



Proposition 218 Notification

NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED INCREASE TO WASTEWATER RATES

Hearing Date: June 1, 2026
Time: At or after 6:30 PM
Location: City of Oakdale Council Chambers
277 N. 2nd Ave, Oakdale, CA 95361

Why Are You Receiving This Notice?

This notice is being furnished to you by the City of Oakdale (City) pursuant to the California Constitution Article XIID (also known as "Proposition 218"). Under Proposition 218, the City is required to notify property owners of proposed changes to property-related fees such as wastewater service. This letter serves as notice that the City will hold a public hearing on June 1, 2026, to consider changes to its current wastewater rates.

Why Is The Rate Change Required?

The City recently completed an analysis of the capital project requirements of the wastewater system. The utility requires extensive investment, primarily in the replacement and repair of aging pipes and other equipment, in order to maintain a safe and reliable system. These replacements will be funded primarily with wastewater rate revenues, financial reserves, and fees paid by new development connecting to the system.

What Do Wastewater Rates Fund?

The City provides wastewater service to over 8,400 customers (residential and commercial) within the city limits. The wastewater system is an enterprise fund and must be financially self-sufficient. Monthly rates paid by users of the systems are the primary source of revenue. All revenue generated from your wastewater bill is used to maintain and operate the wastewater system; it is not used for other general government purposes. These revenues must meet costs such as wastewater treatment, electricity, chemicals, maintenance, and salaries and benefits for utility staff. Additionally, revenue generated from these rates is used to pay to fund replacement identified in the City's capital improvement program to rebuild aging components and to pay off existing debt of the system.

Proposed Wastewater Rates

The proposed rates would maintain a fixed charge per month by all users of the system. Commercial and industrial also pay a variable charge with one industrial customer also paying for wastewater strength. The proposed rates are structured to meet the increasing costs of operations, maintenance, and infrastructure. The proposed rates would go into effect July 16, 2026. Subsequent year rate increases of approximately 8.6% for two (2) years and 3% for the remaining two (2)-year period will be implemented, as stated in the table on the following page.

Impact on Your Bill

For a typical single-family home, the wastewater portion of your bill would increase \$1.83 from \$61.27 per month currently to \$63.10 per month under the new rates for July 16, 2026. Other customer classification types will see different increases or decreases in their monthly bill for the July 16, 2026 wastewater rates.

Current and Proposed Wastewater Rates

Classification	Current Rate	July 16, 2026	July 16, 2027	July 16, 2028	July 16, 2029	July 16, 2030
Fixed Charge (\$ per month)						
Residential	\$61.27	\$63.10	\$68.53	\$74.43	\$76.67	\$78.97
Multifamily Residential	61.27	29.86	32.43	35.22	36.28	37.37
Commercial Std Strength (C1)	38.10	85.73	93.09	101.08	104.11	107.22
Commercial High Strength (C2)	38.10	85.73	93.09	101.08	104.11	107.22
Church (CH)	38.10	63.10	68.53	74.43	76.67	78.97
Industrial (I)	28.64	85.73	93.09	101.08	104.11	107.22
Oakdale Unified Schools [1]	38.10	31.30	34.00	36.92	38.03	39.18
Industrial (Sconza)	\$28.64	\$85.73	\$93.09	\$101.08	\$104.11	\$107.22
Variable Charge (\$ per Ccf)						
Commercial Std Strength (C1)	\$2.65	\$3.21	\$3.49	\$3.79	\$3.91	\$4.02
Commercial High Strength (C2)	\$4.23	\$7.47	\$8.12	\$8.82	\$9.10	\$9.37
Industrial (Sconza)	n/a	\$4.64	\$5.05	\$5.48	\$5.65	\$5.82
Sconza Strength Charges (\$ per lb)						
BOD (\$/lb)	n/a	\$0.7717	\$0.8393	\$0.9128	\$0.9416	\$0.9713
SS (\$/lb)	n/a	\$0.7337	\$0.7969	\$0.8655	\$0.8916	\$0.9185
Industrial (Sconza)						
	<u>From (mg/l)</u>	<u>To (mg/l)</u>				
	200	300	\$1.86			
	301	700	\$1.97			
	701	1,000	\$3.31			
	1,001	1,500	\$3.52			
	1,501	2,000	\$3.82			
	2,001	2,500	\$4.46			
	2,501	3,000	\$4.85			
	Over	3,000	\$6.44			

[1] For each 20 ADA.

HOW TO PROTEST THE PROPOSED RATES

The following persons may submit a written protest against the Proposed Wastewater Rate Increase to the City Clerk before the close of the Public Hearing.

- An owner(s) of property (parcel(s)) (“owner of record”) receiving wastewater service from the Oakdale Wastewater Systems. If the person(s) signing the protest, as an owner, is not shown on the last equalized assessment roll as the owner of the parcel(s) then the protest must contain, or be accompanied by, written evidence that such person signing the protest is the owner of the parcel(s) receiving wastewater service;
- Tenant(s) of property (parcel(s)) (“tenant”) receiving wastewater service from the Oakdale Wastewater System. Tenant protests must contain, or be accompanied by, written evidence that such person signing the protest is a tenant of the parcel(s) receiving wastewater service.

A valid written protest must include:

1. A statement that it is a protest against the proposed wastewater rate increase;

2. The name of the record owner or tenant;
3. The identity of the affected parcel by assessor's parcel number or service address;
4. An original signature (not photocopy, email, or fax copy) of the record owner or tenant of the identified parcel; AND
5. The date the written protest is signed.

One written protest per parcel shall be counted in calculating a majority protest. Written protests will not be accepted by email or by fax. Verbal protests will not be counted in determining the existence of a majority protest.

Written protests regarding the wastewater rate increase may be delivered to the City of Oakdale Finance Department Office located at 285 N. 3rd Ave, placed in the City's payment drop-box located in front of the Oakdale Finance Department Building at 285 N 3rd Ave, or mailed to:

City Clerk, City of Oakdale, 285 N. 3rd Ave, Oakdale, CA 95361

or in person at the public hearing on the date and time specified above, until the close of the public hearing. No postmarks will be accepted; therefore, any written protest not actually received by the close of the Public Hearing, whether or not mailed prior to the Public Hearing, will not be counted. Protests submitted by email will not be accepted.

A representative may sign the written protest on behalf of an owner of record or a tenant provided the representative attaches to the written protest, written documentation/authorization, with original signature, to act in such capacity. Any interested party or their representative may submit comments via email to CityClerk@oakdaleca.gov by 9:00 a.m. on the day of the hearing for inclusion in the record of the hearing. All comments received by email will be transmitted to the City Council or read at the hearing.

If valid written protests are presented by a majority of owners of record and/or tenants of parcels receiving wastewater service within the City of Oakdale Wastewater System, then the City will not adjust/increase the wastewater rates. Only one protest per parcel will be counted in determining whether or not a majority protest exists.

Exhaustion of Administrative Remedies - Written Objections

How do I preserve my ability to judicially challenge the proposed wastewater rates?

Pursuant to California Government Code Sections 53759.1 and 53759.2, a person or entity will be prohibited from bringing a judicial action or proceeding alleging that the proposed wastewater rates do not comply with Article XIII D of the California Constitution (Proposition 218) unless that person or entity has timely submitted a substantive Written Objection to the proposed wastewater rates. This is known as an Exhaustion of Administrative Remedies requirement and is separate from the Proposition 218 majority protest against the amounts of the rates through the process described above.

To exhaust your administrative remedies, your Written Objection must be submitted to the City not later than 5:00 pm on June 1, 2026 and include the specific grounds for alleging that the proposed rates do not comply with Article XIII D of the California Constitution. The City will respond to each timely Written Objection that raises a substantive issue.

Written Objections may be mailed to the City Clerk at 285 N. 3rd Ave, Oakdale, CA 95361, emailed to the City at CityClerk@oakdaleca.gov, or hand delivered to the Oakdale Finance Department Office at 285 N. 3rd Ave. However, delivered, Written Objections must be received by the City by 5:00 pm on June 1, 2026. Note that this deadline for submitting a Written Objection is earlier than the deadline for submitting a Written Protest to provide the City with time to respond. A failure to file a timely objection in writing bars any right to challenge the proposed rates through a legal proceeding. The City will respond in writing to all Written Objections received by the deadline and the City Council will consider timely objections and responses during the public hearing.

A Written Objection that also complies with the requirements for a Written Protest (see “How to Protest The Proposed Wastewater Rate Increases” above) will also be counted as a Written Protest in determining whether a majority protest exists against the proposed wastewater rate increases.

Statute of Limitations for Challenging The Proposed Wastewater Rates

If the City Council adopts the proposed wastewater rates, then pursuant to California Government Code Section 53759, there will be a 120-day statute of limitations for judicially challenging the wastewater rates that runs from the date the City adopts a resolution approving the wastewater and wastewater rates.

AVAILABILITY OF STUDIES, REPORTS, AND INFORMATION

Additional information and analysis on the proposed wastewater rates is available in the Water and Wastewater Rate Study, April 2026.. This report is available for review at the City’s Finance Department offices located at 285 N. 3rd Ave, Oakdale and on the City’s website at www.oakdalegov.com/agendas. Not later than May 29, 2026 the agenda, staff report, and proposed resolutions will also be available on the City’s website. In addition, customers may contact the City Finance Director at (209) 845-3571 during business hours for further information about the proposed rates.

Questions? Please call the City Finance Department at (209) 845-3571.

PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing for the Proposed Wastewater Rate Increases will be held on:

June 1, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Oakdale City Council Chambers

277 N. 2nd Ave, Oakdale

At the public hearing the City of Oakdale City Council will consider all public comment in support and in opposition of the Wastewater Rate Increase, any substantive objections submitted prior to the deadline, and whether or not a Majority Protest exists. If approved, the Wastewater Rate Increase would become effective July 16, 2026. A legal challenge, if any, will be limited to the issues raised at the public hearing.