



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **PLEASANTON PROPOSES NEW WATER RATES TO MEET WATER QUALITY AND SUPPLY NEEDS**

Pleasanton, CA – During the July 18, 2023 Pleasanton City Council meeting, the City will introduce a proposed increase to residential water rates to address a variety of water supply and quality concerns. If approved, a rate-setting process will begin that includes public notices and a public hearing on Sept. 19, 2023 for community members to understand the new rates and projects that will be funded with the revenue and provide feedback.

Pleasanton's water rates have not increased since 2011, with only adjustments for inflation. City staff is proposing an approximately 30 percent rate increase for all water customers beginning Nov. 1, 2023, followed by a 20 percent increase beginning Jan. 1, 2025, and a 12 percent increase beginning Jan. 1, 2026. The average single-family residential customer would see an increase of about \$33 every other month during the first year. Pleasanton's water rates have been the lowest in the region and will remain near the bottom of rates charged by area agencies following the proposed rate increase.

"Recognizing that water supply and quality are of primary importance to the community, the City is proposing bold action to ensure the continued delivery of safe, reliable drinking water by immediately funding critical water system improvements," said City Manager Gerry Beaudin. Specifically, revenues from increased rates will fund a project to increase capacity from Zone 7 Water Agency to reduce the reliance on Pleasanton's groundwater wells as a longer-term solution is developed.

In addition to near-term projects, the City is also addressing long-term water supply needs by developing a plan to treat or replace water from groundwater wells, ensuring there is enough water in the future and replenishing fiscal reserves to meet needs during a future drought or other emergency.

The City plans to use an array of funding sources for its water supply and quality projects. Through the work of Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan's office and Representative Eric Swalwell's office, state and federal funds have been committed to projects within the city that deliver a solution to PFAS. The City is also part of a global settlement with 3M, a

company that has been linked to the creation of products with PFAS. Rates will still play an important role as water users historically and legally pay for maintenance and improvements of the water system.

“As the City works to address both water supply and quality, it is important to note that the presence of PFAS is not isolated to Pleasanton, the Tri-Valley region, or California,” said Beaudin. “A recently released study by the US Geological Survey shows that 45 percent of the drinking water provided from private wells and public supplies across the country indicates evidence of PFAS contaminants,” he added.

More information about Pleasanton’s water rates, quality, supply, projects, and conservation is available at [www.PleasantonWater.com](http://www.PleasantonWater.com).

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