

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 – 1**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SOUTH SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT INCREASING ITS WASTEWATER RATES**

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SOUTH SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, Health & Safety Code §5471 provides that the District, by an ordinance or resolution approved by a two-thirds vote of the membership of its Board of Directors, may prescribe, revise and collect rates for services and facilities the District furnishes in connection with its wastewater system; and

WHEREAS, the District's wastewater rates, sometimes referred to as its "charges," have not increased since 2019; and

WHEREAS, the District faces escalating costs for operations, increased debt-service obligations and a need to rehabilitate the District's aging facilities; and

WHEREAS, the existing wastewater rates are insufficient to meet these ongoing needs;

WHEREAS, the District's wastewater rates are property-related fees subject to the requirements of Article XIII D §6 of the California Constitution ("Proposition 218"); and

WHEREAS, the District has commissioned Bartle Wells Associates to prepare a Wastewater Financial Plan & Rate Study (the "Study") recommending rate increases that will meet the District's expenses in a manner that is consistent with the requirements of Proposition 218; and

WHEREAS, the Study, dated May, 2025, is on file in the District's offices, available for public inspection, and incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, on July 2, 2025 the Board of Directors held a full and fair public hearing (the "Hearing") on the rates proposed in the Study; and

WHEREAS, notice of the Hearing was mailed, in the form and manner required by Proposition 218 and Section 53755 of the Government Code, to the record owner of each parcel subject to the rates; and

WHEREAS, at the Hearing, all interested persons had an opportunity to present oral and written testimony regarding the proposed rates; and

WHEREAS, from the date the Hearing notice was mailed through the close of the Hearing, the District has been accepting written protests from property owners and customers; and

WHEREAS, a majority protest against the proposed rates does not exist; and

WHEREAS, based on the Study and the testimony before the Board of Directors, the Board of Directors determines that:

- Revenues derived from the proposed rates do not exceed the funds required to provide wastewater service.
- Revenues derived from the proposed rates will not be used for any purpose other than funding the District's costs associated with wastewater service.
- The amount of the proposed rates imposed upon any parcel or person as an incident of property ownership does not exceed the proportional cost of wastewater service attributable to the parcel.
- The proposed rates are not imposed with respect to a parcel unless wastewater service is actually used by, or immediately available to the parcel.
- The proposed rates are not imposed for general governmental services, but only for wastewater treatment services and facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors desires to approve the proposed wastewater rates.

WHEREAS, the approval of this ordinance is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Public Resources Code §21080(b)(8).

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SOUTH SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT DOES HEREBY ORDAIN:

Section 1. The District's wastewater rates shall be as shown in the following chart:

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Wastewater Treatment Rates

	Monthly Rates Effective On or After				
	Sept 1 2025	July 1 2026	July 1 2027	July 1 2028	July 1 2029
Rate Increases	9%	9%	9%	9%	9%
a. Residences & Apartments	\$27.77	\$30.27	\$32.99	\$35.96	\$39.20
b. Hotel Units with Kitchens	24.27	26.45	28.83	31.42	34.25
c. Hotel Units without Kitchens	15.61	17.01	18.54	20.21	22.03
d. Hotel Room	15.61	17.01	18.54	20.21	22.03
e. Commercial Establishments	12.48	13.60	14.82	16.15	17.60
Each additional employee above 5	2.52	2.75	3.00	3.27	3.56
f. Beauty Shops	24.97	27.22	29.67	32.34	35.25
Each additional operator above 5	3.78	4.12	4.49	4.89	5.33
g. Eating Establishments w/o Grinders	38.86	42.36	46.17	50.33	54.86
Each additional 5 seats above 30	5.83	6.35	6.92	7.54	8.22
h. Restaurants (w/Grinders) less than 30 seats	62.48	68.10	74.23	80.91	88.19
Restaurants (w/Grinders) over 30 seats	87.45	95.32	103.90	113.25	123.44
i. Laundromats - per washing machine	17.89	19.50	21.26	23.17	25.26
Minimum Charge	53.72	58.55	63.82	69.56	75.82
j. Service Stations - no wash/rack	73.56	80.18	87.40	95.27	103.84
Service Stations - with wash/rack	105.53	115.03	125.38	136.66	148.96
k. Factories	41.65	45.40	49.49	53.94	58.79
Each additional employee above 20	2.09	2.28	2.49	2.71	2.95
l. Churches	23.05	25.12	27.38	29.84	32.53
Per ADA with elementary school	0.70	0.76	0.83	0.90	0.98
Per ADA with other school	1.01	1.10	1.20	1.31	1.43
m. Bottling Plants	50.00	54.50	59.41	64.76	70.59
n. Schools (Non-boarding)	13.84	15.09	16.45	17.93	19.54
Per ADA with elementary school	0.70	0.76	0.83	0.90	0.98
Per ADA with other school	1.01	1.10	1.20	1.31	1.43
o. Schools (Boarding)	13.89	15.14	16.50	17.99	19.61
Per ADA with elementary school	1.40	1.53	1.67	1.82	1.98
Per ADA with other school	1.96	2.14	2.33	2.54	2.77
p. Trailer/Mobile Home Space	16.69	18.19	19.83	21.61	23.55
q. RV Dump Stations - Less than 50 services	129.11	140.73	153.40	167.21	182.26
r. Brine (per gallon)	0.1226	0.1336	0.1456	0.1587	0.1730

Section 2. Ordinance No. 2016-01 is hereby rescinded.

Section 3. The Board of Directors may, in the future, set the wastewater rates by either ordinance or resolution.

Section 4. Severability. Should any provision, section, paragraph, sentence or word of this Ordinance be declared invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction or by reason of any preemptive legislation, the remaining provisions, sections, paragraphs, sentences or words of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect and, to that end, the provisions of this Ordinance are severable.

Section 5. Effective date. This Ordinance shall become effective 30 days from the date of final passage.

Section 6. Publication. Within 15 days of its final passage, this ordinance shall be published once, with the names of the Board members voting for and against the Ordinance, in a newspaper of general circulation published in the County of San Luis Obispo.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District held July 2, 2025 and **passed and adopted** at a regular meeting of the South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District held July 16, 2025 by the following roll-call vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:



Kassi Dee, Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ATTEST:



Secretary



District Counsel