

Argument for Measure U.

A Yes on grassroots Measure U is your support for an equitable rate structure. Limiting fixed charges will help make water affordable for those who use the least and spreads a Fair Share balance across all users.

The sharply rising Service Charge and proliferation of additional fixed charges has unfairly shifted the primary cost burden onto low water users. Fixed charges have roughly doubled since 2021.

At the same time, the District lowered the price of water for most customers, foolishly giving up over a million dollars a year while creating a rate structure that is upside-down, where lower water users now subsidize higher water users. The purpose of Measure U is to tilt the balance back to being more based on actual water usage and less about fixed charges you must pay before using a drop of water.

Going back to one basic Service Charge limited to a 2% increase per year will help many of our neighbors afford to stay in our community. Limiting the outrageous 36% increase over the next four years is equivalent to an 8% increase per year.

San Lorenzo Valley Water District customers understand the District needs money, and the District must understand customers need equitable, affordable rates. Customers responded in support of the District when asked to reduce water use, and our rate structure should in turn support those who conserve to save.

The Finance Director advised our board that this measure's fixed charge limitation will not affect District operations and recommends reclaiming reduced revenue by adjusting water rates. With this Initiative type we can only reduce or repeal charges. Our District must do its part in fair volumetric rates. Working together we can make a difference.

Measure U is a grassroots answer to Unfair rates, and for an equitable rate structure.

Please vote Yes on Measure U.

Visit slvh2o.org.

s/ Debra Loewen, Proponent, Customer Lompico Canyon

s/ Karen Brown, Customer, Boulder Creek

s/ James Bahn, Member SLVWD Finance Committee

s/ Rosemary Chalmers, Customer of SLVWD

s/ Bruce Holloway, Proponent, Boulder Creek Water Customer