

*Cloverdale Sanitary District
34540 Highway 101 South
P.O. Box 157
Cloverdale, OR 97112
Ph: 503-392-3117
cloverdalesd@outlook.com*

January 25, 2024

To Our Valued Customers of Cloverdale Sanitary District:

We, The Board of Directors are sending out this letter to inform you of some substantial budgetary changes that need to be made in the following months in order to preserve the operations and fiscal wellbeing of the District. We have again, looked long and hard at the current budget, completed forecast projections for maintenance, repairs, equipment replacement and now an entire plant replacement at the District. Along with all of that, our current Plant Operator retired at the end of December. We have hired a new operator and a part-time assistant operator. Along with the hiring of new employees we have had to budget for a new benefits package in hopes of bolstering employee retention. This increase alone is roughly 25%, competing wage and benefit packages along with a depleting workforce puts the District behind many other employers with the lack of current funding and a decreasing budget yearly.

Our infrastructure is the original equipment put on-line 48 years ago and is severely aging. In the near future, it will require major upgrades and/or replacement of large equipment in order to keep up with the increased consumer usage and requirements mandated by DEQ and OHA. We are in the process of obtaining grants for a new Facilities Master Plan. This plan will outline new infrastructure and the costs of an entire plant replacement. Along with infrastructure we have yearly permits, insurance and monthly utilities that are unnegotiated costs to the District. In the first six months of our current fiscal year a majority of our expenses have doubled in cost. The District cannot absorb the increased cost of doing business any longer and maintain fiscal stability.

With the yearly increases to normal operating expenses, the need to offer a competitive wage and benefit package, the need for employee retention and necessary replacement of the Sewer Treatment Plant, the Board has come to the conclusion that we can no longer absorb the additional expenses and still maintain a healthy and balanced budget. Upon much consideration we find it is necessary for the District to increase sewer rates significantly. At this time, we are proposing to enact a one-time rate increase to cover additional expenses incurred by the District. Our residential sewer customers will see an increase of approximately 28% which equates to a \$16.50 increase per month. The new residential sewer rate will be \$75.00 plus the current CIF of \$5.00 for a total monthly bill of \$80.00. Our business customers will see a 28% increase, this ranges from \$17.50 to \$28.80 respectively. The new monthly rate will depend on what type of business classification you fall under.

We understand this increase is significant and may cause a hardship on some of our customers. We are asking for public questions, comments, concerns and ideas on this proposal. Our next Board meeting will be held on February 14, 2024 at 7:00pm in the Cloverdale Sanitary District

*Cloverdale Sanitary District
34540 Highway 101 South
P.O. Box 157
Cloverdale, OR 97112
Ph: 503-392-3117
cloverdalesd@outlook.com*

office at 34540 Highway 101 S. Cloverdale, OR 97112, behind the Cloverdale Storage Units. If you would like to attend the meeting and address the Board regarding this proposal, please send us an email or give us a call so we can count you on the attendance roster.

The first public hearing and reading for this proposal will be held on March 13, 2024, the second reading will be held on April 10, 2024 at 7:00 pm in the Cloverdale Sanitary District Office and the third and final reading will be held on May 08, 2024 at 7:00 pm in the Cloverdale Sanitary District office. The public is welcome and urged to attend any of these meetings.

The new rate increase will take effect on your June 2024 billing. If you have any questions, please call the Cloverdale Sanitary District at 503-392-3117 or you can e-mail us at cloverdalesd@outlook.com. If you would like to attend the meetings virtually, please contact the Administrator via email to receive a Zoom link for the meeting or meetings of your choice.

Thank you,
The Board of Directors
Cloverdale Sanitary District