

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## CONTACT:

Brian Lee, 831.430.4625

blee@slvwd.com



## **SLV WATER DISTRICT BOARD APPROVES RATE RESTRUCTURING, INCLUDING RATE INCREASE**

*NEW RATES WILL INCLUDE INCREASE FOR MOST CUSTOMERS, ELIMINATION OF  
EXISTING DROUGHT SURCHARGE, AND FUNDING FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS*

**SEPTEMBER 22, 2017 — BOULDER CREEK, CA** — The San Lorenzo Valley Water District (SLVWD) today announced that at last night's Board of Directors special meeting and public hearing in Ben Lomond, the Board voted unanimously to approve a proposed rate restructuring in order to fund replacement and upgrades for pipeline, pumps and tanks, as well as build financial reserve funds. The vote followed public comments by local residents and a tally of protest letters received per Proposition 218 rules, which showed the number of letters received fell short of the threshold needed to prevent a rate increase. The new rates will take effect October 1, 2017.

### **Key elements of the approved rate restructuring plan include:**

- Rate increases for most customers over a five-year period
- Rate decrease for customers with the lowest water usage (approximately 10% of customers), followed by a gradual increase over the following four years
- Elimination of the existing drought surcharge
- Funding for capital improvement projects, such as replacement of pipelines, tanks and pumps
- Funding of a reserve fund for future emergencies and other future operational costs
- Shifting of the ratio of revenue from water fees and water use to 30% fees and 70% use, from the existing 50% fees and 50% use
- New revenue stabilization rates to offset revenue should water sales fall at least 10% below projections

For more information about rates, including a rate calculator, visit [www.slvwd.com](http://www.slvwd.com).

### **ABOUT THE SAN LORENZO VALLEY WATER DISTRICT**

The San Lorenzo Valley Water District is located in the mountains of northern Santa Cruz County. The district serves more than 7,800 metered connections across approximately 160 miles of pipeline, supported by dozens of water tanks, pumps and wells. Established in 1941 and supplied by a mix of surface water and underground water sources, the district provides water to the communities of Boulder Creek, Brookdale, Ben Lomond, Zayante, Scotts Valley, Mañana Woods, Felton and Lompico. For more information, visit [www.slvwd.com](http://www.slvwd.com) or [www.facebook.com/slvwaterdistrict](http://www.facebook.com/slvwaterdistrict).

###