



Mayor Daniel Lurie  
SFPUC Commissioners  
SF Board of Supervisors  
Dennis Herrera, SFPUC General Manager  
Ron Flynn, SFPUC Deputy General Manager  
Stephen Robinson, SFPUC Assistant General Manager for Infrastructure  
Steve Ritchie, SFPUC Assistant General Manager for Water Enterprise  
Joel Prather, SFPUC Assistant General Manager for Wastewater Enterprise  
Alicia John-Baptiste, Chief for Infrastructure

April 22, 2026

**CSFN Resolution Opposing SFPUC Water and Wastewater Rate Increases as Currently Proposed and Urging the SFPUC to Re-Calculate the Proposed Rate Increases Based on Flat Population Projections and Shorter Drought Scenarios.**

WHEREAS, In 1996, San Franciscans for Reasonable Reform circulated a ballot petition to roll back water and sewer rates to 1991 levels and to lock these rates in until 2002, but did not succeed in getting it on the ballot.

WHEREAS, In 1998, Citizens Against Water and Sewer Rates Abuse circulated a ballot petition successfully, which was on the June 2, 1998 ballot as Prop H.

WHEREAS, Prop H passed by 58% and sought to freeze water and sewer rates at their current levels until July 1, 2006 subject to certain exceptions.

WHEREAS, In 2002, the City sought to reverse Prop H (1998) with charter amendment, Prop E, placed on the ballot by the Board of Supervisors for the November 5, 2002 election.

WHEREAS, The November 5, 2002 election also included Prop A, which was a

\$1,628,000 revenue bond for the SFPUC Water System Improvement Program (WSIP), which was also placed on the ballot by the Board of Supervisors.

WHEREAS, Both Prop A and Prop E passed with Prop E eliminating future citizen ballot initiatives for water and wastewater.

WHEREAS, The SFPUC is currently proposing significant increases to water and wastewater rates over the next five years.

WHEREAS, These rate increases are based on outdated population growth projections as the State Department of Finance Demographic Research Unit's (DRU) most recent population growth projections show San Francisco's population growth being flat for the foreseeable future.

WHEREAS, The SFPUC is also using drought modeling (Design Drought) that is thirty years old and that plans for an 8.5 year drought scenario.

WHEREAS, Other Bay Area water districts plan for a 6.0 year drought scenario.

WHEREAS, The Yosemite Rivers Alliance has urged the SFPUC to reduce its drought scenario by one year to 7.5 years.

THEREFORE, Be it resolved that, the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods strongly urges the SFPUC to formulate two additional rate increase scenarios.

THEREFORE, Be it further resolved that, both scenarios use flat population growth projections with the first recalculation using a 6.0 year drought scenario and the second recalculation using a 7.5 year drought scenario to determine how each of these would result in reduced rate increases.

Deborah Murphy  
CSFN President  
bridgelady@earthlink.net