



## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED SEWER SERVICE FEE INCREASE FOR THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE**

At 6:00 PM on November 23, 2010 at Hawthorne City Hall, 4455 W.126<sup>th</sup> St. Hawthorne, CA, the City Council of the City of Hawthorne will hold a public hearing regarding proposed increases to the City's Sewer Service Fee.

The Sewer Service Fee was established in 1995 to fund the operation, maintenance and ongoing improvement of the City's sewer system. The Fee is billed monthly with the water bill for each property. The fee for each property is based on the amount of water consumed by the property and the type of each property. The current rate for all customer types is \$.38/ 100 cu. ft. of water. For a typical single family house using 1500 cu. ft. (11,220 gallons) of water per month, the current monthly charge is thus \$3.70.

The sewer system is almost 70 years old and is in need of systematic replacement. There is a need to budget for significant capital improvements to remedy overflows and to replace aging sewer mains and laterals. Unfortunately, at its current rate, the Sewer Fee cannot cover these costs. The fee at its current rate generates \$1,150,000 per year while annual sewer system costs have increased substantially.

At the hearing, the City Council will consider a recommendation to increase the sewer service rate to **\$0.57/100 cu. ft.** of water billed multiplied by a factor as shown below. It is recommended that the multiplication factors remain unchanged.

Single family house and duplex	65%
Multi-family housing	85%
Commercial- industrial and all others	95%

The different rates for different customer types reflect the fact that single family homes use a larger percentage of water for landscaping purposes, and such irrigation water does not enter the sewer system. If the increase is approved as proposed, it will result in a typical bill for a single family residence of approximately \$5.56 per month.

If approved, the new rates will pay for sewer maintenance, required capital improvements and other related costs and will first appear on your December 2010 water bill.

You are invited to provide oral or written testimony at the public hearing regarding the proposed fee increase. You may also submit a written protest against the proposed increase to the City Clerk at the public hearing, or by mail or hand-delivery to the City Clerk at 4455 W.126<sup>th</sup> St. Hawthorne, CA 90250 prior to the public hearing. Protests must be signed, and indicate the property for which the signer is the owner or customer. If the City receives protests with respect to a majority of affected parcels, the City Council may not proceed with the increase.

A written report has been prepared and filed with the City Clerk detailing the proposed changes to the Sewer Service Fee and the basis upon which the proposed fee was calculated. This report is available for public inspection during regular office hours. Please contact the City Clerk at 4455 W.126th Street., Hawthorne, California 90250, telephone number (310) 349-2915 to view the report. You can also contact Engineering Division at (310) 349-2980 for general questions concerning the fee increase.