

CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Tuesday, November 19, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.** or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, a public hearing will be conducted in the City Council Chambers at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660. The City Council of the City of Newport Beach will consider the following:

WATER RATES – The Utilities Department operates and maintains approximately 302 miles of potable water pipeline, 202 million gallons of water storage capacity, 26,500 service connections, 17 booster pumps, 42 pressure reducing stations, 2,723 fire hydrants, and 8,172 distribution valves. Operations, maintenance and repair activities include, but are not limited to the purchase of both groundwater and imported water supplies, implementation of the 2019 Water Master Plan and water pipeline infrastructure projects, water main and valve repair and replacement, hydrant testing and system flushing, water quality testing and state reporting, water meter installation, leak detection, and customer service. Funding for operations, maintenance and replacement activities associated with the City's water system are collected from water customers through their municipal services bill.

The Utilities Department retained the consulting services of Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc., ("Raftelis") to prepare a water rate study and develop a financial plan that sufficiently funds the operation, maintenance and repair activities referenced above. Raftelis analyzed the cost of water services and completed the water study in August 2019. In addition, the study made recommendations regarding the rate and structure in compliance with State law. The study recommends a water rate increase to ensure adequate funds are available to continue to maintain a safe and healthy water system.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN All property owners and customers subject to the City's water rates were provided with 45-day notice of public hearing in accordance Proposition 218. That notice is available upon request to the City Clerk's Office. Under Proposition 218's requirements, the rates will not be adjusted if a majority of the property owners and customers subject to the water rates submit a valid written protest to the City Clerk before the close of the public comment portion of the public hearing on November 19, 2019. Although both property owners and customers may submit written protests, only one protest will be counted for each parcel. If the total number of written protests is less than half of the number of properties served by the City, then the Clerk may advise the City Council of the absence of a majority protest.

CEQA DETERMINATION This item is exempt under Section 15060(c)(2) of the California Environmental Quality Act as set forth in the California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3 because a water rate adjustment, in and of itself, will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.

All interested parties may appear and present testimony in regard to this item. If you challenge this project in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you raised at the public hearing or in written correspondence delivered to the City, at, or prior to, the public hearing. The item may be continued to a specific future meeting date, and if such an action occurs, additional public notice of the continuance will not be provided. Prior to the public hearing, the agenda, staff report, water rate study and documents may be reviewed at the City Clerk's Office, at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, California, 92660 or at the City of Newport Beach website at www.newportbeachca.gov. Individuals not able to attend the meeting may contact the Utilities Department or access the City's website after the meeting to review the action on this item.

For questions regarding this public hearing item please contact Josh Rosenbaum, Utilities Department Senior Management Analyst, at 949-644-3057 or rosenbaum@newportbeachca.gov or UtilitiesHelp@newportbeachca.gov.



/s/ Leilani I. Brown, City Clerk
City of Newport Beach