





San Carlos water rate structure is most expensive in the Bay Area

Key Takeaways

- San Carlos residents pay double what everyone else pays for the 14th monthly CCF
- San Carlos has the highest maximum rate which is over 30% higher than the next closest, and those rates don't start until a massive amount of water usage.

Old vs New prices for water usage (excludes service charges, taxes, and fees)

CCF / month	Old cost		New	cost	Percent Increase
6	\$	43	\$	21	-52
12	\$	105	\$	113	8
16	\$	159	\$	208	30
20	\$	213	\$	311	46
24	\$	268	\$	414	54

Key Takeaways

- Cal Water's new prices have a massive increase for those with higher water needs (such as larger families)
- Lowest water users (such as single people or small families) got a massive discount

* Data accuracy in this packet is not guaranteed, however I have tried to make it as accurate as possible.

Misleading notice of rate change published in SF Examiner Friday, July 16, 2021

How could this affect my water bill?

If Cal Water's proposal is approved by the CPUC, beginning in 2023, the average residential bill in the Bay Area Region (with a 5/8"x3/4" meter and using 5,236 gallons, or 7 Ccf, per month) would decrease by approximately \$4.55, or 7.3%, per month. These numbers do not include temporary surcharges and credits.

	Average Residential Customer Bill Change					
Makes it seem like customer bills will go down	Residential Customer	Gurrent Bill	Proposed 2023	Proposed 2024 Bill Change	Proposed 2025 Bill Change	
	7 Ccf (5,236 gallons)	\$62.38	-\$4.55 -7.3%	\$2.17 3.8%	\$2.13 3.5%	
	2023, \$4,319,626 in 202 of needed infrastructure safety measures, busine	improvements ss operations,	, water system m	aintenance, water with inflation.		
Actual massive increase in residential customer monthly bills						
residential customer monthly	Type of Service Provided	Current Revenue Require- ment	Proposed 2023 Revenue Increase	Proposed 2024 Revenue Increase	Proposed 2025 Revenue Increase	
residential customer monthly		Revenue Require- ment	Revenue	Revenue Increase	Revenue	

*Nonresidential Metered Service applies to all customer classes that are not residential (such as business, multi-family, and public authority customers) and do not have a separate tariff. **The sum of residential and nonresidential revenues will not equal total revenue due to other revenue sources such as construction meter charges, fire protection services, and recycled water.

Key Takeaways on Prior Rate Change Notice

- Misleads residents and makes it seems that bills will go down
- Massive increase was targeted at residences (22% increase) but not businesses (only 8% increase)
- No mention of new tier structure
- This format implies that subsequent increases are only going up by 4%. But it's actually a 26% cumulative increase in year 2, and a 31%(!) increase by year 3.
- The notes say that Nonresidential metered service applies to multi-family customers but that is not accurate. It does not apply to residences with ADUs, so they are stuck with the same tiering system as single family homes.

Recent notice of further unreasonable price increases

How could this affect my water bill?

If Cal Water's proposal is approved by the CPUC as filed, beginning in 2026, the average residential bill in the Bay Area Region's Bayshore area (with a 5/8''x3/4'' meter and using 4,488 gallons, or 6 Ccf*, per month) would increase by approximately \$0.42, or 0.8%, per month. These numbers do not include temporary surcharges and credits. Over the course of the review process, which could take 18 months or more, some projects may be deferred or costs adjusted. Final rates approved may be lower than what was proposed. *1 Ccf = 748 gallons

Average Residential Customer Bill Increase								
Customer Type	Monthly	Current	Proposed 2026		Proposed 2027		Proposed 2028	
	Usage	Bill	Bill C	hange	Bill Ch	ange	Bill Ch	ange
Residential	6 Ccf	\$49.80	\$0.42	0.8%	\$3.71	7.4%	\$3.95	7.3%
	(4,488 gallons)							
Residential enrolled in	6 Ccf	\$35.25	-\$0.66	-1.9%	\$2.52	7.3%	\$2.68	7.2%
Customer Assistance	(4,488 gallons)							
Program								

These adjustments to rates would allow for area revenue increases of \$16,653,942 in 2026, \$9,699,794 in 2027, and \$ 10,342,781 in 2028, which will offset the additional cost of needed infrastructure improvements, water system maintenance, water quality initiatives, safety measures, business operations, and to adjust for inflation.

Proposed Revenue Request by Customer Type**

Type of Service Provided	Current Revenue	Proposed 2026	Proposed 2027	Proposed 2028	
Type of Service Trovided	Requirement	Revenue Increase	Revenue Increase	Revenue Increase	
Residential Metered Service	\$ 56,129,903	\$ 8,654,925 15.4%	\$ 4,767,845 7.4%	\$ 5,061,885 7.3%	
Nonresidential Metered Service*	\$ 51,281,089	\$ 7,906,989 15.4%	\$ 4,872,040 8.2%	\$ 5,215,436 8.1%	

*Nonresidential Metered Service applies to all customer classes that are not residential (such as business, multi-family, and public authority customers) and do not have a separate tariff. **The sum of residential and nonresidential revenues will not equal total revenue due to other revenue sources such as construction meter charges, fire protection services, and recycled water.

Key Takeaways on New Rate Change Notice

- Misleading as usage shown for an 'average' customer and makes it appear that rates aren't increasing
- No discussion of the tiers
- Doesn't show additional 18M in revenue PER YEAR after the third year. Makes it appear that these are one-time increases
- 33% increase over 3 years in not shown anywhere
- Need to go to the Cal Water website to see the proposed outrageous rates:

RATES	1 CCF is 100 cubic feet (approximately 748 gallons)			
Quantity Rates:				
For 1 - 6 CCF, per CCF	\$3.	1610	(R)	
For 7 to 9 CCF, per CCF	\$12.	6439	(R)	
For 10 to 19 CCF, per CCF	\$25.	2879	(1)	
For over 19 CCF, per CCF	\$50.	5758	(1)	