

Ordinance No. 25-06

**Ordinance Of The Board Of Directors
Of Rainbow Municipal Water District
Amending Ordinance No. 23-04 And The Administrative Code To Update The Fee For
Service Schedule And Rescinding Ordinance No. 22-11**

WHEREAS, the Rainbow Municipal Water District ("RMWD" or the "District") Board of Directors is committed to providing reliable, high-quality water and wastewater services at the most efficient costs for our ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, RMWD provides water and sewer/wastewater services throughout its service area, and Water Code sections 71000 et seq. authorize the District to impose fees and charges to pay for the costs of the water and sewer/wastewater services and related benefits provided by the District; and

WHEREAS, on June 27, 2023, the District Board of Directors adopted a five-year rate schedule in compliance with all the applicable requirements of Proposition 218 and Government Code sections 53750 et seq., as reflected in District Ordinance No. 23-04 Revising Appendix A of the Rules and Regulations Regarding Water and Wastewater Service Charges (as subsequently amended, "Ordinance No. 23-04"); and

WHEREAS, Exhibit 1 to Ordinance No. 23-04 sets forth the District's five-year rate schedule for fiscal years 2024 through 2028, which repealed and replaced in its entirety former Appendix A to the District's Administrative Code; and

WHEREAS, the District's miscellaneous charges are set forth in Exhibit 1 to Ordinance No. 23-04, and amended by Ordinance No. 24-14, are incorporated as Appendix A to the District's Administrative Code; and

WHEREAS, certain of the District's miscellaneous charges for residential and developer projects require revision in order to cover reasonable costs to the District in a manner that is fair to payors and should be equivalent to the District's monthly fixed charges and water commodity rates for other commercial customers; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Proposition 26, the District may impose a variety of fees on individuals and entities in order to pay for the costs of the services provided, and the Fee For Service Schedule revisions are not property-related for purposes of Proposition 218 and Government Code sections 53750 et seq.; thus, such fees and charges may be updated by ordinance without triggering a Proposition 218 notice and hearing process.

WHEREAS, adopted Water and Wastewater Capacity Charges have been omitted from Exhibit 1 of Ordinance No. 23-04 and are defined in Exhibit A of Resolution No. 2024-08.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED by the Board of Directors of Rainbow Municipal Water District that:

1. The Board finds and determines that the foregoing Recitals are true and correct, and hereby incorporates the Recitals herein.

2. This Ordinance amends only those portions of Ordinance No. 23-04 that are specified below. In all other respects, Ordinance No. 23-04, as subsequently amended by this Ordinance and Ordinance No. 24-14, shall remain in full force and effect.

3. This Ordinance amends Exhibit 1 to Ordinance No. 23-04 sections entitled:

Water Variable Rates

B. Other Fixed Account Charges

Miscellaneous Charges

A. Construction Meters

B. Other Charges

Water and Wastewater Capacity Charges

4. This Ordinance incorporates the fees and deposits previously established by Ordinance No. 22-11 for Engineering Fees and Deposits which are relevant and utilized and cover the District's reasonable costs to provide the services.

5. If any section, subsection, clause, phrases, or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance or any part thereof. The District Board of Directors hereby declares that it would have adopted each section irrespective of the fact that any one or more subsections, subdivisions, sentences, clauses, or phrases be declared unconstitutional, invalid, or ineffective.

6. Ordinance No. 22-11 is hereby rescinded.

7. This Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon adoption and shall remain in effect until such time as modified, repealed, or superseded by further Ordinance of the Board.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a Regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Rainbow Municipal Water District held on the 22nd day of July 2025, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Directors Hamilton, Mack, Irvine, Hoffman
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: Townsend-Smith


Hayden Hamilton, Board President

ATTEST:

Terese Quintanar, District Secretary

RAINBOW MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

Appendix A

Water and Sewer Rates and Charges

Adopted by Ordinance No. 23-04 July 1, 2023
 Amended by Ordinance No. 24-14 November 19, 2024
 Amended by Ordinance No. 25-06 July 22, 2025

WATER VARIABLE RATES

A. BASIC WATER VARIABLE RATE

Basic rate for all water delivered through the water meter
 1 Unit = 748 Gallons = 100 cubic feet (cf)
 Single Family Residential (SFR), Multifamily Residential (MFR), Commercial (COM),
 Institutional (INST)

Customer Class	FY 2025 (\$/Unit)	FY 2026 (\$/Unit)	FY 2027 (\$/Unit)	FY 2028 (\$/Unit)
SFR, MFR, COM, INST	\$6.03	\$6.58	\$7.18	\$7.83
Agriculture	\$4.94	\$5.39	\$5.88	\$6.41

B. WATER PUMPING ZONE CHARGES

Pumping Zone	FY 2024 (\$/HGF)	FY 2025 (\$/HGF)	FY 2026 (\$/HGF)	FY 2027 (\$/HGF)	FY 2028 (\$/HGF)
Pump Zone 1 Rainbow Heights	\$2.60	\$2.84	\$3.10	\$3.38	\$3.69
Pump Zone 2 Imp District U-1	\$1.39	\$1.52	\$1.66	\$1.81	\$1.98
Pump Zone 3 Vallecitos	\$0.26	\$0.29	\$0.32	\$0.35	\$0.39
Pump Zone 4 Northside	\$0.13	\$0.15	\$0.17	\$0.19	\$0.21
Pump Zone 5 Morro Tank	\$0.35	\$0.39	\$0.43	\$0.47	\$0.52
Pump Zone 6 Huntley	\$1.40	\$1.53	\$1.67	\$1.83	\$2.00
Pump Zone 7 Magee Tank	\$0.71	\$0.78	\$0.86	\$0.94	\$1.03
Monthly Fixed Charge for all Pumping Zones	\$8.39	\$9.15	\$9.98	\$10.88	\$11.86

Future year rate increase for RMWD, effective July 1, 2024, 2025, 2026, & 2027, will be a maximum revenue adjustment of 9% per year in addition to any pass-through increases.

WATER FIXED ACCOUNT CHARGES

A. METER SERVICES CHARGES

Single Family Residential (SFR), Multifamily Residential (MFR), Commercial (COM), Institutional (INST)

Monthly Fixed Charges

SFR, MFR, COM, INST

<u>Capacity Class</u>	<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>FY 2024</u> <u>(\$/Month)</u>	<u>FY 2025</u> <u>(\$/Month)</u>	<u>FY 2026</u> <u>(\$/Month)</u>	<u>FY 2027</u> <u>(\$/Month)</u>	<u>FY 2028</u> <u>(\$/Month)</u>
A	5/8"	\$89.59	\$97.66	\$106.45	\$116.04	\$126.49
B	3/4"	\$89.59	\$97.66	\$106.45	\$116.04	\$126.49
C	1"	\$145.42	\$158.52	\$172.79	\$188.35	\$205.31
D	1 1/2"	\$285.01	\$310.66	\$338.62	\$369.10	\$402.32
E	2"	\$452.51	\$493.24	\$537.64	\$586.03	\$638.78
F	3"	\$982.92	\$1,071.39	\$1,167.82	\$1,272.93	\$1,387.50
G	4"	\$1,764.59	\$1,923.41	\$2,096.52	\$2,285.21	\$2,490.88
H	6"	\$3,635.01	\$3,962.16	\$4,318.76	\$4,707.45	\$5,131.13

Agriculture w/ Residence, Agriculture

<u>Capacity Class</u>	<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>FY 2024</u> <u>(\$/Month)</u>	<u>FY 2025</u> <u>(\$/Month)</u>	<u>FY 2026</u> <u>(\$/Month)</u>	<u>FY 2027</u> <u>(\$/Month)</u>	<u>FY 2028</u> <u>(\$/Month)</u>
A	5/8"	\$142.17	\$154.97	\$168.92	\$184.13	\$200.71
B	3/4"	\$142.17	\$154.97	\$168.92	\$184.13	\$200.71
C	1"	\$233.06	\$254.04	\$276.91	\$301.84	\$329.01
D	1 1/2"	\$460.27	\$501.70	\$546.86	\$596.08	\$649.73
E	2"	\$732.93	\$798.90	\$870.81	\$949.19	\$1,034.62
F	3"	\$1,596.36	\$1,740.03	\$1,896.64	\$2,067.34	\$2,253.41
G	4"	\$2,868.77	\$3,126.96	\$3,408.39	\$3,715.15	\$4,049.52
H	6"	\$5,913.47	\$6,445.69	\$7,025.81	\$7,658.14	\$8,347.38

Future year rate increase for RMWD effective July 1, 2024, 2025, 2026, & 2027 will be a maximum revenue adjustment of 9% per year in addition to any pass through increases.

B. OTHER FIXED ACCOUNT CHARGES

(Additional charges added to the basic meter service charge to reflect other special service conditions.)

Backflow Test Fee

Backflow preventers are required by State Law for properties that meet certain criteria, such as having agricultural uses, onsite wells, other water supplies, or pumping systems downstream of the meter. Its sole intent is to prevent drinking water from being contaminated due to backflow.

State Law requires all backflow devices must be tested annually to ensure they are functioning properly. The district provides this service to our customers in a cost-effective manner.

Backflow device testing fees are assessed as a monthly charge to recover the cost of annual testing services. From time to time, the District updates its fees and charges by ordinance or resolution consistent with applicable law. A rate sheet summarizing fees/charges currently in effect is available on the District's website, at www.rainbowmwd.com

The following meter categories are subject to annual review and adjustment to ensure alignment with the District's cost recovery objectives:

Meter Size

5/8 -2"	\$5.08
3"- 6"	\$8.14

Service Conditions

Monthly Charge

Bypass Meter (for detector check systems) or Fire Service Only Meters	\$10.00
Fire Standby Charge (Vista Valley Area) (Applicable to properties under the jurisdiction of the Vista Fire Department. See Resolution No. 85-24)	\$5.00
Fire Standby Charge (All Other Areas)	\$5.00

MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES

A. CONSTRUCTION METERS

Project Administration Deposit	\$3,500
Meter Service Fee (3" O & M)	<i>Monthly Fixed Charge – Current Commercial Customer rates apply (typically 3" meter)</i>
Water Commodity Charge	<i>Monthly Variable Charge – Current Commercial Customer rates apply</i>

B. DEVELOPMENT SERVICE CHARGES

Costs associated with construction water service charges are assessed by the District and adjusted annually. These fees shall be reviewed on an annual basis and may be adjusted to reflect the District's actual cost of providing services. The fees and deposits listed in the District's rate sheet at www.rainbowmwd.com represent common services but are not all-inclusive:

Plan Review Deposit	
Type	Cost Per Sheet
Single commercial lot	\$1,200
Residential lots (parcels<5)	\$1,200
Subdivision	\$1,600
Commercial development center	\$1,600
Apartment complex	\$1,600
County project	\$1,600
Right-of-way	\$500
As-builts	\$850
Cost estimates	\$850
Easements	
Legal description	\$1,200
Plat map	\$1,200
Grant of deed	\$1,200

Material Fees ¹		
Meter Size		
5/8"	\$	241
3/4"	\$	270
1"	\$	322
1 1/2"	\$	701
2"	\$	753
3"	\$	1,928
4"	\$	2,987

¹ All fees are nonrefundable and represent costs for services rendered and/or materials provided.

Project Administration Deposit		
Water		
1-5 Meters ²	\$ 3,500	per meter
Meter relocation	\$ 2,000	per relocation
Fire hydrant/appurtenances	\$ 3,500	per fixture
Sewer		
1-5 EDUs ³	\$ 3,500	

² Projects involving the installation of more than five (5) meters shall be designated as *Development Projects*. A deposit shall be required for such projects, the amount of which shall be determined by the District at its sole discretion, based upon the anticipated scope, complexity, and resource demands of the project.

³ Projects involving more than five (5) Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDUs) shall require execution of a *Sewer Service Agreement* with the District. A deposit shall be required, the amount of which shall be determined by the District at its sole discretion, based upon the scope, complexity, and anticipated impact of the proposed development.

All fees are nonrefundable and represent costs for services rendered and/or materials provided. Right-of-way deposits include: encroachment permits, joint use permits, easement grants, and quitclaim documents.

Projects involving the installation of more than five (5) meters shall be designated as Development Projects. A deposit shall be required for such projects, the amount of which shall be determined by the District at its sole discretion, based upon the anticipated scope, complexity, and resource demands of the project.

C. OTHER CHARGES

These charges apply to specific services provided by the District that fall outside of standard water and wastewater rates. They are designed to recover the actual cost of services such as administrative processing, inspections, or field support. The fees listed represent common services but are not all-inclusive. The District may revise, remove, or add charges as necessary to reflect current operational needs and cost recovery requirements. From time to time, the District updates its fees and charges by ordinance or resolution consistent with applicable law. A rate sheet summarizing fees/charges currently in effect is available on the District's website, at www.rainbowmwd.com.

Service Fees and Charges		
Delinquency rate	5%, 1.5%*	
Returned check	\$	30
Locked meter turn-on	\$	81
After hours turn-on	\$	242
New account set-up	\$	22
Cut padlock	\$	108
Release of lien	\$	73
Lien processing	\$	73
Fire standby (monthly)	\$	5
Bypass meter (monthly)	\$	10
Fire Service Only Meter	\$	10
Tax roll unpaid water/sewer	\$	98
Backflow inspections (Non-compliance)	\$	130
Backflow testing (monthly) - 5/8" - 2"	\$	5.08
Backflow testing (monthly) 3"-6"	\$	8.60
Water theft	\$	180 + Actual cost in units
Unauthorized use/damage to District property	\$	341 + Actual cost in damage
Fire flow test	\$	428
Meter obstruction	\$	320
Meter Testing Charge		
1" or smaller	\$	150
1.5" to 2"	\$	213
3" to 6"	\$	439
Service Availability Letters		
Minor Subdivision	\$	150
Major Subdivision	\$	250

*5 for first delinquency, 1.5% each month thereafter

All fees are nonrefundable and represent costs for services rendered and materials provided.

WASTEWATER CHARGES

A. MONTHLY SERVICE CHARGE PER EQUIVALENT DWELLING UNIT (EDU)

Customer Class	FY 2024 (\$/EDU)	FY 2025 (\$/EDU)	FY 2026 (\$/EDU)	FY 2027 (\$/EDU)	FY 2028 (\$/EDU)
All Customer Classes	\$66.57	\$75.23	\$85.01	\$96.07	\$108.56

Future year rate increase for RMWD effective July 1, 2024, 2025, 2026, & 2027 will be a maximum revenue adjustment of 13% per year in addition to any pass through increases.

PROSPECTIVE ANNUAL RATE INCREASES VIA PASS THROUGH CHARGES

To avoid operational deficits, depletion of reserves, an inability to address infrastructure and water quality improvements, and to continue to provide a safe, reliable water supply, the District will pass through to its customers: (1) any increases in the rates imposed on the District by SDCWA, EMWD, or any other wholesale water provider; (2) any future charges and any increases to any other existing charges, including imported water charges, that are imposed on the District by SDCWA, EMWD, or any other wholesale water provider; (3) any incremental increases in the cost of energy; and (4) increases in the cost of wastewater treatment by the City of Oceanside. The foregoing are collectively referred to in this ordinance as "Pass Through Increases." The District may annually implement the Pass Through Increases commencing January 1, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, & 2028.

The District may implement the Pass-Through Increases annually commencing January 1, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, and 2028.

Certain fees and charges established by Ordinance No. 23-04 are not for water or sewer/wastewater service (such as water and wastewater capacity/connection charges, backflow test fees, and miscellaneous charges may be updated without triggering a Proposition 218 notice and hearing process. Water and Wastewater Capacity Charges established by Resolution No. 2024-08 are located within the Rate Sheet located on the District's website, at: <https://www.rainbowmwd.ca.gov/water-rates>

Permanent Special Agricultural Water Rates (PSAWR) were repealed pursuant to Ordinance No. 24-13.