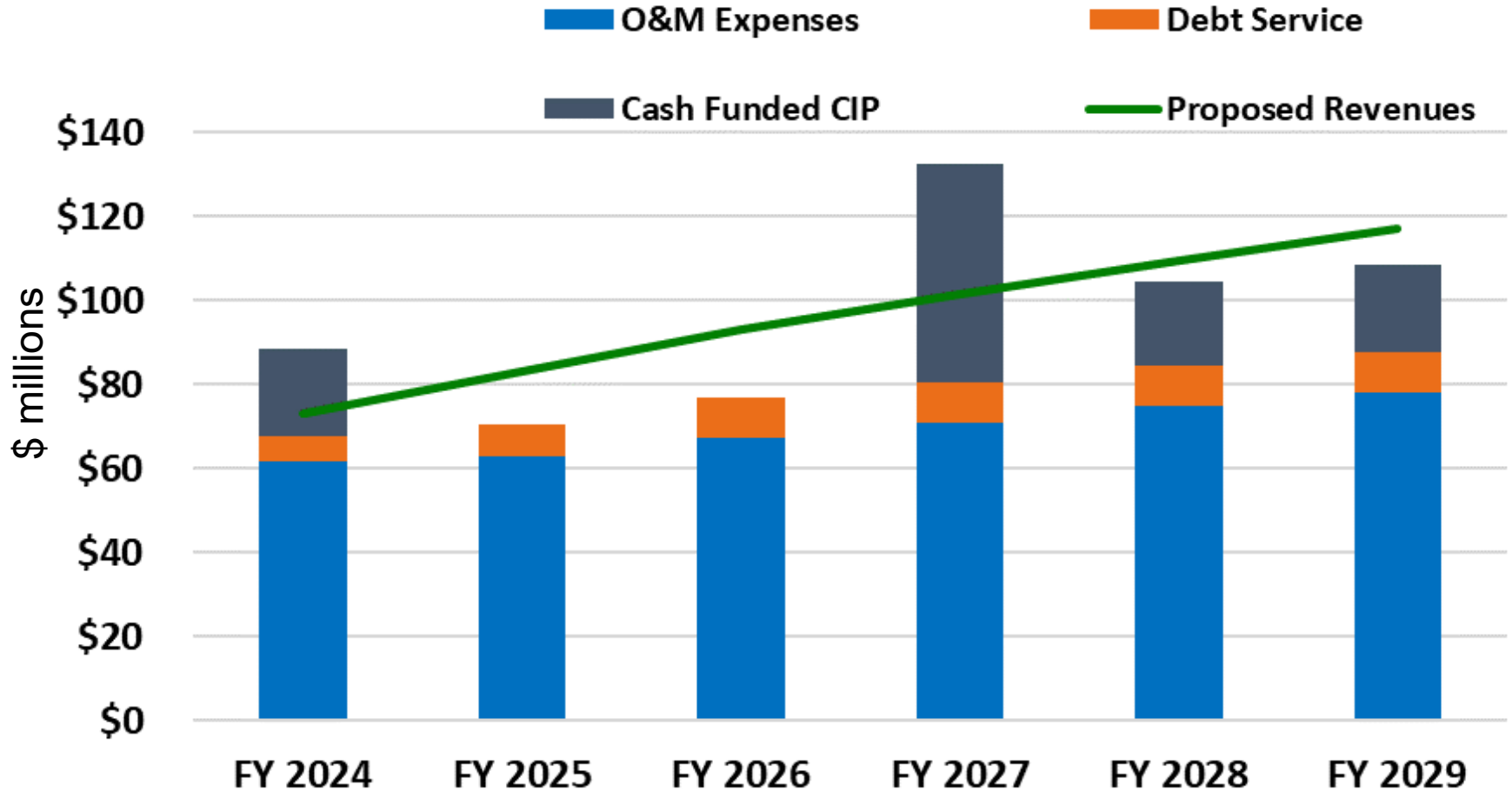


REVENUE INCREASES 0% 13% 12% 9% 8% 7%

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Revenues and Expenses



A background image of a water splash, with a large wave cresting on the right side and many bubbles rising from below. The water is clear and light blue.

Customer Bill Impacts

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User Case: The “Small” Family



Use 7 HCF monthly

Has mainly indoor plants & cat “Stella”

The Small Family is in the 30% percentile for Single Family Residential customers


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Fixed Charge	
3/4" Meter	\$38.62
<hr/>	
Variable Charge	
<u>Tier 1 Usage</u>	
7 HCF @	
\$2.24818 for	\$15.74
<hr/>	
Total.....	\$54.36

Current bill: \$46.68
Increase \$7.68, 16.5%

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User Case: The “Medium” Family



Use 11 HCF monthly

Has a small garden & dog “Muffin”

The Medium Family is in the 47% percentile for Single Family Residential customers

 PASADENA <small>WATER & POWER DEPARTMENT</small>	
Fixed Charge	
3/4" Meter	\$38.62
Variable Charge	
<u>Tier 1 Usage</u>	
7 HCF @	
\$2.24818 for	\$15.74
<u>Tier 2 Usage</u>	
4 HCF @	
\$5.92680 for	\$23.71
Total.....	\$78.07
Current bill: \$64.19	
Increase \$13.88, 21.6%	

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User Case: The “Large” Family



Use 20 HCF monthly

Has a lawn and garden,
dog “Lucky” and cat “Leo”

The Large Family is in the 74%
percentile of single family
residential customers


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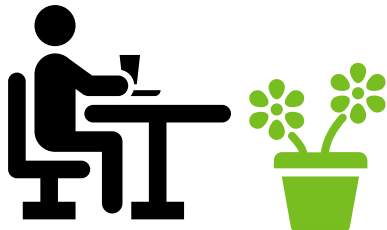
Fixed Charge	
1" Meter	\$60.19
<hr/>	
Variable Charge	
<u>Tier 1 Usage</u>	
7 HCF @	
\$2.24818 for	\$15.74
<hr/>	
<u>Tier 2 Usage</u>	
13 HCF @	
\$5.92680 for	\$77.05
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Total.....	\$152.98

Current bill: \$123.90
Increase \$29.08, 23.5%

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User Case: Multi-Family Duplex Landlord

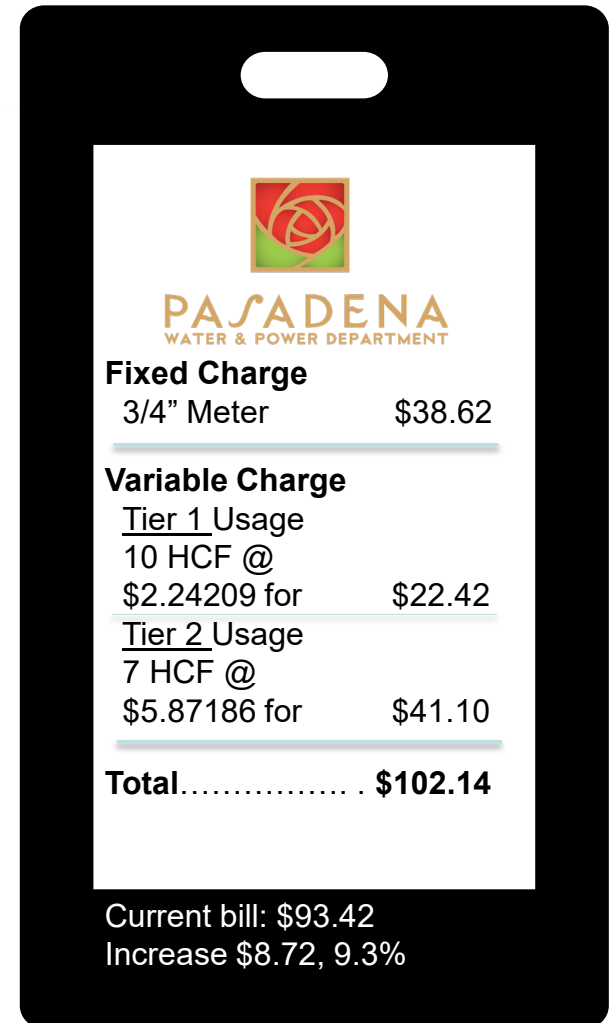


Use 17 HCF monthly

Duplex maintains outdoor space

Per Unit is \$51.07

PWP does not control water payments
via property owner



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WATER & POWER DEPARTMENT

Fixed Charge	
3/4" Meter	\$38.62
Variable Charge	
<u>Tier 1 Usage</u>	
10 HCF @	
\$2.24209 for	\$22.42
<u>Tier 2 Usage</u>	
7 HCF @	
\$5.87186 for	\$41.10
Total.....	\$102.14

Current bill: \$93.42
Increase \$8.72, 9.3%

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User Case: Medium Commercial Coffee Shop



Use 75 HCF monthly

No outdoor watering

PASADENA WATER & POWER DEPARTMENT	
Fixed Charge	
2" Meter	\$178.82
Variable Charge	
<u>Tier 1 Usage</u>	
52 HCF @	
\$2.25510 for	\$117.27
<u>Tier 2 Usage</u>	
23 HCF @	
\$5.88262 for	\$135.30
Total.....	\$431.39
Current bill: \$508.42	
(Decrease \$77.03, 15.2%)	

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A background image of a water splash, with a large wave cresting on the right side and many bubbles rising from the base of the splash. The water is clear and light blue.

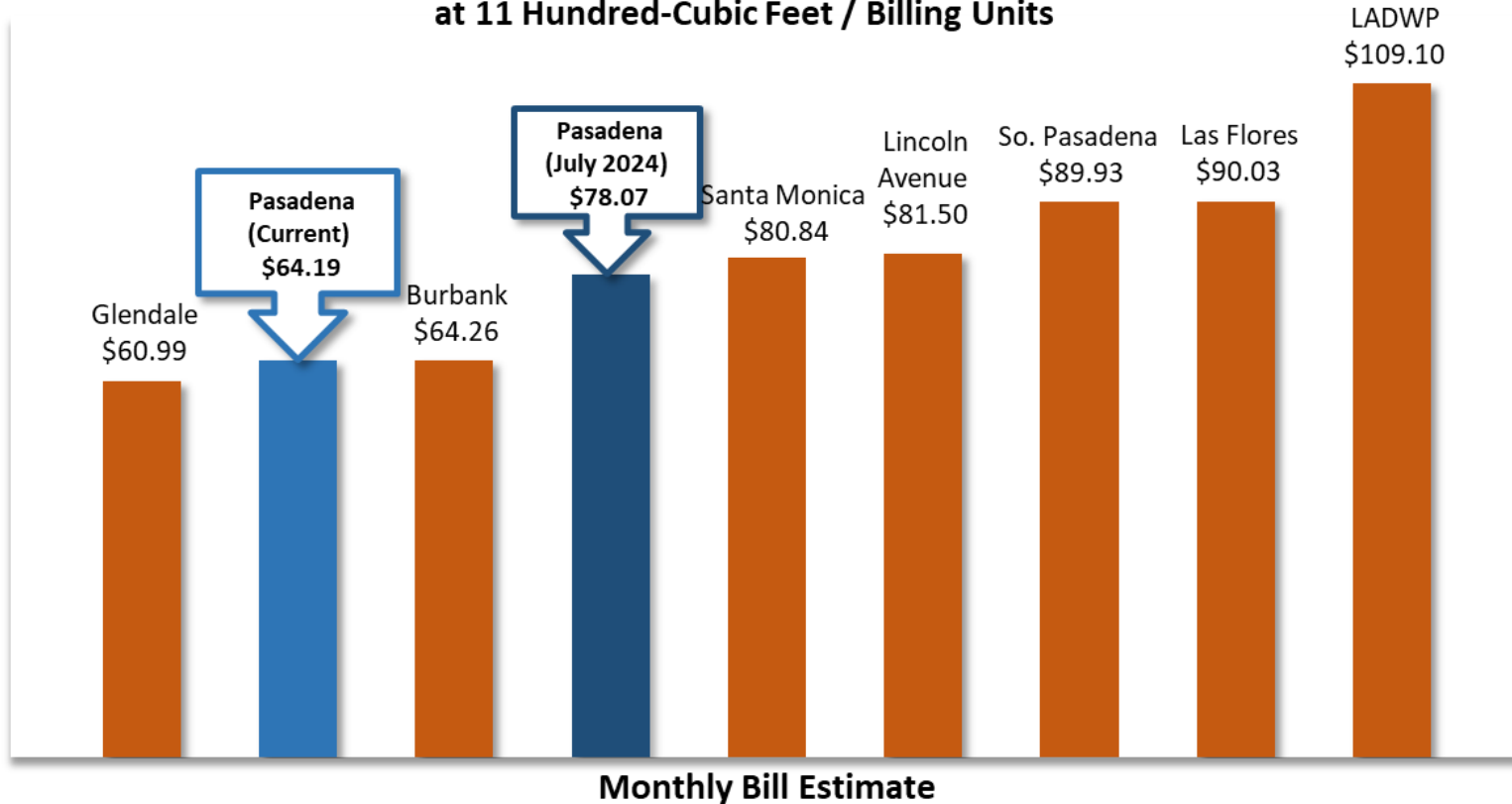
Comparison with Neighboring Agencies

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Surrounding Agency Water Bill Survey

Single Family Residential ¾-Inch Meter Connection at 11 Hundred-Cubic Feet / Billing Units



Note: Information provided is based on publicly available information as of January 2024. Other organization's rates may be different at the time of rate adoption.

A background image featuring a dynamic splash of water with bubbles and ripples, set against a light blue gradient. The water splash is centered horizontally and extends across most of the width of the slide.

Alternative Scenario and Option

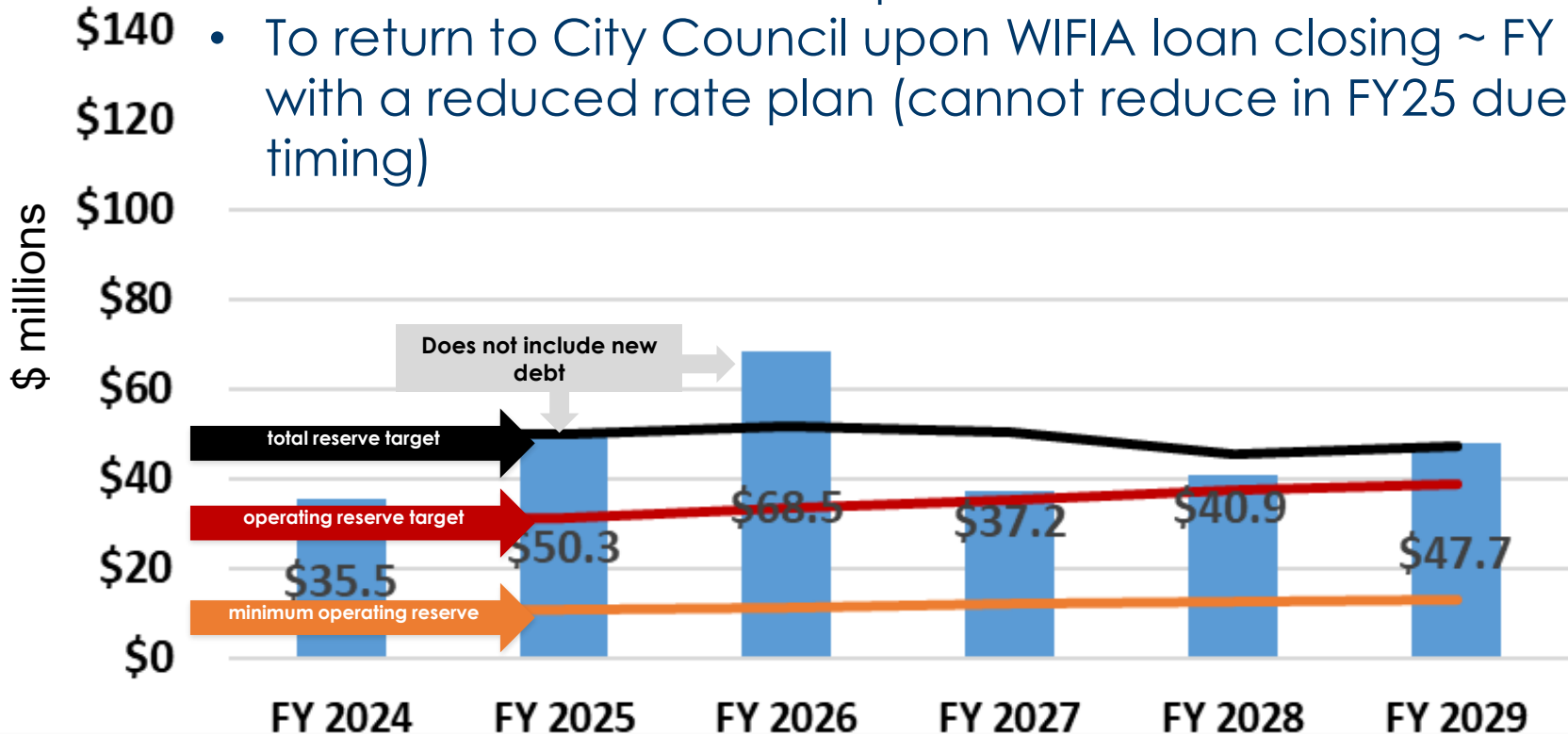
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The W(IF)IA Scenario

Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA)

- Competitive loan process therefore not included in recommended financial plan
- To return to City Council upon WIFIA loan closing ~ FY 2026 with a reduced rate plan (cannot reduce in FY25 due to timing)

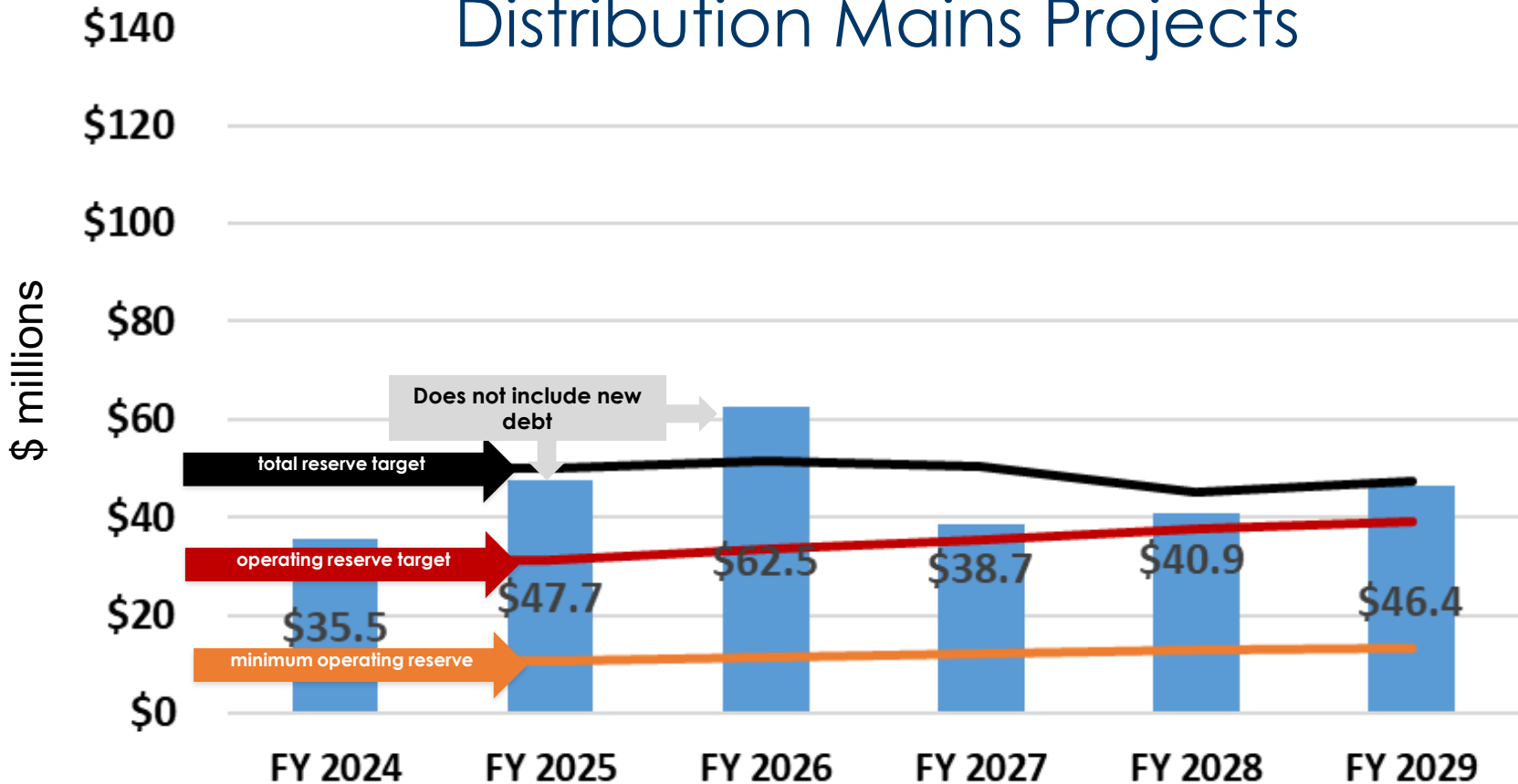


	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
REVENUE INCREASES	0%	13%	9%	7%	7%	7%
RECOMMENDED REVENUE INCREASES	0%	13%	12%	9%	8%	7%



Delay CIP: Not Recommended

Option to delay AMI and Some Distribution Mains Projects



REVENUE INCREASES

0%

12%

11%

9%

8%

7%

RECOMMENDED REVENUE INCREASES

0%

13%

12%

9%

8%

7%



Utility Bill Impact Example

COMBINED IMPACT OF PROPOSED AND APPROVED UTILITY RATE INCREASES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

	Current	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Proposed SFR Water Rate Increases						
Avg. Monthly SFR Water Service	\$64.19	\$78.06	\$87.43	\$95.30	\$102.92	\$110.13

Approved SFR Solid Waste Rate Increases

Residential Cart @ 60 gallon	\$26.44	\$35.19	\$37.65	\$40.29	\$43.11	\$46.13
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Approved SFR Sewer Rate Increases

Avg. Monthly SFR Water Service	\$4.55	\$11.05	\$12.81	\$13.33	\$13.86	\$14.41
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Total SFR Rate Increases July 1, 2024 (Water + Solid Waste + Sewer)

	Current	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
TOTAL COMBINED SFR RATES	\$95.18	\$124.30	\$137.89	\$148.92	\$159.89	\$170.67
Annual Combined Increase		31%	11%	8%	7%	7%
Total 5-year Combined Increase						79%

Online Bill Estimator: <https://egov1.cityofpasadena.net/BillEstimator>

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Public Outreach and Education

MSC

- July 25, 2023 – Update/Workshop
- February 13, 2024 – Update/Workshop
- March 26, 2024 – Recommend to Set Public Hearing

City Council

- April 8, 2024 – Set Public Hearing
- June 3, 2024 – Public Hearing - *Today*

EAC

- April 1, 2024
- May 14, 2024

Community Meetings

- April 8, 2024 – Virtual
- April 23, 2024 – Key Accounts Meeting
- May 1 & 23, 2024 – Victory & Robinson Parks



Public Outreach and Education



Website

PWPweb.com/WaterRateDesign

cityofpasadena 10h

PASADENA NOW

WATTS CURRENT

NEWS RELEASE

APRIL 15, 2024

Pasadena Water and Power Issues Notice of Public Hearing for Water Rate Structure and Adjustments

@cityofpasadena

[FULL NEWS RELEASE](#)

Updates to WATER RATES

Pasadena Water and Power is recommending adjustments to what we charge for water. These new rates are simplified and promote water conservation while allowing for investments in key infrastructure to sustain a resilient water system. Estimate your bill, view community meeting recordings, and learn more by visiting us online.

Learn More: PWPweb.com/WaterRateDesign

Bill Inserts

AVISO DE AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA

Aviso de audiencia pública para recibir comentarios públicas sobre la implementación de ajustes de tarifas de agua

Fecha y hora de la audiencia: 3 de junio de 2024 a las 5:30 p.m.

Public Hearing Notice

ACTIVIDAD	Inicio	Fin	Ubicación
Recepción de comentarios	10:00 AM	12:00 PM	City of Pasadena, 100 N. G Street, Pasadena, CA 91101
Recepción de comentarios	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	City of Pasadena, 100 N. G Street, Pasadena, CA 91101

PWP Water Rate Design 2024

PASADENA WATER & POWER DEPARTMENT

Explainer Video

Watch on YouTube

Community Meetings

PASADENA Water & Power

SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1906

New program for 815 million gallons of additional groundwater storage augmentation

PASADENA IN FOCUS

MAY - AUGUST 2024

Social Media and Local Media Coverage



Backup Slides



Utility Bill Impact Example

COMBINED IMPACT OF PROPOSED AND APPROVED UTILITY RATE INCREASES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

	Current	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Proposed SFR Water Rate Increases						
Avg. Monthly SFR Water Service	\$64.19	\$78.06	\$87.43	\$95.30	\$102.92	\$110.13
Approved SFR Solid Waste Rate Increases						
Residential Cart @ 60 gallons	\$26.44	\$35.19	\$37.65	\$40.29	\$43.11	\$46.13
Approved SFR Sewer Rate Increases						
Avg. Monthly SFR Water Service	\$4.55	\$11.05	\$12.81	\$13.33	\$13.86	\$14.41
Current SFR Electric Rates						
Residential Electric Service @ 500 kWh	\$124.64	\$124.64	\$124.64	\$124.64	\$124.64	\$124.64
*Electric Rate Study efforts underway						
Total SFR Rate Increases July 1, 2024 (Water + Solid Waste + Sewer + Electric)						
TOTAL COMBINED SFR RATES	\$219.82	\$248.94	\$262.53	\$273.56	\$284.53	\$295.31
Annual Combined Increase		13%	5%	4%	4%	4%
Total 5-year Combined Increase						34%

Online Rate Calculator: <https://egov1.cityofpasadena.net/BillEstimator>

PASADENA



PWP Projects Identified for W(IF)IA

Approximately one year process

We are here



- PWP Projects Identified

Project	5-Year Project Cost	49% Loan Amount
Sunset Complex	\$73 million	\$36 million
Distribution Mains	\$39 million	\$19 million
AMI	\$9 million	\$4 million
Total	\$121 million	\$59 million

- Loan Features

- > Deferred 5-year repayment
- > Interest does not accrue until loan is drawn
- > Customized repayment schedule



Utility Bill Impact Example

Monthly Bill Estimates for Average Single-Family Residential Customer

Rate Adjustments	Current	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Approved Sewer	\$4.55	\$11.05	\$12.81	\$13.33	\$13.86	\$14.41
Approved Solid Waste Residential Cart @ 60 gallons	\$26.44	\$35.19	\$37.65	\$40.29	\$43.11	\$46.13
Recommended Water 11 HCF with 3/4" meter	\$64.19	\$78.06	\$87.43	\$95.30	\$102.93	\$110.13
Current Electric (500 kWh-summer rates)*	\$124.64	\$124.64	\$124.64	\$124.64	\$124.64	\$124.64
Combined Bill Estimate	\$219.82	\$248.94	\$262.53	\$273.56	\$284.54	\$295.31
Annual Increase %		13%	5%	4%	4%	4%
5-Year Increase %						34%

*Electric Rate Design Study efforts underway; no proposed electric rate adjustments have been developed at this time



[PWPweb.com/WaterRateDesign](https://www.pwpweb.com/WaterRateDesign)
 Online Bill Estimator:
<https://egov1.cityofpasadena.net/BillEstimator>

PASADENA



Today's Presenters

Stacie Takeguchi is a leader with more than 23 years of experience in the water industry. Prior to joining PWP, she worked for The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California for 15 years, serving in various capacities including leading regional drought action planning efforts. Ms. Takeguchi has a bachelor's degree from Tulane University and is a licensed engineer in the State of California.



Stacie Takeguchi
Assistant General Manager - Water

Lynne Chaimowitz was most recently with the Mojave Water Agency where she served as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO). Prior to becoming CFO, Ms. Chaimowitz served the City of Ann Arbor, Public Services. She is a Certified Public Finance Officer (CPFO). She earned an Environmental Program undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan, and a graduate degree in Accounting from Eastern Michigan University.



Lynne Chaimowitz
Assistant General Manager –
Finance & Administration

Steve Gagnon has conducted water and wastewater rate studies in Southern California for over 15 years out of his 26 years as an engineering consultant. He is a registered environmental engineer, a Municipal Advisor with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, and the former chair of the California/Nevada American Water Works Association Financial Management Committee.



Steve Gagnon
Vice President-
Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc.

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