



*Small Town with a
Big Backyard!*

CITY OF BISHOP

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Public Works News Release

Water and Sewer Rate Workshop

The City of Bishop will hold a public workshop Tuesday, 14 May 2013, to provide information on the water and sewer rate study currently underway. The workshop will be from 6 pm to 7 pm in the conference room at City Hall, 377 West Line Street. City and consultant staff working on the study will be available at the workshop to provide information, answer questions, and receive public input. The workshop will be immediately followed by a meeting of the Bishop Water and Sewer Commission.

The City of Bishop provides water and sewer service within the limits of the city. Law and the city's obligation to its customers dictate that the water and sewer fees be fair and only what is necessary to pay system costs. These costs include operation, maintenance, replacement, and necessary system improvement. Periodically, rate studies are conducted to improve the fairness of the rates and to ensure the continued health of the systems.

The last study was done in 2008 and resulted in water and sewer rate increases. The current rate study is not expected to result in significant general rate increases though is expected to include adjustments between the 23 user customer categories. The adjustments are to address concerns about rate fairness and are intended to better reflect the cost and benefits associated with each customer category. Water and sewer rates in Bishop are flat rate and not dependent on individual use.

The 14 May workshop will be immediately before the Bishop Water and Sewer Commission meeting scheduled for 7 pm in the City Council Chambers. At this meeting the Commission will have its first look at the consultant's draft rate recommendations and will be interested to hear the results of the workshop. The consultant's recommendations are expected to be modified over the coming months with the Commission making rate recommendations to the City Council in September. Any rate changes would go into effect in July 2014. Now is the time to get involved if you want the best chance to have an impact on the process.

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