



Shalice Reynoso, MMC
CCAC Legislative Director

News Clerks Should Know:

Released 12/17/08

AB 3030 – effective 1/1/2009

Considering a Water, Sewer, or Trash Rate Increase?

AB 3030 is an attempt to simplify the process of adjusting rates for water, sewer or refuse collection service.

Under Proposition 218, public agencies are now required to mail notice to all customers and property owners regarding a proposed increase of an existing fee or charge for a property-related service being provided to a parcel. Customers and property owners are then given an opportunity to protest the proposed increase.

This bill authorizes an agency providing water, sewer, or refuse collection service to adopt a schedule of fees or charges for a property-related service for a period of up to five years. The fee schedule may include a clearly-defined formula for adjusting for inflation. The schedule may also provide for adjustments that pass through the adopted increases or decreases in wholesale charges for water.

Bottom line: This bill authorizes agencies to adopt multi-year schedules of property-related fees or charges for water, sewer or refuse collection that will automatically account for inflation and unexpected wholesale cost increases. Keep in mind that the Proposition 218 noticing and protest hearing procedures must be held every five years for adoption of such schedules—but every five years is certainly better than the current requirement. Also when the fees are adjusted, 30-day notice must be given before the effective date of the adjustment.