

NOTICE BY THE CITY OF HENDERSON OF PROPOSED CHANGE TO GOLF COURSE WATER BUDGETS AND A DECREASE IN APPROVED RAW AND RECLAIMED WATER RATES

On December 20, 2021, the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) Board of Directors adopted a new Water Resource Plan and approved a more aggressive conservation goal of 86 gallons per capita per day by 2035. To meet that goal, many sectors across Southern Nevada are being asked to reduce water use, and SNWA has identified the reduction of golf course water budgets as one of the key actions that will help with this regional effort.

On May 19, 2022, SNWA’s Board of Directors approved a resolution that, when implemented by the SNWA’s purveyor members, will reduce golf course water budgets from 6.3 acre-feet per year (“AFY”) per irrigated acre to 4.0 AFY per irrigated acre. According to SNWA, this will save an estimated 2,586 AFY (842.6 million gallons) by 2035.

Golf courses in the City of Henderson (“City”) are currently subject to a water budget in Henderson Municipal Code (HMC) 14.14.040 that allows them to use up to 6.3 AFY per irrigated acre each calendar year before being having to pay a surcharge for any water used over the annual water budget amount. The surcharge rate and formula are set out in HMC 14.18.100. Reducing the golf course water budgets from 6.3 AFY per irrigated acre to 4.0 AFY per irrigated acre for all golf courses within the City’s corporate boundaries is intended to promote water use efficiency and align the City with the regional approach being taken with respect to maximizing and conserving regional water resources.

On May 3, 2022, the Henderson City Council took action to increase raw water and reclaimed water volume charges for the years 2023 - 2025 to support conservation efforts. For raw water, the effective rate per 1,000 gallons is \$1.68 as of January 1, 2023. For reclaimed water, the effective rate per 1,000 gallons is \$1.43 as of January 1, 2023. In recognition of significant investment required by non-potable water customers to reduce their consumptive use of water by removing non-functional turf and converting other turf to comply with the reduction in the golf course water budget from 6.3 AFY per irrigated acre to 4.0 AFY per irrigated acre that will be effective January 1, 2024, the City is proposing to reduce the effective rate per 1,000 gallons for raw water from \$1.68 to \$1.53 in 2023 and to reduce the effective rate per 1,000 gallons for reclaimed water from \$1.43 to \$1.30 in 2023. These rate changes are consistent with the percentage increases paid by potable customers. The foregoing reductions to these 2023 non-potable water rates will be effective on the date approved by the Henderson City Council at a future public meeting, anticipated to be held on March 7, 2023, and will apply during the remainder of the 2023 calendar year. Previously approved raw water rates per 1000 gallons for 2024 and 2025 will be adjusted from \$1.93 to \$1.60 effective January 1, 2024 and from \$2.22 to \$1.68 effective January 1, 2025. Previously approved reclaimed water rates per 1000 gallons will be adjusted from \$1.64 to \$1.46 effective January 1, 2024 and from \$1.89 to \$1.68 effective January 1, 2025. These changes are being recommended to incentivize and accelerate investments in non-potable water conservation measures, as well as align non-potable rates to one another.

Rate (per 1000 gallons)	2023 Current	2023 Proposed	2024 Current	2024 Proposed	2025 Current	2025 Proposed
Raw Water	\$1.68	\$1.53	\$1.93	\$1.60	\$2.22	\$1.68
Reclaimed Water	\$1.43	\$1.30	\$1.64	\$1.46	\$1.89	\$1.68

City of Henderson monthly water service charges and Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) infrastructure, reliability, commodity, and drought protection charges are summarized in the Department Service Rules, apply to all customers, and are not changing.

The City will make the following information available at <https://www.cityofhenderson.com/2023GCRR>: a copy of this notice; copy of email notice; the proposed ordinance amending HMC 14.14.040; and, estimated impact on raw and reclaimed water customers.

Interested persons, including trade associations and owners and officers of businesses that are likely to be affected, may submit data and arguments to the City as to whether the proposed changes will:

1. Impose a direct and significant economic burden upon a business; or
2. Directly restrict the formation, operation, or expansion of a business.

The deadline for the City to receive responses to this Notice is 5:00 p.m. Pacific time on Monday, February 6, 2023. City staff will use the responses received by this deadline to prepare a Business Impact Statement that will be presented to the Henderson City Council at a public meeting.

Responses must be submitted in writing to City of Henderson, Department of Utility Services, using one of the contact methods below and must arrive and be received by the City no later than 5:00 pm Pacific time on Monday, February 6, 2023.

Comments via City of Henderson website:
<http://www.cityofhenderson.com/2023GCRR>

Comments via mail or other delivery service:
City of Henderson
Department of Utility Services
ATTN: Alison Nunes
240 Water Street
PO Box 95050
MSC 124
Henderson, Nevada 89009-5050

Comments via Email:
DUSPublicNotice@cityofhenderson.com

PUB: Jan. 16, 2023 LV Review-Journal