



Sonoma
Water

FY 2021-2022 Proposed Rates Sanitation Districts and Zones

Lynne Rosselli
Administrative Services
Division Manager



Requested Board Actions

- Adopt Resolutions (5) overruling objections, adopting a report on charges for sewage services, modifications to rate structures and confirming charges for 1) Sonoma County Water Agency Sanitation Zones Airport-Larkfield-Wikiup, Geyserville, Penngrove, and Sea Ranch; and County Sanitation Districts 2) Occidental, 3) Russian River, 4) South Park, and 5) Sonoma Valley.
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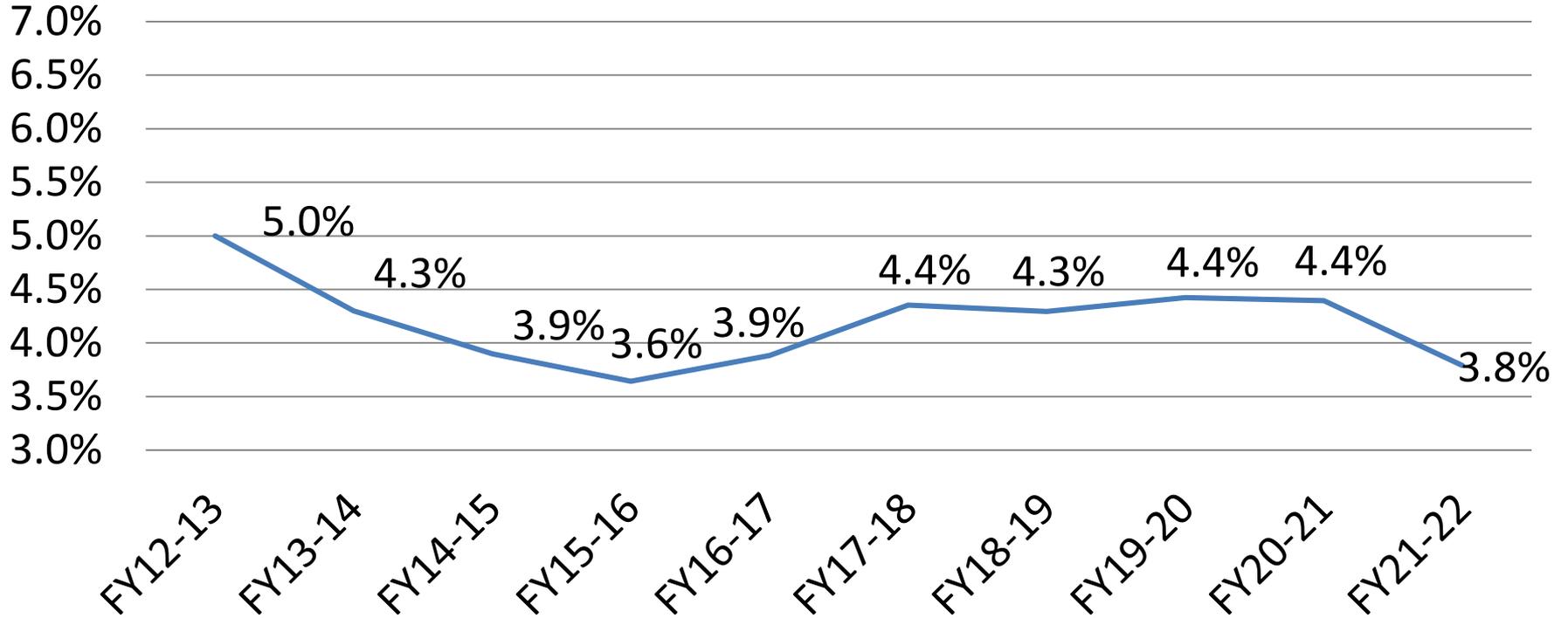


Business Model

- Long-Term Financial Plans set target rates for next 5+ years
- Capital Investments Goal - Reinvest at rate of depreciation
- Use rate increases above CPI for capital investments
- Keep routine operations and maintenance expenses at CPI



Average Sanitation Rate Increase



FY 2021/2022 Proposed Rate Increases

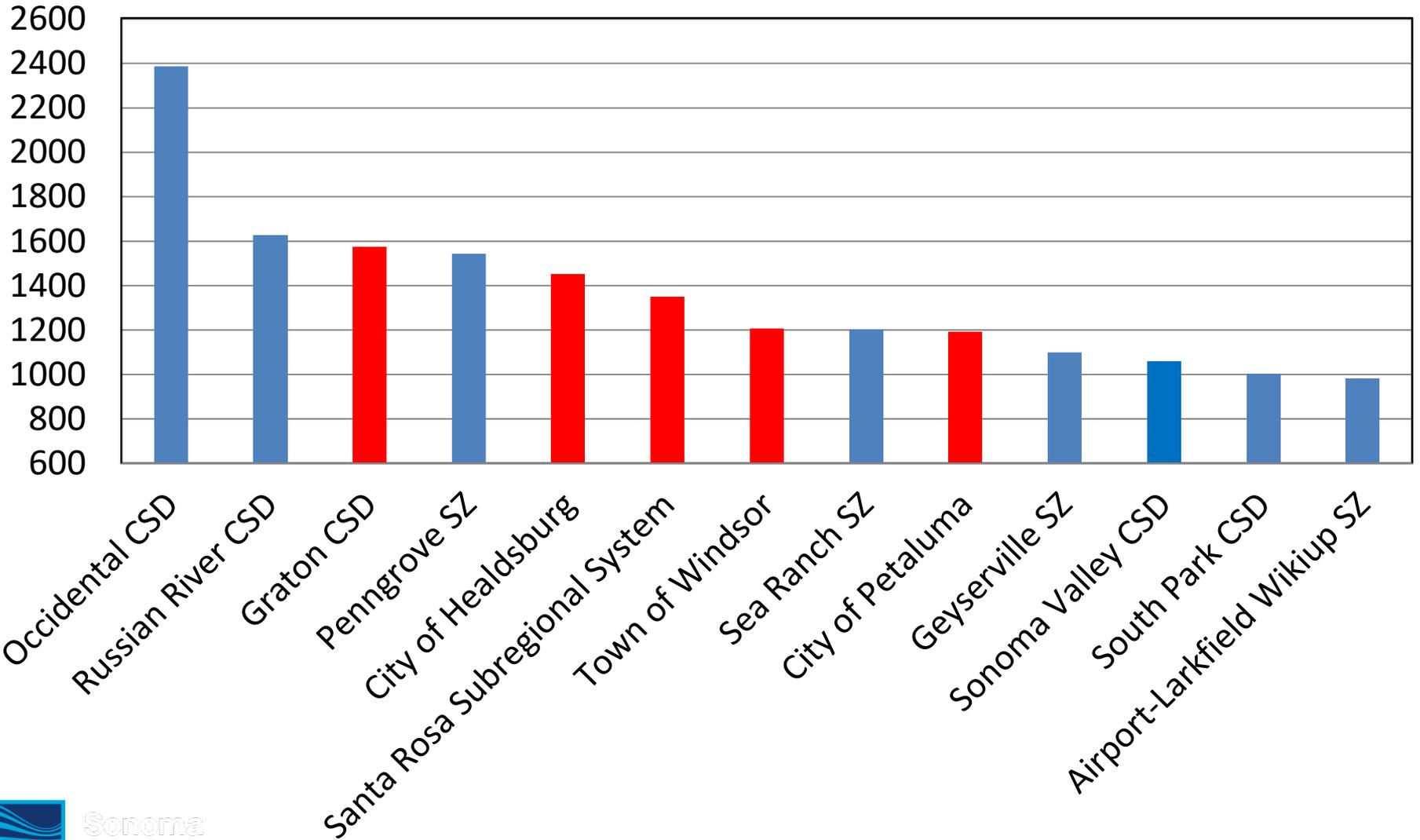
Zone	Airport, Larkfield, Wikiup		Geyserville		Penngrove		Sea Ranch	
Percent Increase	3.9%		4.0%		3.9%		3.5%	
FY 21-22 Amount	\$1,058	\$40	\$1,204	\$46	\$1,692	\$64	\$1,286	\$44

District	Occidental		Russian River		Sonoma Valley		South Park	
Percent Increase	4.0%		4.0%		3.5%		3.6%	
FY 21-22 Amount	\$2,604	\$100	\$1,774	\$68	\$1,132	\$38	\$1,074	\$37

Note: FY 21-22 Amount = Annual Charge per Equivalent Single Family Dwelling and Dollar Increase over FY 20-21.

Annual Charges for Sewer Service - 2021

Based on 200 Gallons per Day per Equivalent Single Family Dwelling



Rate Calculation – Sanitation Zones

Zone	Airport-Larkfield-Wikiup	Geyserville	Penngrove	Sea Ranch
Rate Increase	3.9%	4.0%	3.9%	3.5%
Operating Revenue	5,163,000	993,000	1,078,000	762,000
Operating Expenses	4,363,000	820,000	973,000	762,000
Net Revenue	800,000	173,000	105,000	0
Grants/Loans	0	0	0	0
FY21-22 Capital Improvements	563,000	25,000	198,000	180,000
FY23-26 Projects	2,285,000	270,000	120,000	2,570,000
	Replace Main Electrical Breaker & Filter Modules, Sludge Removal, Plant & Piping Improvements, EQ Basin	Sludge Removal	Future Capital Projects	Plant Improvements, Influent Creek Crossing, Lift Station Auxiliary Power

Rate Calculation – Sanitation Districts

District	Occidental	Russian River	Sonoma Valley	South Park
Rate Increase	4.0%	4.0%	3.5%	3.5%
Operating Revenue	1,618,000	6,144,000	17,647,000	4,398,000
Operating Expenses	1,200,000	5,082,000	10,402,000	2,737,000
Net Revenue	418,000	1,062,000	7,245,000	1,661,000
Grants/Loans	0	225,000	12,128,000	0
FY21-22 Capital Improvements	460,000	810,000	10,192,000	705,000
FY23-26 Projects	1,355,000	12,461,000	28,369,000	13,480,000
	Replace Force Main, Automation Project, Hauling, Occidental - Graton Pipeline	Force Main, Headworks, Lift Stations, Underground Tank, Electrical Resiliency Project, UV System Retrofit	Replace Trunk Mains, Pumping & Piping Upgrades, Recycled Water Line Replacement, Hazard Mitigation	Santa Rose Ave Collection System Replacement Transfer to City of Santa Rosa

FY 2021-2022 Sanitation Highlights.



- Airport - Main Electrical Breaker and Filter Modules, Sludge Removal
- Geyserville – Percolation Pond Drainage, Aerator Installation
- Penngrove - Lift Station Flood Resiliency Project (FEMA grant)
- Sea Ranch – Lift Station Control Panel Replacement
- Occidental - Hauling Wastewater to Airport Treatment Plant, Pipeline Feasibility Study
- Russian River – Headworks, Lift Station/Force Main Project (State grant), Clarifier Seismic Retrofit (FEMA grant)
- Sonoma Valley – Sewer Trunk Main Replacements, Headworks Project, Pumping/Piping Upgrades
- South Park - Multi-year Transition of O&M to City of Santa Rosa

Public Outreach

- Tours of sanitation facilities on hold due to Pandemic
- Annual Prop. 218 Newsletters



Public Outreach

SONOMA VALLEY COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT

LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM UPGRADES

The Sonoma Valley Treatment Plant (Plant) has a history of innovative power upgrades. Inside the Plant, much of the equipment was original to the 1960 construction and is deteriorating to the point of failure.

The electrical system upgrades that have been completed were needed to prevent potential hazards, reduce potential expenses and improve the system. One portion of the project was the installation of automatic transfer switches to integrate the system and allow for the connection of a portable generator.

A significant feature of the electrical upgrades was the main switchboard replacement. The original switchboard was installed in 1975. The switchboard is now obsolete and needed to be replaced. The new switchboard and main switchboard provides a safer environment and increased equipment clearance for reliable ongoing maintenance and operation.

These electrical upgrades will help the Plant run efficiently and safely for many more years.

SONOMA WATER

INSIDE

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- 5 Rate Proposal Form

HOW YOUR SEWER SERVICE FEES ARE SPENT

Service fees collected from property owners are used to operate and maintain the sanitation facilities that are managed by Sonoma Water. This graphic depicts provides a snapshot of types of activities that are required to operate our facilities in an environmentally responsible and fiscally prudent manner, to replace worn-out equipment before it fails.

COLLECTION SYSTEM 11¢	OPERATION 44¢
ENGINEERING, MAINTENANCE, INSPECTION, COMPLIANCE 21¢	MECHANICAL ELECTRICAL MAINTENANCE 24¢

BUDGET APPROVAL

After the proposed budgets and rates are developed, the budgets are available for public review at libraries throughout the county and at Sonoma Water's office located at 404 Aviation Boulevard, Santa Rosa. They are also available online. Typically this happens at the end of March. In addition, copies of the proposed rates are mailed to the owners of the properties in the districts and zones at that time. The public can protest rate increases up to the date of the rate hearing, which are typically held in mid-May at the board of supervisors chambers. (A protest form and rate hearing information are available on page 6-7 of this notice.)

ABOUT YOUR DISTRICT

In 1965 Sonoma Water assumed responsibility from the County of Sonoma for managing the county sanitation zones and districts, including your district. The District began operation in 1965. Currently, it serves 17,715 Equivalent Single Family (ESF) dwellings within a 4,500-acre service area. The treatment plant has a design capacity of 3 million gallons per day (average daily dry weather flow) and treats wastewater to tertiary treatment levels (also referred to as advanced water treatment). High-quality recycled water is an important resource and its use offsets potable water demands and enhances the environment. Between May 1 and October 31, the recycled water is used for irrigation and wetlands/habitat marsh enhancement. Between November 1 and April 30, recycled water is discharged into Schell Slough or Hudsons slough.

COVID-19'S IMPACT ON BUDGETS AND SEWER SERVICE CHARGES

To Our Ratepayers:

We know that the COVID-19 pandemic has had a devastating effect on many residents and businesses throughout our county and beyond. As managers of your local sanitation districts and zones, we are well aware of the financial burden of rising sanitation charges during these difficult times and we are working every effort to reduce the impact as much as possible.

The right sanitation zones and districts managed by Sonoma Water are all experiencing financial constraints. Sewer rates are increasing as sewer projects remain unable to pay their sewer service charges, and we anticipate that there will be more delinquencies in the economic impact of the pandemic continue. The district and zones are doing their best to be more diligent in the economic impact of the pandemic continue. The district and zones are doing their best to be more diligent in the economic impact of the pandemic continue. The district and zones are doing their best to be more diligent in the economic impact of the pandemic continue.

While we remain committed to operate and maintain the systems in a responsible manner, protect public health and the environment and comply with regulatory requirements, the costs to meet those requirements continue to increase.

This year we have made sewer adjustments to help stabilize rates. At a minimum, including cutting overhead costs, deferring maintenance where it is possible, and delaying studies and capital improvement projects.

One of the challenges we have with most districts and zones is that there are a limited number of residents and businesses to share the costs of operation, maintenance, and project implementation. With a greater rate base, costs are borne by fewer customers, and we encourage you to share the costs of operation, maintenance, and project implementation.

Our best goal is to provide COVID support and we are actively seeking support from state and federal sources.

We will continue to provide critical COVID support and we are actively seeking support from state and federal sources.

We continue to seek public input and we are actively seeking support from state and federal sources.

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General Manager, Sonoma Water

DEBATES IN YOUR DISTRICT

WATER-SAVING DEBATE PROGRAM AVAILABLE

Save up to 50% back on the purchase and installation of a new, cutting-edge high-efficiency clothes washer. The program is available to all Energy Star Most Efficient listed clothes washers. About your existing clothes line.

www.sonomawater.com/energy-saving



DO FLUSH

The following can be flushed down the toilet.



Toilet paper

DO NOT FLUSH

The following cannot go in the toilet as they can clog pipes and septic systems.

				
Paper towels	Cigarette butts	Disposable diapers	Wipes (Baby or flushable)	Feminine hygiene products
				
Plastics	Medications	Cotton (Cotton swabs or balls)	Dental floss	Toxic Substances

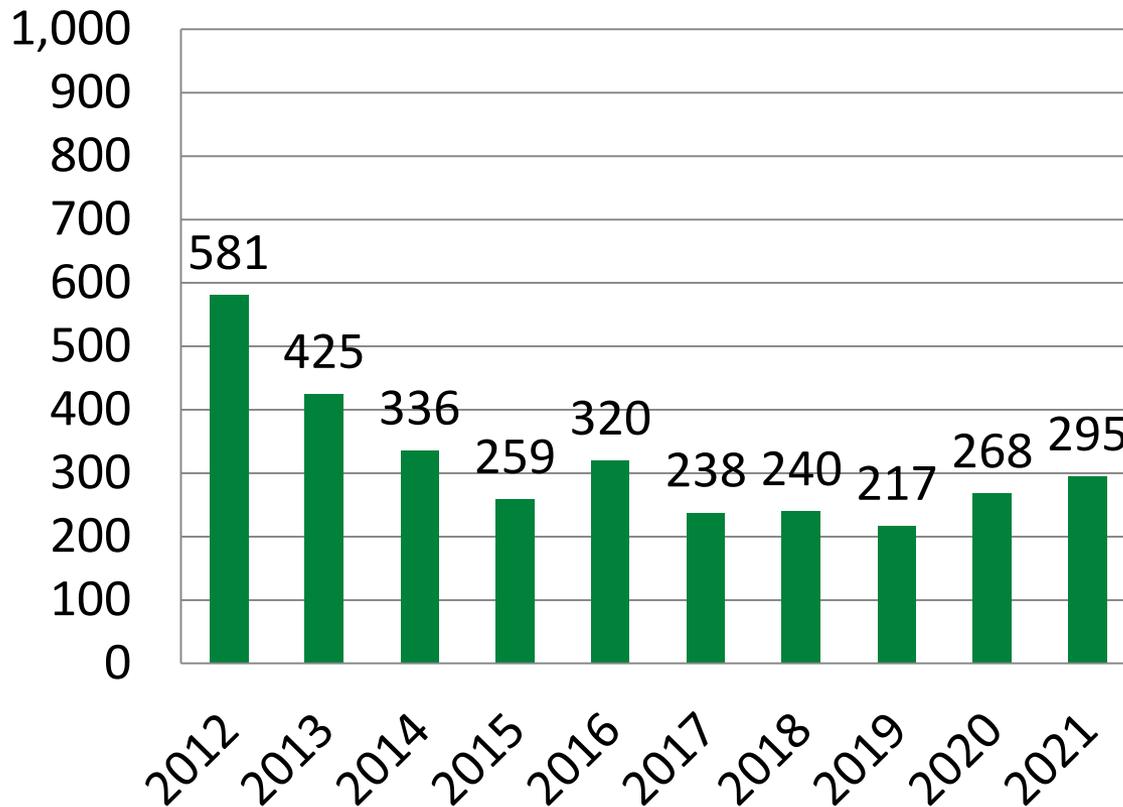
Dispose these items in the trash.

Water Use Efficiency Rebates



Efficiency Upgrades
for Low-Income
Residents

Total Protest Returns



Range

Sea Ranch - 0.83%

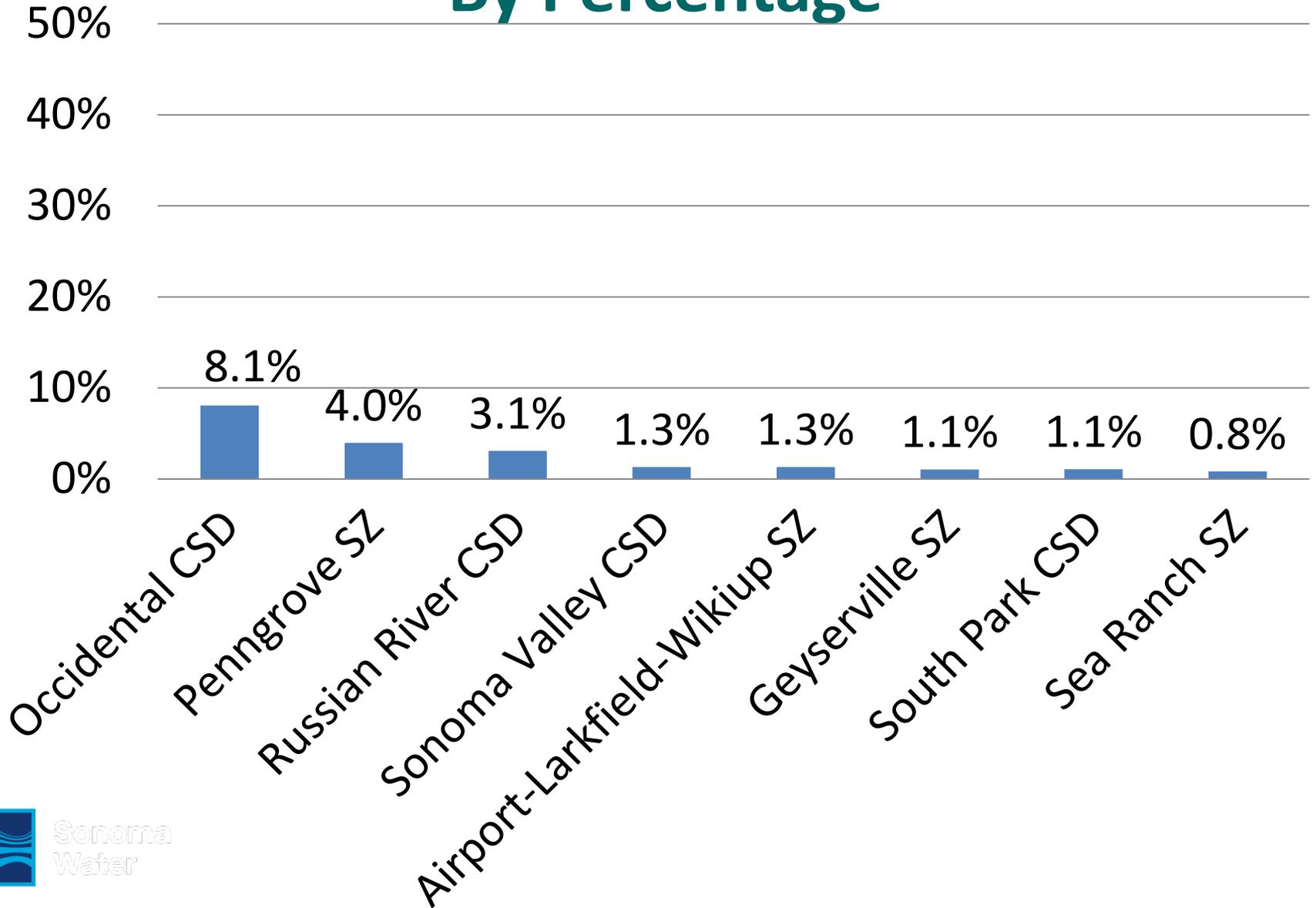
Occidental – 8.08%

Average – 2.59%

Total Number of
Equivalent Single
Family Dwellings:
31,133



Proposition 218 Protest Data By Percentage



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