



# NEWS RELEASE

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## Oxnard Announces Community Meeting Dates for Customers to Learn About Water Supply, Operational Costs, Rate Adjustments and Long-Term Reliability

OXNARD, Calif – The City of Oxnard is hosting a series of public meetings and City Council meetings for the community to learn more about local water supplies, the cost of water, rate adjustments and long-term water reliability needs. The meetings will review the City’s water supplies, water operations and long term needs to ensure water rates keep pace with increasing costs to provide safe, reliable water.

Oxnard’s water utility is funded through its water rates, which it invests into operations, supplies, maintenance, repairs, infrastructure, and its long-term capital improvement program (CIP) projects.

It is a common industry-standard to perform comprehensive utility rate studies every three to five years. Oxnard’s last water rate study was conducted in 2017. To ensure best business practices, the City hired Raftelis Inc., a consulting firm with extensive experience developing long-range financial plans for water service, to conduct a comprehensive water rate study that will consider key factors that affect future operations and reliability. Some of these key factors include the impact of drought and pandemic-induced economic conditions.

As part of the water rate study, City staff and Raftelis, their consultant, will provide information on the operational requirements of the water system and solicit customer feedback on their water needs. Community feedback will help ensure the water rates that customers pay for are:

- Fair, equitable, and aligned with community values and priorities, i.e. water conservation
- Sufficient to ensure the continued financial viability of the City’s water utility
- Sufficient to enable critical maintenance and infrastructure investment that upholds high service levels while complying with ever more stringent regulatory requirements
- Aligned with best practices and in accordance with state law

The public is encouraged to attend one of the upcoming community meetings listed below, address the City Council during general public comment, or send questions and comments to [water.inquiry@oxnard.org](mailto:water.inquiry@oxnard.org) or call the Public Works Department at (805) 385-8390. Additional information is also available at [www.oxnardwater.org](http://www.oxnardwater.org).

<b>Oxnard Water Costs Community Meeting Schedule</b>		
<b>Monday, December 12, 2022</b> 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.	<b>Saturday, January 7, 2023</b> 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.	<b>Monday, January 23, 2023</b> 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
City Council Chambers 305 W. 3rd St. Oxnard 93030	South Oxnard Center 200 E. Bard Rd. Oxnard, CA 93033	River Ridge Golf Course 2401 W. Vineyard Ave. Oxnard 93036

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