



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
PICO WATER DISTRICT**

4843 S. Church Street  
Pico Rivera, California, 90660

**5:30 PM Wednesday, January 10, 2024**

**AGENDA**

Any member of the public may attend this meeting in person or by accessing the Zoom link below. Any member of the public wishing to make any comments to the Board may do so through that Zoom link. The meeting Chair will acknowledge such individual(s) at the appropriate time in the meeting prior to making his or her comment. Members of the public wishing to make a comment are asked to state their name for the record and will be provided three (3) minutes to comment, the Board secretary will alert those commenting when they only have 30 seconds remaining. All members of the public will be disconnected from the Zoom link immediately before the Board of Directors adjourns into Closed Session.

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9521779948?pwd=dGNxcXh3YitEc2NlVVdrUzVvNm4rZz09>

Join by Telephone: +1 669 900 6833

Meeting ID: 952 177 9948 Passcode: 421745

- 1. ROLL CALL.**
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE.**
- 3. INVOCATION.**

**4. TIME RESERVED FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

*Members of the public shall be allowed three minutes to address the Board on any matter on the agenda and/or within the jurisdiction of the District, which is not on the Agenda. All comments should be addressed to the presiding officer of the meeting. Additional public comments shall be allowed when a listed agenda item is being considered, but such comments made at that time must be confined to the subject that is being discussed at the time such comments are made. Members of the public are asked to state their name for the record. Due to all Board Meetings being run as Zoom Meetings all participants will be placed on mute at the start of the meeting and when the meeting is open for public comment the participant will be asked to raise their hand through the button on the video conference screen if participating by video conference or by pressing \*9 on their phone if participating by teleconference.*

**5. ADOPTION OF AGENDA.**

**6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR.**

(All matters on the Consent Calendar are to be approved on one motion, unless a Board Member requests a separate action on a specific item).

A. Consider approval of December 20 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

**7. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS.**

A. Discussion on Pico Water District Holiday Observances; RE: Juneteenth, Independence Day, Columbus Day, Cesar Chavez Day

**8. REPORTS.**

A. General Manager.

B. Legal Counsel.

**9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

A. PFAS Project – Update

B. Rate Study – Update

**10. DIRECTOR'S REQUEST OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.**

**11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS.**

A. Report on Meetings Attended/Comments.

**12. CLOSED SESSION.**

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION  
[Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)]: *Pico Water District v. City of Pico Rivera*, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 22NWCV00967.

**13. CLOSED SESSION REPORT.**

**14. ADJOURNMENT.**

**AGENDA POSTED ON:** January 4, 2024

**Next regularly scheduled meeting:** January 17, 2024

***NOTE: To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in any Board meeting, please contact the District office at (562) 692-3756 at least 48 hours prior to a Board meeting to inform the District of your needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible.***

***Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public review at the District office, located at 4843 S. Church Street, Pico Rivera, California.***

# **CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS**

**6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR.**

(All matters on the Consent Calendar are to be approved on one motion, unless a Board Member requests a separate action on a specific item).

- A. Consider approval of December 20, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

**PICO WATER DISTRICT**

**MINUTES  
of  
BOARD MEETING  
12/20/2023**



MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE PICO WATER DISTRICT

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Pico Water District was held in the District's Boardroom located at 4843 South Church Street, Pico Rivera, California, on Wednesday, December 20, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

The District's General Manager, Mr. Joe D. Basulto proceeded with the roll call of the attending Board members. Present from the beginning of the meeting was, Director David Angelo, Director David Gonzales, Director Victor Caballero, Vice President Raymond Rodriguez, President Pete Ramirez and Mr. Jim Ciampa, Legal Counsel for the District.

President Pete Ramirez led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Public Comments. There was one person in attendance, Dennis Azevedo. There were no public comments.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the adoption of the Agenda. Director Victor Caballero made the motion to adopt and Director David Angelo seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 5 – 0.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, approval of Consent Calendar. Director David Gonzales made the motion to adopt and Vice President Raymond Rodriguez seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 5–0.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Action/ Discussion Items. Action Item A. Consider Board Approval of Rate Study Report; Presentation by Water Resources Economics. Sanjay Gaur with Water Resources Economics was the presenter for this presentation. Mr. Gaur briefly discussed the Rate Study overview and the process taken. He discussed Proposition 218 and its purpose. One of the changes to the rates that Water Resources Economics does recommend is the Capital charges should be increased with meter size based on meter capacity. Another recommendation is proposed reserve policy changes. Current reserve targets based on fixed dollar amounts per Board adopted resolution. Based on past rate increases, Mr. Gaur recommends a thirty five percent rate increase the first year, the second-year twenty percent and the following the years a twelve percent increase. He touched base on potable and recycle water rates schedule. Based on the rate changes, Pico Water District is reflecting to have the lower water rates than other water agencies. The Next steps to take are seeking authorization from the Board to schedule a public hearing, finalize the rate study report, mail out public hearing notices to all customers, adopt rates at the public hearing and implement first year of proposed

rates in March 2024. Director David Gonzales made the motion to adopt and Vice President Raymond Rodriguez seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 5 – 0.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Action/ Discussion Items. Action Item B. Consider Board Approval of Rate Study Community Meeting on January 18, 2024. Director Victor Caballero made the motion to adopt and Director David Angelo seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 5 – 0.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Action/ Discussion Items. Action Item C. Consider Board Approval of Public Hearing Date February 15, 2024 of proposed adjustments to Pico Water Districts Rates / Charges & Adoption of Ordinance No. 65. Director Victor Caballero made the motion to adopt and Vice President Raymond Rodriguez seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 5 – 0.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Action/ Discussion Items. Action Item D. Consider Cancelling the Regular Scheduled Board Meeting on January 03, 2024 and Rescheduling to the Following Week January 10, 2024. Director David Gonzales made the motion to adopt and Director David Angelo seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 5 – 0.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Action/ Discussion Items. Action Item E. Consider Board Approval of Attorney Service Agreement from Lagerlof, LLP. President Pete Ramirez made the motion to adopt and Vice President Raymond Rodriguez seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 4 – 1.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Action/ Discussion Items. Action Item F. Consider Selection of New Board Officers – President, Vice President, Board Secretary, and Board Treasurer. Nominated for Board President was Vice President Raymond Rodriguez, nominated for Board Vice President was Director Victor Caballero, nominated for Board Secretary was General Manger Joe Basulto and nominated for Board Treasurer was Office Manager Tomas Rivera. all nominations were accepted.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, General Manager's Report. The General Manager reported that Staff been completed out Monthly Meter Reading and all follow up reports have been completed and submitted to our Billing Clerk for processing. Billing is scheduled to be completed December 27, 2023. On 12/13/2023 the contractor on Mines Ave. Hit our 8" AC mainline, waterline was previously marked, staff responded immediately to temporarily shut down main and made necessary repairs. The job took about 5 hours to complete from start to finish. A claim will be filed for damages to the contractor. Results for our quarterly PFAS sampling were received on 12/12/2023, We are scheduled to send out notices to our customers next week. We continue to be busy with our rate study, audit, end of year reports and other day to day operations. PFAS Project -contractor RC Foster re-scheduling to final slurry coat at wells they were scheduled for 12/20/23 but, ran into the weather conditions. Scheduling final electrical work which is still pending. Regarding our permit approval from DDW, we have



submitted our response to their comments, our next step would be to set up meeting with them to finalize.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Legal Counsel Report. Legal Counsel, Jim Ciampa reported that he will go ahead and file the updated roster of public agencies to reflect the new district officers. Mr. Ciampa also reported on Matt Pero with Lagerlof, LLC met with Mr. Steve Bucknum regarding expert witness issues and the meeting went well.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Informational Items. The General Manager reported on information item A. Production & Water Level Report. Reservoir levels are mid to high throughout the state a pictured. Our water levels continue to recharge and not showing any drastic drawdown. Director Matthew Tryon reported on item B. Monthly Activity Report. There were no mainline leaks in November 2023. There were five service leaks that were fixed. Three-meter leaks, and one hit fire hydrant early November that were quickly repaired. There were five meters replaced and marked one-hundred and three dig alerts.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Future Agenda Items. There were none at this time.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Board Member Comments. Director David Gonzales had commented on grant programs for funding for new meters from Neptune. Director David Angelo had a question regarding the PFAS vessels for another water agency and the accuracy of their progress for their vessels. The General Manager, Joe Basulto, gave a brief response regarding their approval progress.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Closed Session. No Closed session was held.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Board meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m. Next Meeting to be held on January 10, 2023 at 5:30pm.

---

Ray Rodriguez, President

Attest:

---

Joe D. Basulto, Secretary  
(Seal)

# **ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS.**

- A. Discussion on Pico Water District Holiday Observances; RE: Juneteenth, Independence Day, Columbus Day, Cesar Chavez Day

# **PICO WATER DISTRICT**

## **DISCUSSION ITEM - 7A**

**Discussion on Pico Water  
District Holiday Observances;  
RE: Juneteenth,  
Independence Day, Columbus  
Day, Cesar Chavez Day**

## ***STAFF REPORT***

**To:** Honorable Board of Directors

**From:** Joe D. Basulto, General Manager

**Meeting Date:** January 10, 2024

**Subject:** Consider Discussion on Pico Water District Holiday Observances; RE: Juneteenth, Independence Day, Columbus Day, Cesar Chavez Day

**Recommendation:**

Non at this Time

**Fiscal Impact:**

None at this time

**Background:**

Currently the Pico Water District Observes 9 of the 11 Federal Holidays, the District does not observe Juneteenth National Independence Day & Columbus Day. Cesar Chavez is a California State Holiday, also not observe.

The Pico Water District observes day after Thanksgiving and two floating holidays of the employee's choice.

I would like to discuss with the Board of Directors, to inquire if there would be any interest in adopting and of the federal or state holidays.

Information / History regarding Holidays:

**Juneteenth Independence Day** is one of eleven federal holidays recognized nationwide by the United States Government. All non-essential federal government offices are closed on Juneteenth Independence Day, and all federal employees are paid even if they receive the day off. Many private-sector employees will also receive paid time off or special holiday pay on Juneteenth Independence Day.

Juneteenth commemorates the day when the last enslaved African Americans in the United States were freed following the conclusion of the Civil War.

While Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1<sup>st</sup> 1863, most enslaved people in Confederate territory were not emancipated until the Confederate army surrendered in April 1865, ending the Civil War. Freedom did not reach the last enslaved people until **June 19<sup>th</sup> 1865**, when Union soldiers under Major General Gordon Granger announced the emancipation of slaves in Galveston, Texas.

While all fifty states recognize Juneteenth as a state holiday or observance, as of 2022 only 18 states have enacted laws to observe Juneteenth as a paid state holiday. It is celebrated every June 19<sup>th</sup>, and has been a federal holiday since 2021.

**Columbus Day** is one of eleven federal holidays recognized nationwide by the United States Government. All non-essential federal government offices are closed on Columbus Day, and all federal employees are paid even if they receive the day off. Many private-sector employees will also receive paid time off or special holiday pay on Columbus Day.

Columbus Day commemorates the arrival of the Christopher Columbus in the Americas. It is celebrated every second Monday of October, and has been a federal holiday since 1937. Best described as “The Discovery of America”.

**Cesar Chavez Day** is always celebrated on his birthday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. President Barack Obama declared Cesar Chavez Day a national holiday in 2014.

It is not a federal holiday, but is a state holiday in California. In Los Angeles, government offices, city, county, and state. Also courts, libraries and schools are normally closed for César Chávez’ birthday holiday. He served in the US Navy for two years at the end of the Second World War, returning to work on farms until 1952, when he became involved with the Community Service Organization, a Latino civil rights group, rising to become its national director by 1958.

In 1962, Chavez became a cofounder of the National Farm Workers' Association (now the United Farm Workers).

In this new role, Chavez became the best known Latino American civil rights activist. Leading the struggle for better rights for farm workers, his aggressive but nonviolent tactics made the farm workers' struggle a moral cause with wide support. He also gained national awareness as he went on several hunger strikes to highlight his campaigns.

Caesar Chavez paved the way for better wages and working conditions which nearly 2.5 million farmworkers benefit from today. For more than three decades Cesar led the first successful farm workers union in American history, achieving dignity, respect, fair wages, medical coverage, pension benefits, and humane living conditions, as well as countless other rights and protections for hundreds of thousands of farm workers.

# **INFORMATION ITEMS**

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- A. PFAS Project - Update
- B. Rate Study Update



**PICO WATER DISTRICT**

**PFAS PROJECT UPDATE  
INFORMATION  
PROVIDED  
DAY of MEETING**

# **PICO WATER DISTRICT**

## **Rate Study Info**



PICO WATER DISTRICT • 4843 S. CHURCH STREET PICO RIVERA, CA 90660

## PROPOSITION 218 NOTIFICATION

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON WATER RATE CHANGES

**February 15, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.**

**Pico Park Community Center, 9528 Beverly Blvd., Pico Rivera, CA 90660**

---

## Important Information About Your Water Rates

This notice is being furnished to you by Pico Water District pursuant to California Constitution Article XIID (also known as “Proposition 218”). Under the terms of Proposition 218, Pico Water District is required to notify the property owners of record of proposed changes to property-related fees, such as for water service.

This serves as notice that the Pico Water District Board of Directors will conduct a public hearing at the time, date and location specified above to consider recommended adjustments to Pico Water District’s water service charges. If approved, the proposed adjustments will be implemented on March 1, 2024. Each element of the proposed action is explained in this document.

All members of the public are invited to attend the public hearing. Additionally, under California state law, all property owners and customers of record may submit a written protest to the proposed rate changes. Only one protest per parcel is permitted. Please refer to the “**How Can I Participate?**” section of this document for instructions on submitting a formal written protest against the proposed action.

All written protests will be verified. You may also appear at the public hearing at the date and time specified above to provide comments and register your written protest.

---

## Why Are Rate Increases Are Needed?

Pico Water District (District) provides water services to ratepayers within its boundaries within the City of Pico Rivera. The District strives to keep its rates as low as possible. In 2020, the District engaged an independent consultant to prepare a rate study to determine the appropriate user rates for services from Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 through FY 2025. The third year of the adopted rate schedule is currently in effect. However, unanticipated and increasing costs over the past few years revealed that an updated rate study was necessary, as the District was not generating sufficient revenue and was rapidly spending down its accumulated reserve funds. The District therefore engaged a consultant, Water Resources Economics, to prepare an updated 2023 rate study. That rate study has confirmed that current revenue is not sufficient to cover the District’s costs of providing water to customers for the remaining two years under the rate schedule adopted in 2020. Costs continue to rise due to inflation, with operation and maintenance costs expected to increase 6% annually through the next five years. The District faces substantial capital expenses for the replacement of aging infrastructure and the installation and operation of new treatment systems to remove per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), the collective term for a group of synthetic chemicals detected in some of the District’s wells.

The 2023 Water Rate Study outlines a new five-year proposed rate schedule for FY 2024 through FY 2028. If adopted, the new rates would replace the final two years of the currently adopted rate schedule. It is important to note that under Proposition 218, rates must be proportional to and may not exceed the cost of providing water service. The proposed rate increases are necessary to enable the District to (1) recover current and projected increases in the costs of operating and maintaining the water system; (2) maintain the operational and financial stability of the District; (3) continue to meet contractual debt coverage requirements; (4) avoid operational deficits and depletion of reserves; (5) construct capital infrastructure improvements needed to repair, replace and update the District’s aging systems; and (6) comply with state and federal regulatory requirements.

For more information regarding the proposed rates and cost-of-service analysis, please refer to the 2023 Water Rate Study, which is available on the District’s website at [PicoWaterDistrict.net](https://www.picowaterdistrict.net) or by request. Please contact the District Office at (562) 692-3756 with any questions.

## Proposed Water Rates and Charges

Currently, a water customer is charged a **monthly fixed service charge** per metered water connection. Single-family residential customers are all subject to the same charge regardless of meter size, while other customers are subject to charges that increase with meter size. Potable water customers are also charged a **fixed monthly infrastructure charge** per metered water connection that currently is the same regardless of meter size. In addition, potable and recycled water customers are charged a **volumetric** rate per billing period based on how much water passes through the meter, per one hundred cubic feet (CCF).

Potable water customers with a separate dedicated private fire protection connection (such as a fire-suppression sprinkler system) are also subject to a **fixed monthly private fire charge** based on the size of the lateral connection.

**The 2023 Water Rate Study recommends one rate structure change to the current rates.** The proposed change would adjust the fixed monthly infrastructure charge to be differentiated by meter size. The fixed infrastructure charge is designed to recover existing debt service associated with potable water system infrastructure improvements. Since the benefit to customers from these system improvements is proportional to water use, it is more equitable for these charges to increase with meter size.

The proposed rate changes also include annual revenue adjustments of 35% in 2024, 20% in 2025, and 12% in years 2026, 2027 and 2028.

If approved, the rate schedule below would take effect March 1, 2024, and thereafter on each January 1 through 2028.

MONTHLY CHARGES Meter Size	CURRENT	PROPOSED FIVE-YEAR WATER RATE SCHEDULE				
	2023	Effective Mar 1, 2024	Effective Jan 1, 2025	Effective Jan 1, 2026	Effective Jan 1, 2027	Effective Jan 1, 2028
<b>FIXED WATER SERVICE CHARGES</b> (All water meters)						
Single Family Residential	\$18.23	\$28.39	\$34.07	\$38.16	\$42.74	\$47.87
5/8-inch meter	\$18.23	\$28.39	\$34.07	\$38.16	\$42.74	\$47.87
1-inch meter	\$40.35	\$61.21	\$73.46	\$82.28	\$92.16	\$103.22
1.5-inch meter	\$77.20	\$115.91	\$139.10	\$155.80	\$174.50	\$195.44
2-inch meter	\$121.44	\$181.55	\$217.86	\$244.01	\$273.30	\$306.10
3-inch meter	\$224.66	\$334.71	\$401.66	\$449.86	\$503.85	\$564.32
4-inch meter	\$372.12	\$553.51	\$664.22	\$743.93	\$833.21	\$933.20
6-inch meter	\$740.74	\$1,100.51	\$1,320.62	\$1,479.10	\$1,656.60	\$1,855.40
<b>FIXED MONTHLY INFRASTRUCTURE CHARGES</b> (Potable water meters only)						
Single Family Residential (all meter sizes)	\$6.50	\$4.35	\$5.22	\$5.85	\$6.56	\$7.35
5/8-inch meter	\$6.50	\$4.35	\$5.22	\$5.85	\$6.56	\$7.35
1-inch meter	\$6.50	\$10.86	\$13.04	\$14.61	\$16.37	\$18.34
1.5-inch meter	\$6.50	\$21.72	\$26.07	\$29.20	\$32.71	\$36.64
2-inch meter	\$6.50	\$34.75	\$41.70	\$46.71	\$52.32	\$58.60
3-inch meter	\$6.50	\$65.16	\$78.20	\$87.59	\$98.11	\$109.89
4-inch meter	\$6.50	\$108.60	\$130.32	\$145.96	\$163.48	\$183.10
6-inch meter	\$6.50	\$217.19	\$260.63	\$291.91	\$326.94	\$366.18
<b>VOLUMETRIC RATES PER CCF*</b>						
Potable Water	\$2.12	\$2.72	\$3.27	\$3.67	\$4.12	\$4.62
Recycled Water	\$2.39	\$2.57	\$3.09	\$3.47	\$3.89	\$4.36
<b>FIXED MONTHLY PRIVATE FIRE CHARGES</b> (Dedicated private fire connections only)						
1.5-inch connection	\$14.75	\$11.16	\$13.40	\$15.01	\$16.82	\$18.84
2-inch connection	\$23.60	\$15.12	\$18.15	\$20.33	\$22.77	\$25.51
4-inch connection	\$44.25	\$53.85	\$64.62	\$72.38	\$81.07	\$90.80
6-inch connection	\$73.74	\$141.85	\$170.22	\$190.65	\$213.53	\$239.16
8-inch connection	\$147.46	\$293.63	\$352.36	\$394.65	\$442.01	\$495.06
10-inch connection	\$339.16	\$521.94	\$626.33	\$701.49	\$785.67	\$879.96

\*One hundred cubic feet

## Pass-Through Rate Adjustments

### For WRD Groundwater Assessment Increases:

The proposed volumetric rates for potable water assume that the Water Replenishment District of Southern California (WRD) will charge the following rates for WRD assessments (includes both Replenishment Assessments and PFAS Assessment Fees): \$1.02 per hundred cubic feet (CCF) through June 30, 2024, \$1.08 per CCF through June 30, 2025, \$1.14 per CCF through June 30, 2026, \$1.20 per CCF through June 30, 2027, and \$1.27 per CCF through June 30, 2028.

Pursuant to California Government Code 53756, the District may pass through any additional increases in the WRD assessments above the projected rates listed above. Future pass-through adjustments will be implemented by increasing the District's volumetric rate for potable water by an amount not to exceed the level of WRD assessment rate increases (in cents per CCF) in excess of the projected WRD assessment rates listed above. For example, if WRD increases its assessment rate to \$1.10 per CCF on July 1, 2024, the District's water volumetric rate could be increased by up to an additional \$0.02 per CCF, equal to the difference between \$1.10 and the projected rate of \$1.08 shown above. Before initiating any pass-through adjustment, the District will notify all customers at least 30 days prior to implementation.

### For CBMWD Recycled Water Wholesale Rate Increases

The proposed volumetric rates for recycled water assume that Central Basin Municipal Water District (CBMWD) will charge the following wholesale rates for recycled water: \$1.81 per hundred cubic feet (CCF) through June 30, 2024, \$1.91 per CCF through June 30, 2025, \$2.02 per CCF through June 30, 2026, \$2.13 per CCF through June 30, 2027, and \$2.25 per CCF through June 30, 2028.

Pursuant to California Government Code 53756, the District may pass through any additional increases in the CBMWD wholesale recycled water rate above the projected rates listed above. Future pass-through adjustments will be implemented by increasing the District's volumetric rate for recycled water by an amount not to exceed the level of the CBMWD wholesale recycled water rate increases (in cents per CCF) in excess of the projected rates listed above. For example, if CBMWD increases its wholesale recycled water rate to \$1.93 per CCF on July 1, 2024, the District's volumetric rate for recycled water could be increased by up to an additional \$0.02 per CCF, equal to the difference between \$1.93 and the projected rate of \$1.91 shown above. Prior to initiating any pass-through adjustment, the District will notify all affected customers at least 30 days prior to implementation.

---

## How Can I Learn More?

Information about the proposed rate adjustments, including the rate study, can be found online at [PicoWaterDistrict.net](https://www.picowaterdistrict.net).

Pico Water District will also hold a community meeting to provide details on the proposed rate changes on **Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.** People can participate in person at the **Pico Park Community Center, 9528 Beverly Blvd., Pico Rivera, CA 90660** or by using the same Zoom meeting ID, Passcode and/or phone number listed below.

For more information or any questions regarding the proposed rate increases, please contact the District Office at **(562) 692-3756** and ask to speak with **Joe D. Basulto, General Manager**.

## How Can I Participate?

We invite you to join in the conversation and make your voice heard as part of a collaborative process between Pico Water District and its customers to determine the best way forward.

### LOG ON OR CALL

More information, including access to a copy of the rate study, can be found on our website at [picowaterdistrict.net](http://picowaterdistrict.net). You may call the District office at **(562) 692-3756** with any concerns.

### WRITE

Customers directly responsible for the payment of the rates and/or property owners, if different, may submit a written protest against the proposed rate changes; however, only one protest will be counted per identified parcel. Any written protest must (1) specifically identify what is being protested; (2) provide the location of the identified parcel (by assessor's parcel number or street address); and (3) include the printed name and signature of the person who is listed on the utility account and is responsible for paying the utility bill and/or the property owner. Written protests must be submitted by mail to the District Secretary at **P.O. Box 758, Pico Rivera, CA 90660-0758**, (protests submitted by e-mail or other electronic means do not count as a formal written protest) or in person by utilizing the drop box located at **4843 S. Church St., Pico Rivera, CA 90660-2102**, or during the public hearing, provided they are received prior to the conclusion of the public comment portion of the public hearing. For any protest, please identify on the front of the envelope, "Attn: Public Hearing on Rate Increases," whether mailed or submitted in person to the District Secretary. If a majority of property owners or customers of record submit written protests, the proposed rate and charge adjustments will not be adopted. There is a 120-day statute of limitations for challenging any new, increased or extended fee or charge.

### ATTEND

The public is welcome to attend a public hearing with the Board of Directors on **Thursday, February 15, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.** at the Pico Park Community Center, located at **9528 Beverly Blvd., Pico Rivera, CA 90660-2102**. Members of the public can participate in person or by Zoom meeting.

#### **JOIN THE LIVE ZOOM MEETING:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9521779948?pwd=dGNxcXh3YitEc2NlVVdrUzVvNm4rZz09>

**Meeting ID:** 952 177 9948

**Passcode:** 421745

Or listen in using this information and dialing (669) 900-6833

At the public hearing, all members of the public will have an opportunity to speak and give testimony regarding the proposed water rate adjustments; however, only written protests will count towards a majority protest. Oral comments at the public hearing will not qualify as formal protests unless accompanied by a written protest. If there is no majority protest upon the conclusion of the public hearing, the Board will consider and may adopt the increased rates.