

## PROPOSED WATER RATE CHANGES



Approximately 44% (135 miles) of the City's water main pipelines are made of cast iron. The proposed rates fund the proactive replacement of six miles of pipeline annually to reduce water main breaks.

The City is proposing water rate changes starting in July 2021 to ensure that the City continues to provide safe and reliable water service by funding the ongoing cost of operating and maintaining the City's water system, including investing in capital infrastructure, meeting water quality standards, servicing debt obligations, and maintaining reserve levels.

The average single family home uses 9 HCF per month and would see their water bill increase from \$111.48 to \$116.90, for fiscal year 2022, reflecting a difference of \$5.42 (or an increase of approximately 5%).

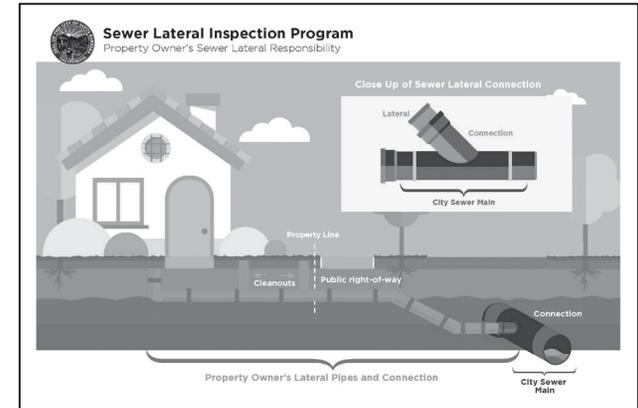
We recognize the tremendous difficulties the COVID-19 pandemic has brought on so many, which is why we have taken assertive measures to reduce bill impacts by deferring infrastructure projects and forgoing last year's planned rate increase. At the same time, our duty and responsibility to deliver safe, high-quality water is of utmost importance.

Under the proposed rate schedule, the Water Fund will be transitioning to a higher level of capital investment in aging infrastructure, particularly water distribution pipelines. Santa Barbara was not built out steadily over time, but rather experienced a dramatic growth rate in the 1950s and 1960s. The cast iron pipes that were installed during this period have proven to break five times more often than other materials, leading to costly emergency repairs and service interruptions. The proposed rate increases will fund City Council's goal to replace 2% of the water distribution system annually. This translates to six miles of annual pipeline replacement, which is double the previous goal.

By law, rates may not exceed the cost of providing service, and must be proportionally allocated to the benefit received by each customer class, such as residential, commercial and irrigation users. A comprehensive study has been conducted by an experienced rate consultant to evaluate the total costs needed to provide safe, reliable water service in accordance with industry standards.

To learn more about the proposed rate changes please visit [SantaBarbaraCA.gov/WaterRateChanges](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov/WaterRateChanges) or call (805) 564-5387.

## SEWER LATERAL INSPECTION PROGRAM (SLIP) LUNCH AND LEARNS



Learn to protect your property and the environment from costly sewage backups by properly maintaining your private sewer lateral.

In the City of Santa Barbara, property owners are responsible for maintaining their sewer lateral, or the private sewer pipe, that connects their house or building to the public sewer main. The responsibility for maintenance also includes the connection fitting or "wye" that attaches the lateral to the public sewer main which conveys the community's sewage.

Join SLIP staff to learn about proper lateral maintenance, what triggers a SLIP inspection, and what to do once you have been enrolled in the program.

- **Tuesday, May 25th 12:00-1:00 pm** – Introduction to the Sewer Lateral Inspection Program
- **Tuesday, June 15th 12:00-1:00 pm** – Enrolled in the SLIP, now what?

To register for the Lunch and Learns visit [SantaBarbaraCA.gov/SLIPEvents](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov/SLIPEvents)

Learn About the City's COVID-19 Efforts  
[SantaBarbaraCA.gov](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov)

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# I AM FULLY VACCINATED, NOW WHAT?

The CDC has released guidance for people who are fully vaccinated. This guidance is expected to be updated and expanded based on case rates, proportion of the population that is fully vaccinated, as the science on COVID-19 vaccines evolves and as information is analyzed and becomes available.

## When is a person considered fully vaccinated?

Full vaccination depends on the type of vaccine you have received.

If you received Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna, you are considered fully vaccinated 2 weeks after your second dose.

If you received Johnson and Johnson (J&J)/Janssen, you are considered fully vaccinated 2 weeks after your 1st and only dose.

## Now that you are fully vaccinated, what can you safely do according to the CDC?

- Fully vaccinated people can resume domestic travel and do not need to get tested before or after travel or self-quarantine after travel.
- Fully vaccinated people do not need to get tested before leaving the United States (unless required by the destination) or self-quarantine after arriving back in the United States.
- Fully vaccinated people can Visit with other fully vaccinated people indoors without wearing masks or physical distancing
- Fully vaccinated people can visit with unvaccinated people from a single household who are at low risk for severe COVID-19 disease indoors without wearing masks or physical distancing
- Refrain from quarantine and testing following a known exposure if asymptomatic

## We are still learning about this virus, and the effectiveness and duration of protection from the vaccines. So, for your safety and the safety of those around you who may not be vaccinated, what should fully vaccinated people continue to do?

- For now, fully vaccinated people should wear masks, maintain physical distance, and practice other prevention measures when visiting with unvaccinated people from multiple households
- Avoid medium- and large-sized in-person gatherings
- Get tested if experiencing COVID-19 symptoms
- Follow guidance issued by individual employers
- Follow CDC and health department travel requirements and recommendations

More information visit: [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)



*The CDC has released guidance for people who are fully vaccinated.*

# POLICE CHIEF RECRUITMENT SURVEY



*Santa Barbara residents, workers, and business owners are encouraged to participate in this process and have your voices heard.*

Following the retirement of the City of Santa Barbara's former Police Chief, the City has officially kicked off the recruitment process for a new Chief. As a part of an aggressive community engagement process, the City is seeking public feedback to learn more about the community's expectations and priorities as they relate to the next Chief. At the direction of City Administrator, Paul Casey, a community survey was developed in order to help guide the City's efforts as we consider operational strategies of the department and the selection of the next Police Chief.

The timeline for the selection of a new Police Chief could take six months to complete with the following milestones:

- Community input period
- Recruitment open and applications accepted
- Panel interviews which will include both professional experts and community stakeholders
- Finalist selection

The Police Chief Recruitment community survey is now open and will close at midnight on May 15, 2021. The responses provided will be consolidated and integrated throughout the recruitment process. Please click on the link to access the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/D9KVBPB>

Santa Barbara's new Chief of Police will not only oversee the Police Department but will also play an important role in our community. We encourage all Santa Barbara residents, workers, and business owners to participate in this process and have your voices heard.