



BIG BEND WATER DISTRICT

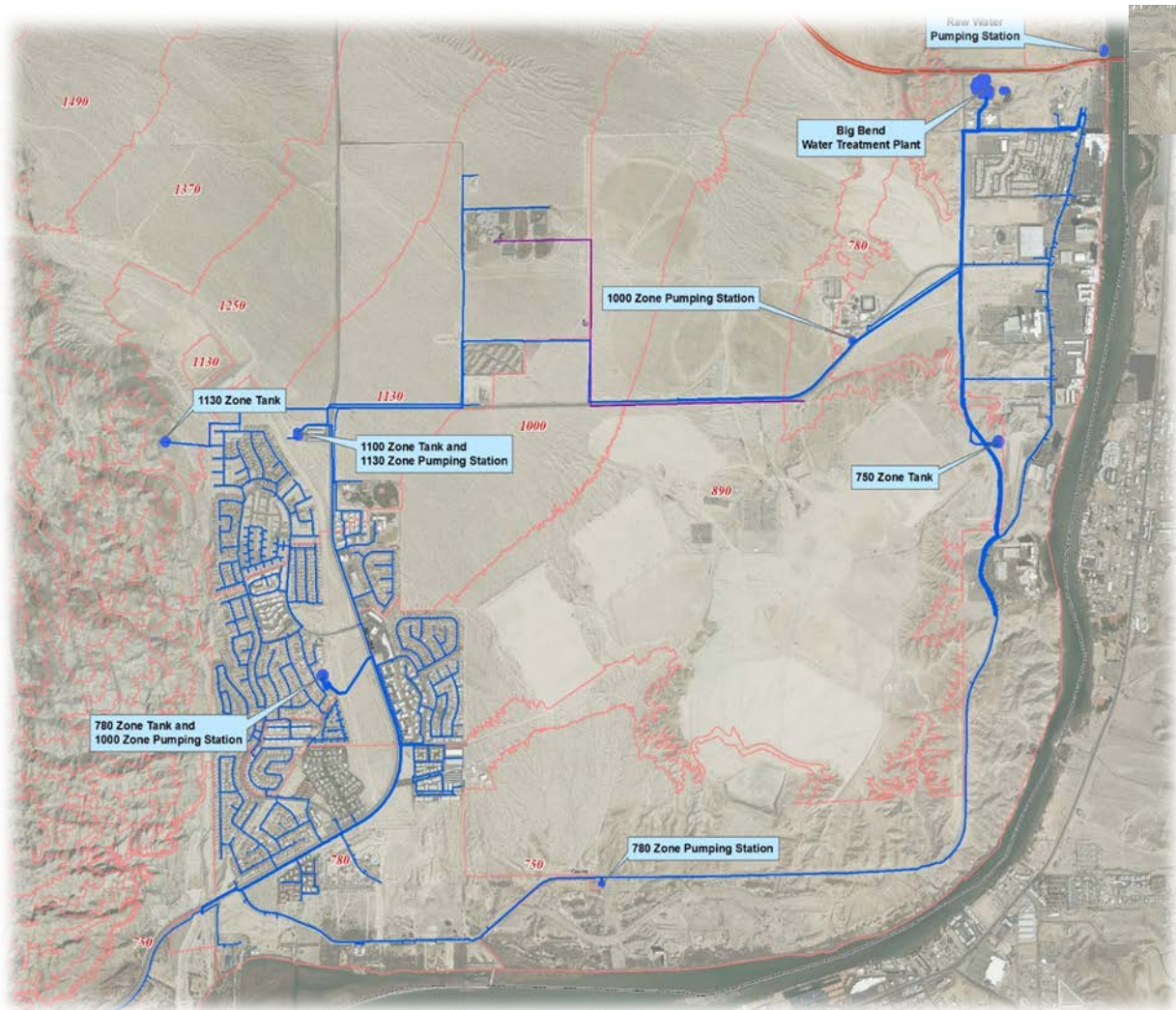
Water Rates and Charges

About the Big Bend Water District

- The Las Vegas Valley Water District operates the Big Bend Water District through an agreement with the County.
- The LVVWD assumed operations of BBWD in 2008.
- The BBWD is a separate entity: revenues are used only to support BBWD projects; and expenditures are only funded through revenue generated by BBWD.



Current Water System



- **Approx. 60 miles of pipeline**
- **Approx. 315 hydrants**
- **4 storage tanks**
- **Raw water treatment plant**
 - Ozonation
 - UV Disinfection
- **Max operating capacity is 15 MGD**
- **Peak demand 7.5 - 8.5 MGD**

Water System Improvements

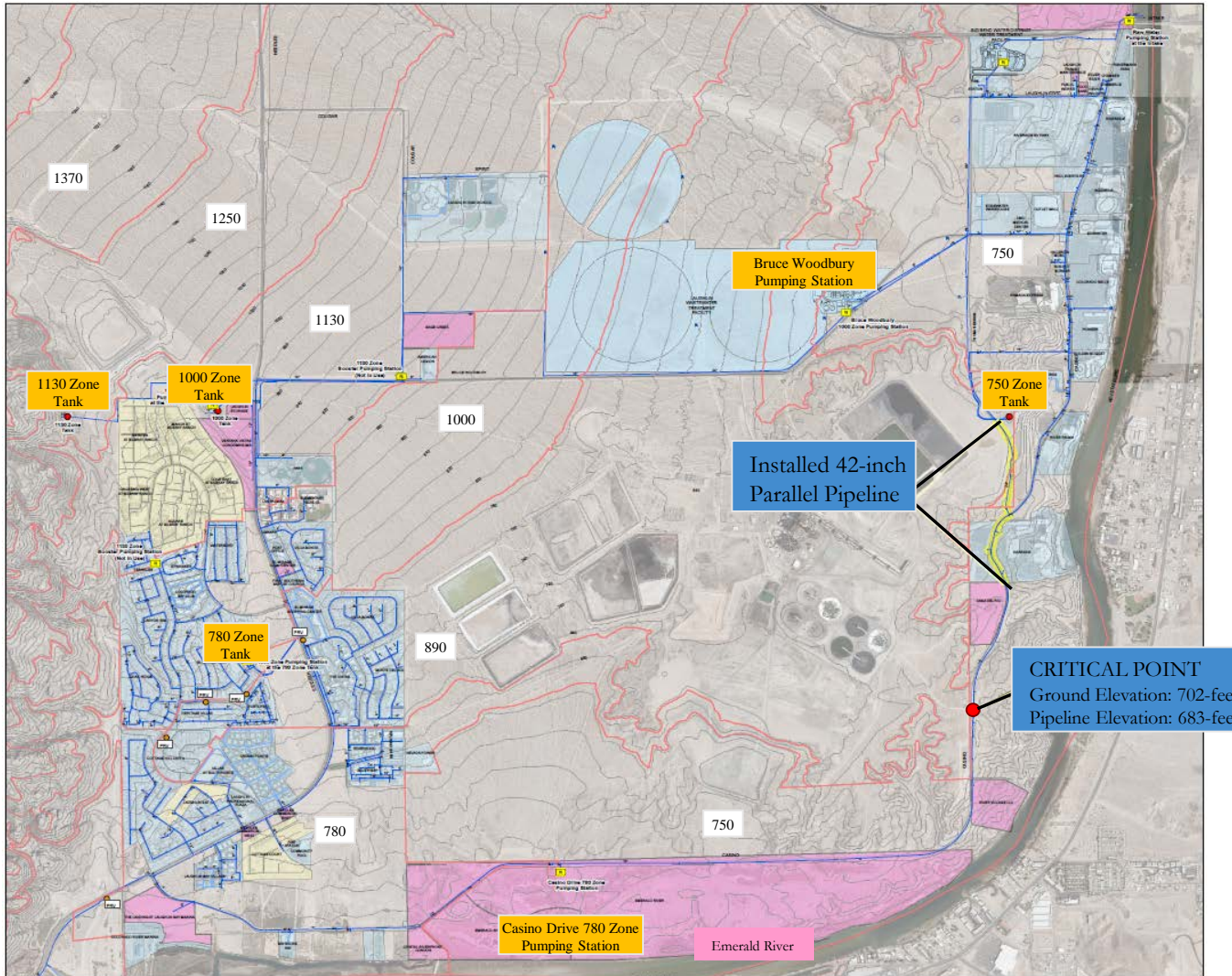
In the last 10 years, the system required more than \$7.8 million for improvements to the water system.



The improvements addressed issues within the system:

- NAC Requirements
- System Reliability
- Operational Efficiency
- Conservation
- Water Quality
- Operations and Maintenance

Major System Improvements



Thomas Edison/Casino Drive Pipeline Improvements (\$3.2 million)

Addressed low pressure issue in Casino Drive pipeline

Improved system reliability

Increased pipeline capacity to allow for future demands

Major System Improvements



Service Line Replacements (\$2.4 million)

Nearly 800 service laterals have been replaced.

- Polyethylene-coated copper water tube
- New corporation stops
- Service saddles
- Angle meter stops
- Corrosion control



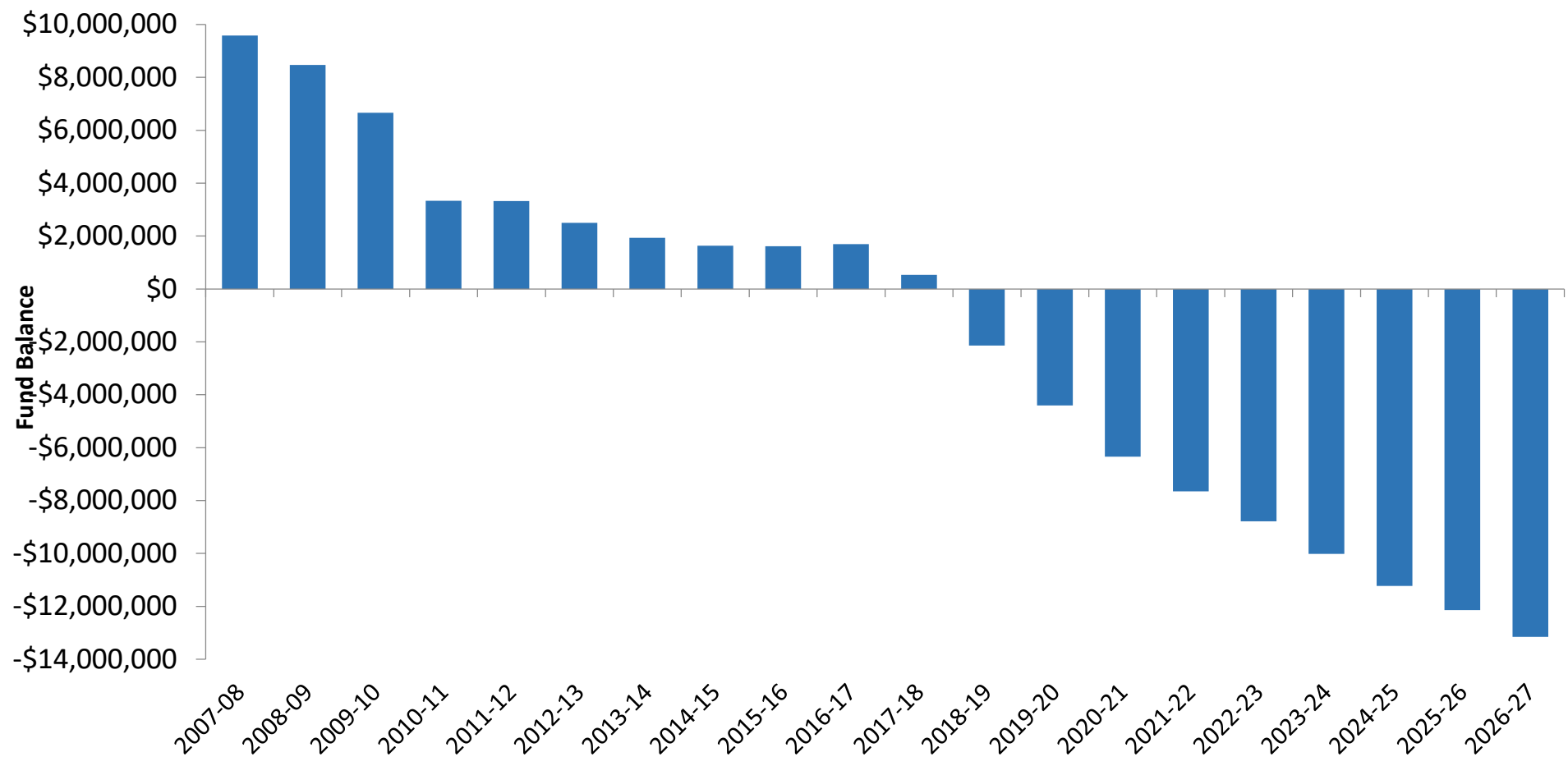
Water System Improvements

Improvements were made through the use of a healthy reserve fund, built over a period of rate increases (2002-2006), approved before LVVWD began operating the system.

- Relying on reserves helped keep rates low during period of economic decline**
- Many projects were deferred**

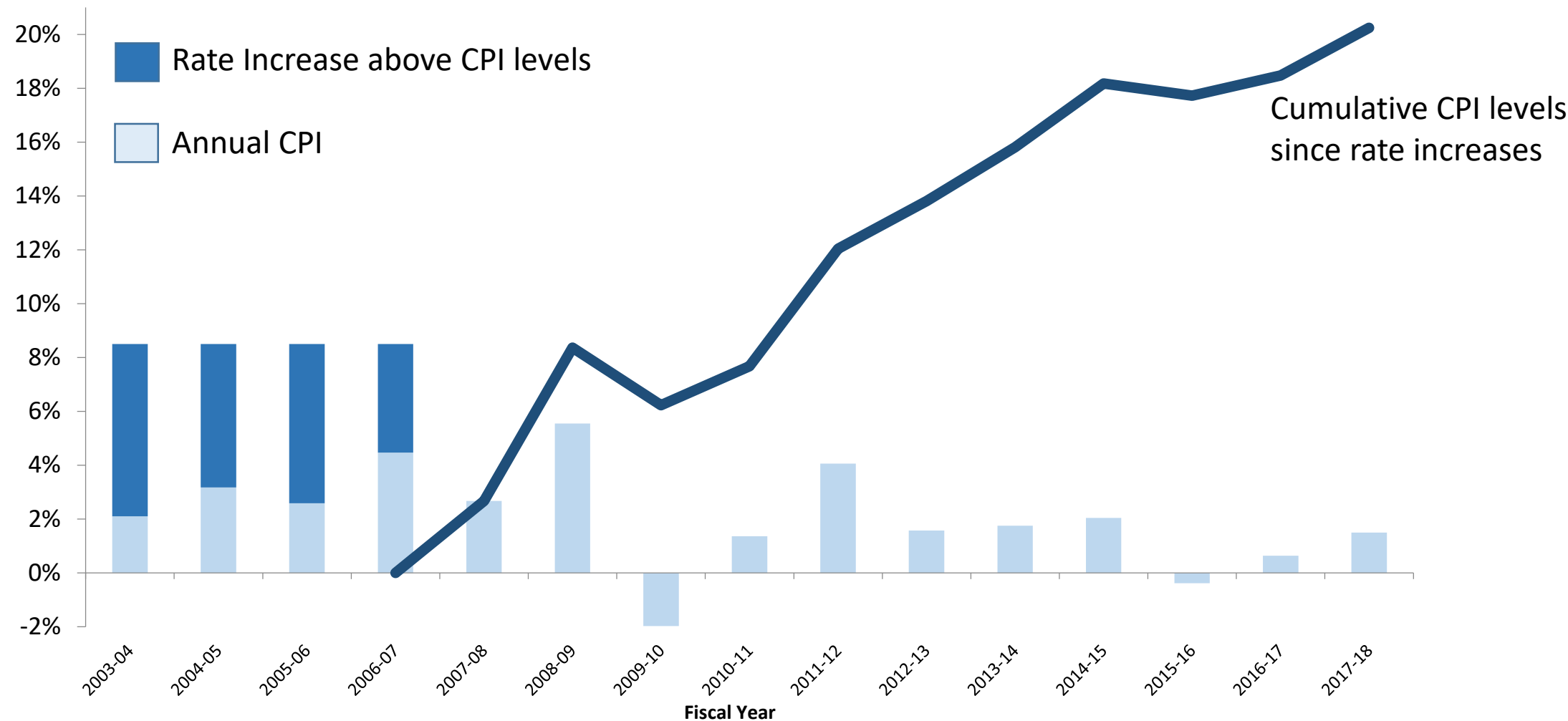
Funding Outlook

Reserves are projected to be fully expended by 2018



Funding Outlook

Inflation has increased by 20% since last rate increase



Water System Improvements

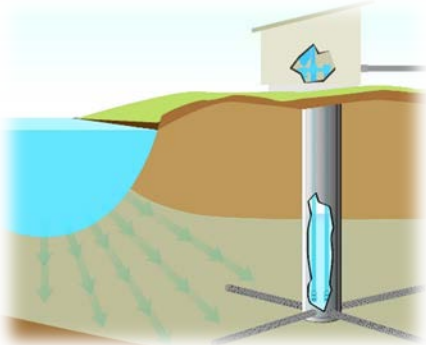
Today, the system needs \$9.2 million of capital improvements over the next 10 years to maintain the community's major water system components.



Capital Program – Major Projects



**Pipeline repairs
and replacements
(\$3.6 million)**



**Emergency Well
(\$1.1 million)**



**Tank refurbishment
(\$600,000)**

**Clearwell Deck
Corrosion
(\$820,000)**



**Treatment Plant
Upgrades
(\$200,000)**



**SCADA Software
Conversion
(\$366,000)**



Committee Process

To seek community input on decision-making, the Big Bend Water District's Board of Trustees established a citizens advisory committee and appointed 11 individuals to serve on the committee.

Ashlyn Bilbray*

Fred Doten

Sean Hammond

Bruce Henry

Carrie Larson

Danny Laughlin

Deborah Murray

Kathy Ochs

Frank Pilj

Pamela Tyler

Felicia Yates*

Committee members represented different segments of the community, including retirees, gaming, small business owners and Laughlin Town Advisory Board members

**Appointed, but unable to serve*

Committee Process



- Five meetings conducted, facilitated by a neutral third-party facilitator
- All meetings were publicly-posted and open to the public
- Opportunities for public comment at the beginning and end of each meeting
- All committee work took place in the public meetings

Committee Process

The Advisory Committee process included information gathering, a facility tour, a thorough review of operating costs, and evaluating options to meet long-term objectives.

Key questions included:

- How should capital projects be funded over time?**
- What is the most equitable way to achieve rate stability?**
- What other funding sources should the community consider?**
- How should rate increases be phased?**

Committee Recommendations

The Advisory Committee evaluated 17 different rate models.

Key Decisions:

- **Pursue grant sources and report progress to the community**
- **Do not access funding from the Fort Mohave Valley Development Fund**
- **Phase the rate increase over four years at 9.4 percent per year**
- **Track rates with CPI in years 5-10**

Committee Recommendations

The Committee narrowed the scenarios down to two preferred options and asked the Laughlin Town Advisory Board to make a recommendation.

Scenario 1B

- **Increase Service Charge by 9.4% per year over the next four years**
- **Increase tiered water rates by 9.4% per year over the next four years**
- **Subsequent increases after four years would be correlated with the Consumer Price Index (CPI)**



Sample Customers – Proposed Rates

Customer Type	Average Consumption	Current Bill	New 2018 Bill	New 2019 Bill	New 2020 Bill	New 2021 Bill
Single Family Residential	7	\$ 26.00	\$ 28.45	\$ 31.12	\$ 34.05	\$ 37.25
Multi-family Residential	5,442	15,987.06	17,498.85	19,133.87	20,932.46	22,900.12
Elementary School	536	1,489.20	1,636.88	1,788.58	1,954.55	2,136.13
Shopping Center	299	934.00	1,014.95	1,103.50	1,200.37	1,306.35
Shopping Center (2)	483	1,371.95	1,495.85	1,631.40	1,779.69	1,941.92
Restaurant	18	56.05	61.32	67.09	73.40	80.30
Non Profit	22	76.10	83.25	91.08	99.64	109.00
Non Profit (2)	20	68.05	74.45	81.44	89.10	97.48
Gaming Resort	5,362	14,725.40	16,092.68	17,588.48	19,224.89	21,015.11
Library	118	366.65	397.92	432.12	469.54	510.48
Park	1,051	2,987.30	3,256.19	3,550.36	3,872.19	4,224.27
Small Business	50	211.70	226.54	242.77	260.54	279.98

Bill Comparisons

Service Area	Single Family Residential (7,000 gallons monthly use)	Elementary School (536,000 gallons monthly use)
BBWD	\$ 28.45	\$ 1,498.20
LVVWD	35.74	2,319.46
Bullhead City	28.32	1,920.68
Searchlight	18.99	1,971.47
City of Henderson	38.79	1,939.03
Kyle Canyon	81.30	2,927.04

Public Outreach

The District is committed to including customers in the decision-making processes.

October 10: Business Impact Statement Process Initiated

November 6: Informational Public Meeting

December 5: Public Hearing

Ongoing Outreach: Website Updates
Bill Estimator
Newsletter
Direct Mail
Speakers Bureau
Social Media

