



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADJUSTMENTS TO SOLID WASTE RATES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Tuesday, June 6, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.**, a public hearing will be held at the City of Lompoc City Council Chambers located at 100 Civic Center Plaza, Lompoc, CA 93436 to consider proposed adjustments to the City’s solid waste collection rates and landfill tipping fees. If approved by the City Council, the proposed rate adjustments will go into effect on July 1, 2023. The City of Lompoc (City) is subject to Proposition 218 and is required by law to charge its customers no more than the cost of providing solid waste collection service. Proposition 218 also contains specific notice and protest procedures for approving any increase in property-related solid waste collection rates. You are receiving this notice pursuant to the requirements of Proposition 218. Although the City Council will be considering changes to landfill charges, landfill tipping fees are not subject to Proposition 218.

WHY RATE ADJUSTMENTS ARE NECESSARY

SB 1383 - All cities in the State, including Lompoc, are subject to the most stringent solid waste legislation in California history. For City residents and businesses to remain in compliance with State Law, new organic waste collection services are necessary, none of which are funded by the State. This State unfunded mandate increases requirements for diverting recyclables and organics from disposal in the City’s landfill. The new labor and equipment required for these services must be funded through the solid waste rates.

Stormwater Infrastructure at Lompoc Landfill – Landfills in California are highly regulated and expensive to operate. The Regional Water Quality Control Board, which has regulatory authority over the Lompoc Landfill, has determined that the City must construct a stormwater control system at the City’s landfill. To construct this stormwater control system, the City will be required to incur a one-time capital expenditure of approximately \$6.2 million. The City plans to borrow the funds needed to pay for this infrastructure. Nevertheless, the debt service on the bonds must be funded through the City’s solid waste rates.

PROPOSED SOLID WASTE RATES

The City is proposing to approve a series of rate adjustments over the next five years. The basis upon which the increases were calculated considered an analysis of the City’s current and projected financial plan, a cost of service analysis, and a rate design analysis to ensure that the City’s collection rates are compliant with Proposition 218.

The effective dates and the proposed monthly rates for the most common levels of service are shown in this table:

Container Size	Pickups	Current	Effective Date				
			1-Jul-23	1-Jul-24	1-Jul-25	1-Jul-26	1-Jul-27
65 - gallon container - residential	1 x week	\$ 31.99	\$ 36.97	\$ 42.51	\$ 48.89	\$ 56.22	\$ 57.91
95 - gallon container - residential	1 x week	\$ 41.40	\$ 46.96	\$ 54.01	\$ 62.11	\$ 71.42	\$ 73.57
300 - gallon container - commercial	1 x week	\$ 91.36	\$ 91.34	\$ 105.04	\$ 120.79	\$ 138.91	\$ 143.08
450 - gallon container - commercial	1 x week	\$ 115.28	\$ 112.62	\$ 129.51	\$ 148.93	\$ 171.27	\$ 176.41

The entire proposed rate schedule, including the proposed landfill rates, can be viewed on the City’s website at <http://www.cityoflomdoc.com/sw>.

Multi-family Rates - The City currently bills for multi-family service based on the number of dwelling units. For a monthly rate of \$24.92 per dwelling unit, multi-family customers now receive the equivalent of 2 each 95-gallon containers serviced

once per week. Any additional containers are billed based on the number and size of additional containers, and the frequency of service. The City will continue its transition to a rate structure in which multi-family complexes are billed to the property owner based on the number and size of containers, and the frequency of service; similar to how commercial customers are now billed. As a result, the per-unit monthly amount previously charged directly to remaining multi-family customers will be phased out over a transition period beginning on July 1, 2023. The transition period is expected to last up to six months. During the transition period, multi-family customers will be charged a fee per dwelling unit of \$28.63 per month until they are converted to the new rate structure.

PUBLIC HEARING AND PROTEST PROCEEDINGS

Each parcel may protest the proposed rate adjustment in writing prior to or during the public hearing. Consistent with the provisions of Proposition 218 and Government Code Section 53755, this notice has been mailed to all customers and record owners of the affected properties at the addresses as they appear on the latest equalized assessment roll. If you are an owner of real property or customer subject to the proposed rates as described in this Notice, and you object to those proposed rates, you may file a written protest with the City at or before the time set for the public hearing. Written protests must be mailed or personally delivered to the City Clerk, and must be *received* by no later than the close of the public hearing on June 6, 2023. E-mail protests or fax protests will not be accepted. Written protests should be mailed to:

City Clerk
City of Lompoc
100 Civic Center Plaza
Lompoc, CA 93436

A valid written protest must include:

1. The name of the protester and whether the protester is a property owner or a tenant customer;
2. Identification of the property by either assessor's parcel number or street address;
3. A statement of protest ("I/we protest" will suffice), and,
4. The signature of the protestor.

The City Council will not implement the proposed new rates if a majority of parcels in the City's service area submit written protests. Each parcel will be counted as a single vote, regardless of the number of property owners or solid waste customers from that parcel. A parcel is considered to have filed a protest if any solid waste customer or property owner from that parcel files a protest.

The City Clerk will determine the validity of all protests submitted and exclude any invalid protests from the final tabulation. The City Clerk may confer with the City Attorney in determining the validity of written protests. As part of this process, the City Attorney may review contested or suspect protest forms. The City Clerk's decision shall be final and binding.

If you have any questions regarding this Notice, or the proposed rate adjustments, or you would like more information, please email the City at: sw_admin@ci.lompoc.ca.us.



100 Civic Center Plaza
Lompoc, CA 93436