

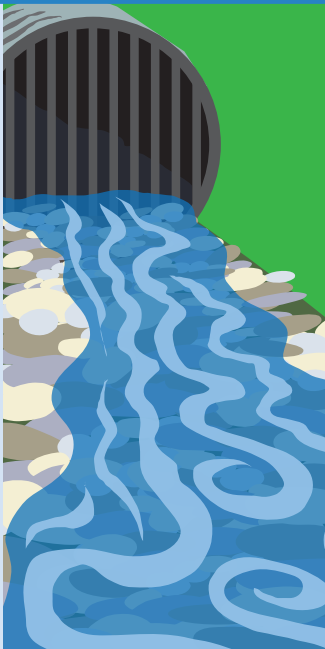


CITY OF SAN LEANDRO

# STORMWATER FEE INITIATIVE

The City is proposing to amend the existing Stormwater Fee because additional dedicated funding is needed to:

- Remove trash and pollutants from rain runoff using sustainable methods; and
- Repair and maintain critical pipes and pump stations; and
- Invest in the highest-priority storm drainage infrastructure projects for the City's aging system.



Over the past 30 years, the City of San Leandro's Stormwater Fee has never increased and its purchasing power has decreased by greater than half. Over that same period, clean water regulations have increased with more mandates requiring additional investment. Additionally, repair and maintenance of the system is necessary to address recurring flooding and capacity issues and to plan for future climate adaptation.

This project proposes to amend the current Stormwater Fee charged to property owners to provide dedicated and reliable funding for clean water, flood prevention, operating and capital improvement costs. This funding cannot be taken away by the State or County and would be solely dedicated to flood prevention and water quality projects. This fee is designed to be fair and reasonable based on the actual cost of providing the service, and complies with the provisions of Proposition 218, the Right to Vote on Taxes Act.

## Funding Needs for San Leandro's 71-mile Stormwater System

The City's existing Stormwater Fee generates \$1.073 million annually for stormwater-related projects. The Fee has not been increased in the past 30 years and does not cover the system's basic needs. Based on a Storm Drain Master Plan developed by the City's stormwater adviser, Schaaf & Wheeler, the City's 71-mile stormwater system requires approximately \$4.8 million annually to cover operating and maintenance costs and to fund very-high priority and a majority of high-priority capital improvements projects designed to reduce flooding and capture trash flowing to San Francisco Bay. The proposed amendment to the Stormwater fee includes an annual escalation tied to the change in the Consumer Price Index.

### STORMWATER FUND REVENUE Fiscal Year 2024-2025

#### STORMWATER FEE

Budget	\$1.073 million	Current Stormwater Fee
Need	\$4.768 million	
Proposed	\$3.191 million	

#### STORMWATER FUND EXPENDITURES

	BUDGET	NEED	PROPOSED
Monitoring and Reporting	\$458,000	\$540,000	\$540,000
Operations & Maintenance	\$140,000	\$140,000	\$140,000
Street Cleaning	\$627,000	\$780,000	\$780,000
Trash Capture Device Maintenance	\$0	\$200,000	\$200,000
Pipe Cleaning	\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000
Green Infrastructure Plan & Implementation	\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000
Very High Priority Projects: Debt Service	\$0	\$424,000	\$424,000
High Priority Projects: Pay as You Go (PAYGo) <sup>1</sup>	\$0	\$800,000	\$800,000
Medium-Low Priority Projects: PAYGo <sup>2</sup>	\$0	\$1,577,000	\$0
General Fund Loan Repayment (\$2.5m at 1.75% for 30 years)		\$107,000	\$107,000
Total	\$1,225,000	\$4,768,000	\$3,191,000

<sup>1</sup>Total funding needed for High Priority projects = \$24m amortized over 30 years = \$800,033 per year

<sup>2</sup>Total funding needed for Medium-Low Priority projects = \$47.3m amortized over 30 years = \$1,576,667 per year

**Trash Capture Device Installation and Maintenance**



Trash capture devices installed in storm drain inlets collect trash from stormwater runoff before it enters local waterways and San Francisco Bay, protecting aquatic life and local habitats. The City has already installed 725 small-scale trash capture devices to date and is currently pursuing the design and installation of the remaining six large-scale and 177 small-scale trash capture devices to achieve

100% State-mandated compliance by 2025. The proposed fee amendment includes the cost of installing the remaining devices and maintaining the 908 total devices throughout the City.

**Pipe Cleaning**

The proposed budget includes funding for pipe cleaning to ensure stormwater can drain to San Francisco Bay. The image to the right shows heavy blockage of one of San Leandro's 48" pipes, which causes flooding in neighborhoods and commercial/industrial areas. Regular cleaning of the pipes with heavy sedimentation is needed to keep water flowing to the bay.



**Green Infrastructure**

Development of green infrastructure gradually transforms the urban landscape and storm drainage systems from "gray" to "green." It involves shifting from having stormwater flow directly off impervious surfaces into the storm drainage system to having runoff flow into a local, sustainable system. Coordinating the proposed capital projects with street greening can lower the marginal cost of stormwater management.



The City is required to develop a Green Infrastructure Plan to identify and prioritize locations for green infrastructure and the appropriate solution for each location throughout the City. By June 2027, the City will need to install green infrastructure to treat a minimum of 5-acres of existing impervious surface.

VERY HIGH PRIORITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS - BOND FUNDED	
Trash Capture Installation mandated by June 2025 (assumes \$1m State grant and CalTrans \$2.7m contribution)	\$1,749,000
Williams St, Aurora Drive to Marina outfall (1,170 ft)	\$1,631,000
San Leandro Boulevard/Best Avenue (1,983 ft)	\$671,000
Aurora Dr. Connecting Pipe (827 ft)	\$440,000
\$4,491,000	

HIGH PRIORITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS - "PAY AS YOU GO"	
Bancroft Ave (2,877 ft)	\$2,867,000
East 14th St north of Channel (1,978 ft)	\$1,354,000
East 14th St south of Channel (1,159 ft)	\$899,000
Estabrook St (594 ft)	\$350,000
Hesperian Blvd and branching systems (717 ft)	\$666,000
Hubbard Ave to Washington Manor Park (7,430 ft)	\$6,759,000
Lakeview Dr System in northeast of City (3,598 ft)	\$2,330,000
Lark St (283 ft)	\$246,000
Nicholson and Republic (1,627 ft)	\$1,319,000
Reed and 143rd (1,141 ft)	\$974,000
Washington Pump Station Piping (1,344 ft)	\$827,000
West of Mendocino/Laverne Dr (675 ft)	\$940,000
Wicks Blvd (1,510 ft)	\$1,620,000
William St. From ACFCD pipes (2,267 ft)	\$1,842,000
Williams/Sundberg/Marina Blvd (1,678 ft)	\$1,014,000
\$24,007,000	

**Proposed Proposition 218 Property Related Fee Process**

**The State of California property-related fee process requires public approval in two distinct steps.** The first step is a public notice mailed to each property owner, followed by a public hearing 45 days later. If a majority of all affected property owners protest the proposed fee amendment, the fee cannot be imposed and the process is concluded. If a majority protest is not received, the municipality may take the second step and submit the fee amendment to a balloting of the property owners subject to a simple majority.

The mailed ballot must contain the amount of the proposed fee to be imposed on the owner's property, the basis for calculating the proposed fee, the reason for the fee, and a place where an owner can indicate their support or opposition to the fee. If a simple majority of property owners vote "yes", the fee can be implemented; if a simple majority of property owners vote "no", the fee cannot be implemented. The balloting must be held at least 45 days after the public hearing.

**2024 TENTATIVE TIMELINE**

<b>February 7</b> Storm Drain Master Plan presented to City Council Facilities & Transportation Committee	<b>March 4</b> Presentation to City Council of Stormwater Fee Report and Discussion of Proposed Stormwater Fee Amendment	<b>April 2</b> City Council to consider issuance of Public Notice regarding the proposed Stormwater Fee Amendment	<b>May 20</b> City Council holds Public Hearing and considers whether to proceed with the balloting for the proposed Stormwater Fee Amendment	<b>July 8 - Ballots due</b> <b>July 9 - Ballots tabulated</b> <b>July 15</b> City Council considers adoption of final amended Fee if majority is in favor
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