

WATER RATES AND FEES

Title 14.08 of the Santa Barbara Municipal Code authorizes the City Council to set fees for water meters and water service;

Section 14.12.010 of the Santa Barbara Municipal Code authorizes the City Council to set the rate for City water for private fire services when the use of a meter is not required; and

The City does currently and wishes to continue to have in effect a water rate structure that reflects an adequate supply of water and promotes the efficient use of such water by its customers.

1 Definitions

Wherever used in this resolution the following quoted words shall have the meanings set forth below:

- 1.1 **"Account holder"** means the person or entity responsible for payment for water service at a particular property, as shown in the City's water billing records.
- 1.2 **"Master Meter"** or **"Auxiliary Master Meter"** is defined in Santa Barbara Municipal Code 14.04.020
- 1.3 **"Base allotment"** means the average monthly consumption on record with the City for the most recent complete off-peak period calculated assuming the maximum days in a monthly billing cycle, or such other level of consumption determined by the Director to represent the average monthly off-peak water usage by a particular customer. An off- peak period for any given customer shall be a period comprised of the service periods charged on bills dated January through June.
- 1.4 **"Director"** means the Director of the Department of Water Resources, _ or their designated representative.
- 1.5 **"Dominant use"** means for any meter serving multiple uses, such as an existing meter serving both a residence and a commercial establishment, the use consuming the most water on average. In cases where a meter serves more than one type of use, the meter will be classified based on the dominant use for billing purposes.
- 1.6 **"HCF"** means one Hundred Cubic Feet.
- 1.7 **"Service"** or **"water service"** means water provided by or through the water distribution facilities of the City.

2 Water Service Rates and Classifications

The following provisions shall govern all fees related to water service for metered connections to the City water system:

2.1 MONTHLY SERVICE CHARGES

A monthly service charge shall be collected for all connections, including City submeters, without regard to actual water use. Unless a master meter serves water directly to a dwelling unit without water passing through a City submeter, a monthly service charge shall not be collected for a City master meter. The monthly service charges shall be as follows (\$/meter/month):

Water Meter Size	Effective July 2, 2024	Effective July 1, 2025	Effective July 1, 2026	Effective July 1, 2027
5/8"	\$36.21	\$40.01	\$44.01	\$48.41
3/4"	\$52.50	\$58.01	\$63.81	\$70.19
1"	\$85.09	\$94.02	\$103.42	\$113.76
1 1/2"	\$166.55	\$184.04	\$202.44	\$222.68
2"	\$264.30	\$292.05	\$321.26	\$353.39
3"	\$573.86	\$634.12	\$697.53	\$767.28
4"	\$1,030.06	\$1,138.22	\$1,252.04	\$1,377.24
6"	\$2,121.66	\$2,344.43	\$2,578.87	\$2,836.76
8"	\$3,913.84	\$4,324.79	\$4,757.27	\$5,233.00

2.2 MASTER METER (AUXILARY MASTER METER) OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FEE

Unless a master meter directly serves water to a dwelling unit without water passing through a City submeter, a monthly operations and maintenance fee shall be collected for master water meters, without regard to actual water use, if any, as follows (\$/meter/month):

Size of Master Meter	Effective July 2, 2024	Effective July 1, 2025	Effective July 1, 2026	Effective July 1, 2027
2"	\$54.00	\$54.86	\$56.40	*
3"	\$67.00	\$68.07	\$69.98	*
4"	\$67.00	\$68.07	\$69.98	*
6"	\$76.00	\$77.22	\$79.38	*
8"	\$80.00	\$81.28	\$83.56	*

* Charges shall be escalated annually based on the change in the January Engineering News Record (ENR) Construction Cost Index (CCI) 20-City Average from the previous year. For example, if the January 2027 ENR CCI is 3% higher than the January 2026 ENR CCI, then the Master Meter Operations and Maintenance Fee would increase by 3% in July 2027 (start of FY28).

2.3 USER CLASSIFICATIONS

For the purposes of assessing metered water charges provided for below, user classifications shall be determined and corrected by Staff, using the categories below. Any meter serving multiple uses shall be classified based on the dominant use.

2.3.1 Residential Single Family

Applicable to all meters serving one detached dwelling unit that is not an accessory dwelling unit.

2.3.2 Multifamily 1-4 Units

Applicable to all meters serving two to four dwelling units, all meters serving one attached dwelling unit, and all meters serving only an accessory dwelling unit.

2.3.3 Multifamily Over 4 Units

Applicable to all meters serving five or more dwelling units.

2.3.4 Commercial

Applicable, without regard to meter size, to all accounts serving mercantile buildings, motels, and other short term lodging establishments, office buildings, institutional buildings, schools, churches, and other commercial establishments. Also applicable to accounts solely serving common areas on multifamily or mixed use properties including but not limited to communal laundry rooms.

2.3.5 Industrial

Applicable to all meters serving laundries (other than self-service laundries), manufacturing facilities, and other industrial facilities.

2.3.6 Irrigation-Potable

Applicable to meters limited to outdoor water use and subclassified as provided in subsections 2.3.6.1 through 2.3.6.4 below. All meters under this classification shall be subject to interruption upon declaration of a Stage Three Drought Condition. There shall be no connection between a meter served under this classification and any dwelling or commercial or industrial structure.

The first tier of all irrigation accounts shall be calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Monthly Water Budget} = (ET_o)(.62/748)((PF \times HA)/IE)$$

Where

ET_o = Reference evapotranspiration (weather factor)

0.62/748 = Conversion factor (inches to HCF)

PF = Plant factor

HA = Square footage of irrigated area(s) IE

= Irrigation efficiency (80%)

The Monthly Water Budget shall be determined using real-time monthly ETo data from a local weather station, plant factors that relate plant type water use needs to the ETo, and irrigated area by plant type. Irrigation system efficiency is set at a constant value of 80% for all account types.

Monthly Water Budgets shall be based on irrigated area only. Accounts shall be subject to mandatory ground-truthing measurement at Staff discretion to verify measurement accuracy of irrigated areas and plant types. If ground-truthing measurements are not completed within two months after initial contact due to lack of customer response, service may be subject to suspension until irrigated landscaped areas are verified in the field.

2.3.6.1 Irrigation-Agriculture

Applicable only to Potable Irrigation meters that serve bona fide commercial agricultural enterprises, including nurseries. A bona fide commercial agricultural enterprise is one that grows and sells one or more type of agricultural or horticultural products, for the purpose of producing income from the sale of these products. The amount of water made available in the first tier of metered water usage under this sub-classification shall be based on the square footage of the commercial crop area that is planted and irrigated as part of the enterprise. As a condition of the right to receive Irrigation-Agriculture service, the Director may require an Account holder to submit to the Director any documentary or other evidence necessary to establish to a reasonable degree of certainty that the property served by the meter is being used to conduct a bona fide commercial agricultural enterprise as defined above. Such evidence may include tax returns, bills of sale, or similar documents.

PFc = 75%

HAc = total crop irrigated area (square feet)

If the crop is a tree species the crop irrigated area is the number of irrigated trees multiplied by the average tree area. The average tree area is the area of a circle with a diameter equal to the average diameter of the drip line of the relevant species. An alternate method to calculate the irrigated area may be used as approved by the Director.

2.3.6.2 Irrigation-Recreation

Applicable only to Potable Irrigation meters that serve areas used primarily for passive or active recreational purposes, including parks, playgrounds, golf courses, school yards, and publicly owned open spaces and landscaped areas. Cemeteries also meet the parameters of this classification. The amount of water made available in the first tier of metered water usage under this sub-classification shall be based on the square footage of the irrigated area served by the meter.

HAt = total irrigated turf area (square feet) Turf PFt = 80%

HAs = total irrigated shrub area (square feet)

Shrub PFs = 30%

2.3.6.3 Irrigation-Urban (Residential / Commercial):

Applicable to Potable Irrigation meters serving properties that are primarily residential in use or are zoned for residential use or commercial, industrial, or institutional in use. The amount of water made available in the first tier of metered water usage under this subclassification shall be based on the square footage of the irrigated area served by the meter.

HAt = total irrigated turf area (square feet)

For Residential Irrigation, HAt cannot exceed 20% of total irrigated area. If measurements are greater than 20%, the remainder square footage will be assigned to the HAs.

Pft = turf plant factor = 80%.

HAs = total irrigated shrub area (square feet)

For Commercial Irrigation, 100% of total irrigated area is considered HAs, unless a permitted exception of Water Efficient Landscape Standards has been approved.

PFs = shrub plant factor = 30%.

Plant Factor percentage allotments reflect the requirements of the City's Water Efficient Landscape Standards per SBMC 14.23.005.

2.3.6.4 Bird Refuge

Upon finding that there are adequate water resources available to allow such use, the Director may also authorize the sale of up to a total of 21,780 HCF (50 acre feet) per year at the first block recreation rate for use in refilling the Andre Clark Bird Refuge.

2.3.7 Recycled Water

Applicable to all meters providing recycled water.

2.4 METERED WATER CHARGES

In addition to all other charges imposed by Chapter 14.08 of the Santa Barbara Municipal Code, including but not limited to the monthly service charges set forth in subsection 2.1 above, water use shall be charged according to the following block rates for those user classifications defined in subsection 2.3 above. Usage shall be measured in units of 100 cubic feet (HCF).

The allocation of the City's six water sources to customer classes and tiers is based on priority level. Each tier is charged the weighted average cost of water based on the allocated sources. The highest priority customer tiers receive the least expensive sources of water, limited to that tier's percentage of each priorities' total demand times the water source (or remaining water

source remaining from a higher priority).

1. Tier 1 Agriculture. The highest priority use is allocated to tier 1 agriculture (Ag) for efficient agricultural purposes.
2. Tier 1 Residential Single Family (SFR)/Tier 1 Residential Multi-family (MFR)/Tier 1 Recreation (Rec) for essential health and safety purposes and efficient irrigation of parks and public spaces.
3. Tier 1 Commercial/Industrial for efficient use of commercial and industrial purposes.
4. Tier 2 Residential SFR/MFR and Tier 1 irrigation for efficient irrigation needs for residential/commercial with dedicated irrigation meters.
5. Tier 2 Ag/Tier 2 Rec/Tier 3 Residential/Tier 2 Irrigation for residential and commercial dedicated irrigation meters/ Tier 2 Commercial or Industrial for inefficient use for agricultural, recreation, residential, commercial, or industrial purposes

2.4.1 Single Family Residential

Monthly Usage Quantities	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 2, 2024	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2025	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2026	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2027
First 4 HCF (per dwelling unit)	\$5.49	\$6.06	\$6.67	\$7.34
Next 12 HCF (per dwelling unit)	\$15.31	\$16.92	\$18.61	\$20.47
Over 16 HCF (per dwelling unit)	\$34.90	\$38.56	\$42.42	\$46.66

2.4.2 Multi-Family Residential 1 - 4 Dwelling Units

Monthly Usage Quantities	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 2, 2024	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2025	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2026	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2027
First 4 HCF (per dwelling unit)	\$5.49	\$6.06	\$6.67	\$7.34
Next 4 HCF (per dwelling unit)	\$15.31	\$16.92	\$18.61	\$20.47
Over 8 HCF (per dwelling unit)	\$34.90	\$38.56	\$42.42	\$46.66

2.4.3 Multi-Family Residential Over 4 Dwelling Units

Monthly Usage Quantities	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 2, 2024	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2025	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2026	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2027
First 4 HCF (per dwelling unit)	\$5.49	\$6.06	\$6.67	\$7.34
Next 4 HCF (per dwelling unit)	\$15.31	\$16.92	\$18.61	\$20.47
Over 8 HCF (per dwelling unit)	\$34.90	\$38.56	\$42.42	\$46.66

2.4.4 Commercial

Monthly Usage Quantities	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 2, 2024	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2025	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2026	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2027
Up to 100% of base allotment	\$8.19	\$9.05	\$9.96	\$10.96
All other use	\$37.82	\$41.80	\$45.98	\$50.58

2.4.5 Industrial

Monthly Usage Quantities	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 2, 2024	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2025	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2026	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2027
Up to 100% of base allotment	\$8.19	\$9.05	\$9.96	\$10.96
All other use	\$37.82	\$41.80	\$45.98	\$50.58

2.4.6 Irrigation Agriculture

Monthly Usage Quantities	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 2, 2024	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2025	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2026	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2027
All Use within Monthly Budget	\$5.13	\$5.67	\$6.24	\$6.86
All other use	\$34.90	\$38.56	\$42.42	\$46.66

2.4.7 Irrigation Recreation

Monthly Usage Quantities	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 2, 2024	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2025	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2026	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2027
All Use within Monthly Budget	\$7.26	\$8.02	\$8.82	\$9.70
All other use	\$34.90	\$38.56	\$42.42	\$46.66

2.4.8 Irrigation Urban (Residential/Commercial)

Monthly Usage Quantities	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 2, 2024	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2025	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2026	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2027
All Use within Monthly Budget	\$15.31	\$16.92	\$18.61	\$20.47
All other use	\$34.90	\$38.56	\$42.42	\$46.66

2.4.9 Recycled Water

Monthly Usage Quantities	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 2, 2024	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2025	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2026	Rate (\$/HCF) Effective July 1, 2027
All HCF	\$6.10	\$6.74	\$7.41	\$8.15

3 Water Service Policies and Miscellaneous Fees

3.1 FAILURE TO CONNECT TO RECYCLED WATER SYSTEM

Where the Director has determined that use of recycled water is feasible at and on a particular property and has notified the account holder for the meter serving such property of this fact as described in Section 14.23.030 of the Santa Barbara Municipal Code, and thereafter the user has failed to substitute recycled water use for potable water use, the charge for provision of potable water use shall be double the otherwise applicable charge for metered water.

3.2 NOT USED

3.3 WATER CONSUMPTION ESTIMATES

If an accurate meter reading is not obtained for any reason, including but not limited to, inability to access the meter and/or meter failure, the water consumption for the time period where the water meter read is not available may be estimated. If access is the issue, then estimation may only occur after two separate attempts within one reading cycle to gain access. If meter failure

is the issue, then the water consumption will not be estimated for more than 90 days, unless plumbing on the customer side must be addressed prior to meter replacement or with mutual consent of the City and the customer.

City staff will utilize estimating functionality within the billing system to estimate use based on the six billing periods that most closely correspond to the time frame from the prior calendar year. The calculated daily average is multiplied by the number of days in the reading period where the meter read is not available to determine an estimated consumption for the reading period. Should there not be sufficient usage history on the customer’s account, the last actual meter read will be used.

Once the water meter is repaired or replaced, if the customer’s water consumption is found to be significantly lower than the estimated consumption calculation after three full months of meter reads on the new meter, the customer may request an evaluation of the estimated consumption calculation and consideration of a billing adjustment.

3.4 MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

3.4.1 Service and Administration Fees

The following miscellaneous fees related to water service shall be charged and collected upon demand:

Fee Key	Fee Description	Fee Amount
3.4.1.1	Service Initiation Fee	\$68.00
3.4.1.2	Service Restoration Fee	\$68.00
3.4.1.3	Administrative Account Transfer Fee	\$21.00
3.4.1.4	Declined Payment Fee	See Finance Administrative Fees
3.4.1.5	Delinquent Payment Fee (per account, per month, for any billing period in which a delinquent unpaid balance exists)	See Finance Administrative Fees

If a payment is returned for insufficient funds for a second time in any 12 month period, payments will only be accepted via cash, cashier’s check, money order or credit card.

3.4.2 Fire Hydrant Fees

3.4.2.1 Installation of new Residential or Commercial Fire Hydrant

Installation of new Residential or Commercial fire hydrant including all underground work:

Fee Key	Fee Description	Fee Amount
3.4.2.1	Installation of Residential or Commercial Hydrant including underground	Time and Materials

3.4.2.2 Upgrade of Existing Residential to Commercial Fire Hydrant

Upgrade of existing Residential fire hydrant to Commercial fire hydrant built to City standard where only the fire hydrant needs replacement:

Fee Key	Fee Description	Fee Amount
3.4.2.2	Upgrade from Residential to Commercial Hydrant	\$5,493

3.4.3 Flow Test Fees

Fee Key	Fee Description	Fee Amount
3.4.3.1	Hydrant Flow Test	\$390
3.4.3.2	Meter Flow Test – 1” Meters and Below	\$307
3.4.3.3	Meter Flow Test – 1.5” and 2” Meters	\$414

3.4.4 Meter Services Fees

Fee Key	Fee Description	Fee Amount
3.4.4.2	After Hours Turn On Fee	\$137

3.5 TAMPERING FEES

In addition to the fees below, reconnection fees shall be applied. Unauthorized water use via tampering may also be subject to Administrative Penalties per S.B.M.C. Section 1.28.

Fee Key	Fee Description	Fee Amount
3.5.1	Damaged/Missing Locks	\$73
3.5.2	Damaged/Missing Locking Brackets	\$195

3.6 DAMAGE TO CITY WATER SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE

City shall be reimbursed for the time and material cost to repair damage inflicted on City water system infrastructure and for any water lost as a result of the damage. Any water lost as a result of damage to water system infrastructure shall be billed at the current second block Commercial rate.

3.7 LABORATORY ANALYSIS

City shall be reimbursed at cost for laboratory analyses performed on behalf of private parties.

3.8 CHANGE OF ACCOUNT HOLDER UPON TERMINATION OF TENANCY

Upon termination of utility service by an account holder who is a tenant, the property owner or agent thereof, shall automatically become the account holder, provided that the City has on file a written request from such property owner or agent authorizing such change. In the event that the account holder is transferred to a new account holder willing to take responsibility for all charges incurred after the most current bill, the Administrative Transfer Fee shall apply in

lieu of the Service Initiation Fee.

4 Non-Metered Private Fire Services

Payable monthly, the rates for City water for private fire services when the use of a meter is not required pursuant to Section 14.12.010 of the Santa Barbara Municipal Code shall be as follows:

Size of Service	Monthly Rate Effective July 2, 2024	Monthly Rate Effective July 1, 2025	Monthly Rate Effective July 1, 2026	Monthly Rate Effective July 1, 2027
1"	\$4.67	\$5.16	\$5.68	\$6.25
1 ½"	\$6.67	\$7.37	\$8.11	\$8.92
2"	\$10.12	\$11.18	\$12.30	\$13.53
4"	\$43.86	\$48.47	\$53.32	\$58.65
6"	\$120.51	\$133.16	\$146.48	\$161.13
8"	\$252.72	\$279.26	\$307.19	\$337.91
10"	\$451.58	\$499.00	\$548.90	\$603.79
12"	\$727.20	\$803.56	\$883.92	\$972.31

Upon a determination that unauthorized use of water through a fire service or other private main connection has occurred, the Director may assess a fee for each HCF of such use at a rate applicable to use of water on the lot.

5 Water Service Connections

All determinations of the size and location of water service connections, water main connections, and meters shall be subject to the approval of the Director. All water service connections must be installed per City standard details. If not, the customer shall be charged at a time and materials basis for the service to be brought up to City standards.

The Director may waive the fee for a service connection or main connection to the recycled water system upon a finding that such connection will promote the efficient and beneficial use of recycled water and will displace existing usage of the City’s potable water supply. Fees related to water service connection to the City water system are as follows and are in addition to capacity charges established by the City Council in separate resolutions:

5.1 RETAIL WATER SERVICE CONNECTIONS

Fee Key	Type of Service Connection	Fee Amount
5.1.1	Add (1) additional 5/8" to an existing 1" service, where feasible:	\$1,816

5.1.2	1" service with a 5/8" meter:	\$2,606
5.1.3	1" service with a 3/4" meter:	\$2,643
5.1.4	1" service with a 1" meter:	\$2,387
5.1.5	2" service with a 1 1/2" meter:	\$4,887
5.1.6	2" service with a 2" meter:	\$5,363
5.1.7	1" service & manifold with two 5/8" meters installed at the time of manifold installation:	\$3,549
5.1.8	Add (1) additional 5/8", 3/4", 1" or 1 1/2" meter to an existing 2" service, where feasible:	\$2,502 per meter
5.1.9	2" service & manifold with multiple meters installed at the time of manifold installation:	\$5,456 plus:
5.1.10	5/8" meters (# of meters per manifold outlined in table below)	\$881 per meter
5.1.11	3/4" meters (# of meters per manifold outlined below)	\$918 per meter
5.1.12	1" meters (# of meters per manifold outlined below)	\$945 per meter
5.1.13	1 1/2" meters (# of meters per manifold outlined below)	\$1,710 per meter
5.1.14	Over 2" service:	Sum of Connection Fee and Meter Set Fee
5.1.15	Abandon service or fire line up to 2"	\$473 per service
5.1.16	Abandon service or fire line above 2"	Time and Materials

Any new service installations that are greater than 4 feet deep and/or require a service trench longer than 20 feet shall be charged an additional time and materials fee.

Fees to abandon services and fire lines 2" and larger shall be charged at the cost of labor and materials plus overhead. The fees shall only include materials and labor for abandoning the service to the City water system. The contractor is responsible for excavation of the existing water main, traffic control, backfilling, paving and any other costs.

A water service relocation of up to 5 feet or the addition of a meter to a service connection that has an existing meter, except as provided above, shall be charged at the cost of labor and

materials plus overhead, provided that installation of a new service connection is not required. Water service relocations of greater than 5 feet shall require installation of a new service connection at fees as specified herein.

1 1/2", 1", 3/4", and 5/8" Meter Combinations Allowed on 2" Manifolds

# of 1 1/2" Meters	# of 1" Meters	# of 3/4" Meters	# of 5/8" Meters
0	0	5	0
		4	2
		3	3
		2	5
		1	6
		0	8
1	0	2	0
		1	1
		0	3
1	1	0	0
0	1	1	4
		1	3
		2	2
		3	1
		3	0
0	2	0	3
		1	1
		2	0
0	3	0	0

5.2 FIRE LINE AND PRIVATE WATER MAIN CONNECTIONS

Payable at the time of request, fees for water service main connections to the City water system, including private fire lines and other private mains, shall be as follows and shall be in addition to any applicable fees for trench inspections and encroachment permits:

Fee Key	Connection Size	Connection Fee
4" Main (Or Smaller)		
5.2.1	2"	\$1,755
5.2.2	4"	\$2,959
6" Main		

5.2.3	2"	\$2,315
5.2.4	4"	\$2,968
5.2.5	6"	\$4,796
8" Main		
5.2.6	2"	\$2,378
5.2.7	4"	\$2,981
5.2.8	6"	\$2,981
5.2.9	8"	\$5,312
10" Main		
5.2.10	2"	\$2,374
5.2.11	4"	\$3,025
5.2.12	6"	\$3,281
5.2.13	8"	\$3,281
5.2.14	10"	\$5,995
12" Main		
5.2.15	2"	\$3,014
5.2.16	4"	\$3,025
5.2.17	6"	\$3,281
5.2.18	8"	\$3,281
5.2.19	10"	\$6,219
5.2.20	12"	\$8,539

Fees for other combinations shall be charged at the cost of labor and materials, plus overhead. The fees for water service main connections shall include only the materials (tee, valve, and valve box) and labor for tapping into the City water system. Contractor is responsible for excavation of the existing water main, traffic control, pipe extension, backfilling, paving, backflow device with in-line detector meter and any other costs. In the event the existing water main or water service main connection is damaged during attachment, an additional fee based on time and materials shall be charged to the person(s) who caused such damage.

Fee Key	Fee Description	Fee Amount
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5.2.21	All Other Fireline and Private Main Connection Size Combinations	Time and Materials
5.2.22	Damage to Water Line Fee	Time and Materials

5.3 REVIEW AND INSPECTION FEES

5.3.1 Water Distribution and Water Services Review and Inspection Fees

Fees for staff review of development plans or other proposed projects, and for site visits or inspection.

Water Distribution plan review includes evaluation of proposed water service taps or system modifications to serve proposed development, such as water main sizing, replacement, or relocation. Water Distribution site visit fees apply to pre-work order field review to confirm existing conditions and scope of work, as well as any additional site visits or on-site consultations with Water Distribution staff.

Water Services review includes staff review of service agreements, requests for service from outside existing service areas, project proposals, or evaluation of proposed development plans in relation to water metering regulations, water efficient landscaping standards, or other related items. Water Services site visit fees apply to landscape inspections for permit sign off, pre-work order field review to confirm existing conditions and scope of work for water meter related construction work, or any additional site visits or on-site consultations with Water Services staff relating to land development and/or water metering.

Fee Key	Fee Description	Fee Amount
5.3.1.1	Water Distribution Plan Review Fee	\$33/15 min
5.3.1.2	Water Distribution Site Visit Fee	\$98/Visit
5.3.1.3	Water Services Review Fee	\$20/15 min
5.3.1.4	Water Services Site Visit Fee	\$99/Visit

5.3.2 Backflow Assemblies

Backflow assemblies are required for all private fire line connections and fire sprinklers, all private water main connections, all dedicated irrigation meters, and as dictated by the City building codes. Backflow assemblies shall be tested immediately after they are installed and then annually by a certified backflow tester. Per Sections 14.21.050 and 14.21.130 of the Santa

Barbara Municipal Code, the City of Santa Barbara may test a private backflow assembly if a customer fails to test within a timely manner. Payable at time of request, fees for plan review shall be as follows:

Fee Key	Fee Description	Fee Amount
5.3.2.1	Backflow Plan Review – Fire lines & Private	\$26/15 min
5.3.2.2	Backflow Plan Review – Retail Meters	\$26/15 min
5.3.2.3	Backflow Inspection – Fire lines & Private Mains	\$448
5.3.2.4	Backflow Inspection – Retail Meters	\$159
5.3.2.5	Enforcement Fee – 3rd Notice to Test	\$26
5.3.2.6	Enforcement Fee – Shutoff/Turn-on	\$206
5.3.2.7	Supplemental Backflow Inspection Fee	\$177/Visit
5.3.2.8	Backflow Testing fee – failure to test or repair	Up to \$127/Test
5.3.2.9	Backflow Installation, Repair, or Replacement – failure to install, test, or repair	Time and Materials

6 Setting and Pulling of Water Meters, Temporary Fire Hydrant Meters, and Temporary Recycled Water Meters

Fees related to setting and pulling of water meters, temporary fire hydrant meters and temporary recycled water meters shall be as follows:

6.1 METER SETTING AND PULLING

Fee Key	Fee Description	Fee Amount
6.1.1	5/8" meter set	\$356
6.1.2	3/4" meter set	\$393
6.1.3	1" meter set	\$421
6.1.4	1 1/2" meter set	\$998
6.1.5	2" meter set	\$1,359
6.1.6	3" meter set and above	Time and Materials

Fee Key	Fee Description	Fee Amount
6.1.7	Pull 5/8" meter	\$90
6.1.8	Pull 3/4" meter	\$90
6.1.9	Pull 1" meter	\$90
6.1.10	Pull 1 1/2" meter	\$249
6.1.11	Pull 2" meter	\$332
6.1.12	Pull 3" meter and above	Time and Materials

6.2 METER REDUCTIONS

Fee Key	Fee Description	Fee Amount
6.2.1	Reduction from 1" or 3/4" to 3/4" or 5/8"	\$271
6.2.2	Reduction from 2" or 1 1/2" to 1" or below	\$815
6.2.3	Reduction from 2" to 1 1/2"	\$794
6.2.4	Other reductions	Time and Materials

6.3 INCREASE IN METER SIZE

An enlargement of water service pipes and meters shall be charged before work order issuance at the regular charges set by Resolution pursuant to Section 14.08.050 of the Santa Barbara Municipal Code.

6.4 REPLACEMENT OF AN EXISTING METER WITH A METER OF LARGER SIZE

Replacement of an existing meter with a meter of larger size, where a larger service to the meter is not required:

Fee Key	Size of New Meter	Fee Amount
6.4.1	3/4" or 1" meter	\$832
6.4.2	1 1/2" meter	\$1,584
6.4.3	2" meter	\$1,696
A1	Other increases	Cost plus overhead

6.5 MOBILE METERS

The following fees and deposits shall be assessed and collected for mobile meters, including temporary fire hydrant meters, and meters installed on water trucks or trailers:

Fee Key	Fee Description	Fee Amount
6.5.0	Deposit (collected prior to meter installation)	\$3,560
6.5.1	Any other equipment	\$90
6.5.2	Fee to install, remove, and complete backflow testing, or relocate a mobile meter	\$211
6.5.3	Fee to install and remove, or relocate a mobile recycled water meter	Time and Materials
	Fixed Monthly Service Charge	Per Section 2.1

	Metered water	For potable water, charged at the prevailing first block rate for commercial customers. For recycled water, charged at the prevailing unit rate for recycled water customers.
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Water sold via mobile water meters cannot be re-sold to any private entity or used outside of the City water service area.

A charge will be deducted from the meter deposit for any damaged or missing equipment, and for assumed water use if the meter is returned in an inoperable or damaged condition. In such cases all relevant documentation, including but not limited to, log sheets and application use estimates shall be used to estimate water use.

Per Santa Barbara Municipal Code 14.25.040, only City staff may install, remove, or relocate mobile meters on, from, or to a fire hydrant. A violation is punishable as an infraction with a penalty of \$250 to \$500.

7 Opt-Out Fees

A customer who opts out of the City’s Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system is subject to the following fees.

7.1 AMI Opt-Out Initial Set Up Fee

Payable for each account that is opted out of the City’s AMI system.

Fee Key	Fee Description	Fee Amount
7.1	Initial Opt-Out Set Up Fee	\$57

7.2 AMI Opt-Out Monthly Fee

Payable each month an account is opted out of the City’s AMI system.

Fee Key	Fee Description	Fee Amount
7.2	Monthly AMI Opt-Out Fee	\$19/month

8 Effective Date

The rates and charges specified herein shall be effective on July 1, 2026, unless otherwise noted. With respect to water rates that are based on metered use of water, the Fiscal Year 2027 water rates specified herein shall commence upon the customer’s first billing cycle where all water use occurs on or after July 1, 2026.