



## Agenda Report

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File #: 2023-2971, Version: 1

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**FROM:** Robert Thompson, General Manager  
Originator: Wally Ritchie, Director of Finance

**SUBJECT:**

**FY 2023-24 USE CHARGES FOR SANTA ANA WATERSHED PROJECT AUTHORITY**

### **GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION**

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend to the Board of Directors to:

Adopt Resolution No. OC SAN 23-XX, entitled: "A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Orange County Sanitation District Establishing Use Charges for the 2023-24 Fiscal Year Pursuant to the Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Agreement with the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority ("SAWPA")".

### **BACKGROUND**

Currently, the Orange County Sanitation District (OC San) invoices SAWPA on a quarterly basis for the wastewater discharge received from the SARI line. Annually, the rates for flow, BOD, and TSS are calculated based upon the fiscal year budget for treatment and disposal costs and the 1996 Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Agreement. The rates calculated for each constituent for FY 2023-24 for wastewater discharge are:

FLOW	\$291.99 per million gallons of flow
BOD	\$393.64 per thousand pounds
TSS	\$493.89 per thousand pounds

The FY 2023-24 rates are an average 8.28 percent increase from the FY 2022-23 rates due to an increase in the treatment and disposal costs in the proposed FY 2023-24 Budget. These rates are separate from the rates charged for additional capacity purchases by SAWPA.

### **RELEVANT STANDARDS**

- Comply with OC San Policy - Establishing Annual SAWPA Treatment and Disposal Rates
- Support of 1996 Treatment and Disposal Agreement with SAWPA

### **TIMING CONCERNS**

Rates should be effective July 1, 2023 (FY 2023-24).

## **RAMIFICATIONS OF NOT TAKING ACTION**

Rates would not be established for FY 2023-24 for cost recovery for treatment and disposal of SAWPA's wastewater discharge.

## **PRIOR COMMITTEE/BOARD ACTIONS**

A resolution is adopted annually in June pursuant to the Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Agreement with SAWPA.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

The FY 2023-24 proposed budget to operate, maintain, and manage OC San's sewage collection, treatment, and disposal system is \$215.4 million, an increase of approximately 7.1 percent, or \$14.3 million, from the prior year budget. The Operating Budget increase is primarily driven by increased chemical, utility, and infrastructure maintenance/repair costs. The historically high inflation that has impacted the nation's economy over the past year is also driving up OC San's cost of doing business.

## **CEQA**

N/A

## **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

N/A

## **ATTACHMENT**

*The following attachment(s) may be viewed on-line at the OC San website ([www.ocsan.gov](http://www.ocsan.gov)) with the complete agenda package:*

- Draft Resolution No. OC SAN 23-XX