



News Release

South Tahoe Public Utility District
1275 Meadow Crest Drive,
South Lake Tahoe CA 96150

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Water and Sewer Infrastructure Needs

South Lake Tahoe (January 30, 2019) – Most of South Lake Tahoe’s water and sewer system was built in the 1950s and 1960s. Much of this infrastructure needs to be upgraded, repaired or replaced. Additional investments are needed to extend its life cycle. On Thursday, February 7, 2019, at 6 p.m. South Tahoe Public Utility District will host a public meeting to discuss costs associated with future capital improvements and possible increases to water and sewer rates.

More than 10% of South Lake Tahoe lacks access to a fire hydrant that will provide adequate water to fight a fire. Replacing undersized, aging and sometimes leaking water pipes increases water to meet firefighting needs. A rate increase of up to 7% per year for up to five years is being considered to ensure reliable delivery of high quality drinking water and provide adequate fire flow for our community. For the first year, the increase for a typical residential water bill would be up to \$11.57 per quarter or \$3.86 per month.

To ensure there are no illegal and unacceptable sewer spills from the wastewater system, major upgrades are needed at the five largest sewer pump stations to extend their useful life. Additional investments are needed to repair and replace cracked sewer pipes and older parts of the treatment plant to keep the wastewater process running smoothly. A rate increase of up to 5% per year for up to five years is being considered for sewer. For the first year, the increase for a typical residential sewer bill would be up to \$6.32 per quarter or \$2.11 per month.

The District’s water and sewer rates are currently the lowest in the region and are expected to stay near the lowest even after the increases.

To find out more about the additional investments needed to extend the life of the water, wastewater, and recycled water system, attend the public meeting on Thursday, February 7, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. in South Tahoe Public Utility District’s Board Room located at 1275 Meadow Crest Drive, South Lake Tahoe.

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