

Special Districts Department Water and Sanitation Division

Rate Study

CSA 70 CG (Cedar Glen) - Water

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- Background
- Finances
- Rates & Rate Impacts
- Proposition 218
- Next Steps



Why Are We Reviewing Rates?

- State Water Conservation Mandate
- San Juan Capistrano Rate Tier Ruling
- Regulatory Changes
- Capital Improvements/Aging Infrastructure
- Financial Stability of the District

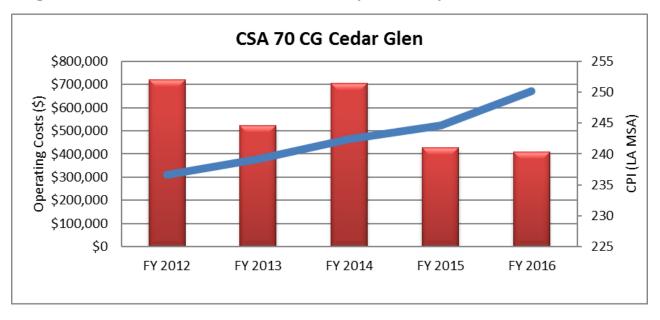


Background

- CSA 70 CG serves the area of Cedar Glen by providing water services
 - 70 CG has approximately 317 water connections, which equates to a population of roughly 1,173
- In December 2015, the Department received approval from the County Administrative Office to conduct a rate study for all of the water and sanitation districts.
 - Black and Veatch was the consultant awarded the contract and has been working with staff over the last year to determine the revenue requirements in order to keep each water and sanitation district fiscally solvent.

Financial Background

- The last implemented rate adjustment occurred in 2013-14.
- Operating costs have risen over the past 5 years.

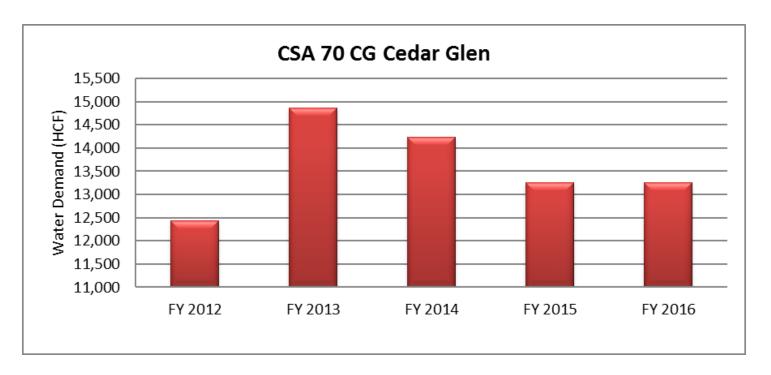


 Minor capital improvements have occurred, but there are anticipated high-cost, high-priority projects that need to be addressed.



Financial Background

- Reduced water consumption has reduced revenues.
 - A overall reduction of 11 percent in water demand since FY 2013
 - State mandate in FY 2016 to reduce demand by 25 percent statewide





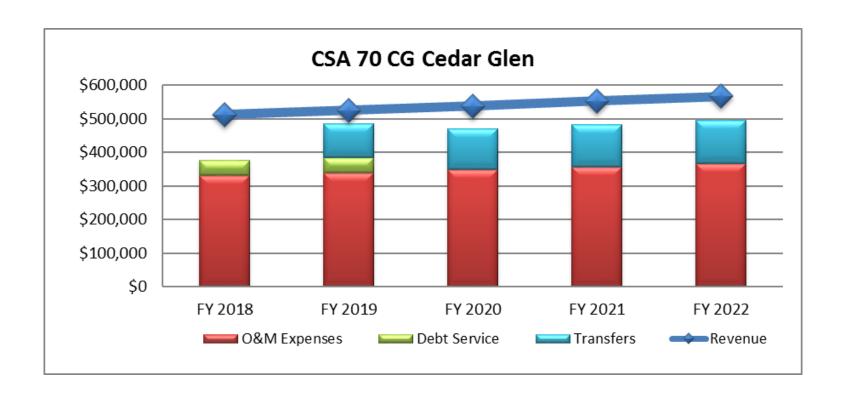
Financial Projections

- Developed financial projections to determine annual revenue requirements and any necessary rate adjustments.
 - Based on customer billing information
 - Analyzed FY 2012 to FY 2016 historical data and FY 2017 budget
 - Incorporated continued state water conservation mandates
 - Current debt service
 - \$115k per year for annual maintenance, repairs, rehab
 - Operating cost inflation projected at 2-4%



Financial Projections

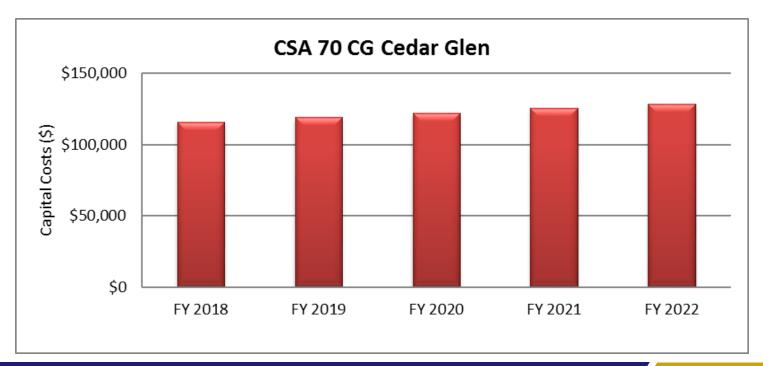
Operating fund projections with rate increases.





Financial Projections

- Capital Improvement Program expenditures over the fiveyears.
 - Capital expenditures include routine projects that keep the system in working condition and one-time additions/betterments





- The water rate structure includes:
 - Facility Charge (based on meter size)
 - Consumption Charge (based on hundred cubic feet)
 - Current four tier system; Proposed three tier system
 - Same charges for residential and commercial accounts
- Adjustments to current rates:
 - County's policy is to recover costs based on 60%/40% split between fixed and variable. The policy was enacted to increase revenue stability and is becoming an industry standard.
 - Facility Charge based on meter costs, billing costs, and public fire protection costs
 - Tiers based on supply costs, delivery costs, and peaking costs



Existing Rate Structure

Meter Size	FY 2017				
Ready To Serve Charge	(\$/monthly)				
Flat Rate	\$ 151.06				
5/8"	19.60				
3/4"	19.60				
1"	32.67				
1 1/2"	65.33				
2"	104.53				
3"	209.07				
4"	326.67				
6"	653.33				
8"	1,045.33				
Commodity Charge					
0-14 hcf	\$ 10.15				
>14-40 hcf	11.67				
>40-80 hcf	13.42				
>80 hcf	15.44				

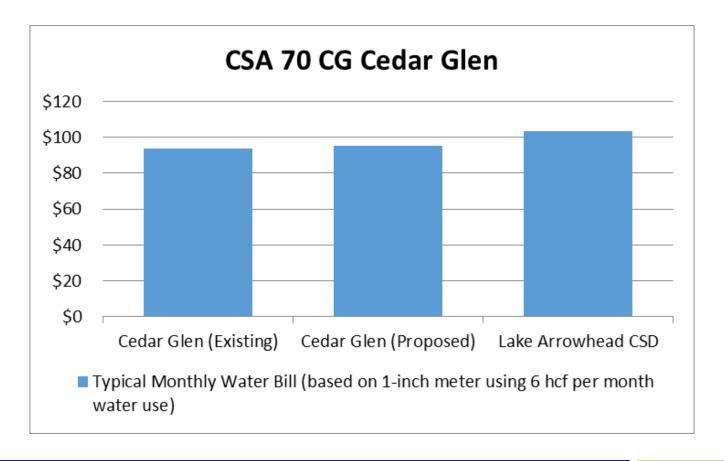


Proposed Rate Structure

Water										
Meter Size	FY 2018		FY 2019		FY 2020		FY 2021		FY 2022	
Ready To Serve Charge	(\$/month)		(\$/month)		(\$/month)		(\$/month)		(\$/month)	
Flat Rate	\$	151.33	\$	155.87	\$	160.55	\$	165.37	\$	170.33
3/4"	\$	28.26	\$	29.11	\$	29.98	\$	30.88	\$	31.81
1"		28.26		29.11		29.98		30.88		31.81
1.5"		46.35		47.74		49.17		50.64		52.16
2"		91.15		93.89		96.70		99.60		102.59
3"		145.13		149.49		153.97		158.59		163.35
4"		289.27		297.94		306.88		316.09		325.57
6"		451.21		464.75		478.69		493.05		507.84
8"		900.88		927.91		955.74		984.41		1,013.95
Commodity Charge	(\$	/HCF)		(\$/HCF)		(\$/HCF)		(\$/HCF)		(\$/HCF)
0-6 hcf	\$	8.08	\$	8.32	\$	8.57	\$	8.83	\$	9.09
7-12 hcf		8.26		8.51		8.76		9.03		9.30
>12 hcf		8.95		9.22		9.50		9.78		10.08



Rate Impact and comparison to neighboring utilities





Rate Impact

Rate Impact for an average water customer

Impact on Single Family Residential with a 5/8-inch meter using 6 HCF per billing cycle.									
Overall Revenue Adjustment	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%				
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5				
Existing Rate Structure	\$ 100.10	\$ 105.00	\$ 108.14	\$ 111.38	\$ 114.74				
Proposed Rate Structure	\$ 105.00	\$ 108.14	\$ 111.38	\$ 114.74	\$ 118.16				
Increase (\$) per billing cycle (2 months)	\$ 4.90	\$ 3.14	\$ 3.24	\$ 3.36	\$ 3.42				
Increase (%) per billing cycle (2 months)	4.9%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%				



- Mail out a notice a minimum 45 days in advance of public hearing on the proposed rate increase.
- Property owners or tenants may submit written protests.
- Absent a majority protest, Board of Supervisors can adopt the 5-year rate plan.



Next Steps

- What if the proposed rates don't pass?
 - Regulatory issues which could result in fines to the district
 - Indefinite deferral of capital improvement projects
 - Decreased services
 - Financially insolvent



Next Steps

- Present this information at a community meetings in January or February 2017
- Prop 218 Notices will be sent out mid February
- Fee hearing at the Board on April 4, 2017
- Fee adoption at the Board on April 18, 2017
- New Fees (if approved) in place July 1, 2017



Next Steps

Any questions?

