



# CITY OF VALLEY SPRINGS

## NOTICE TO THE CITIZENS OF VALLEY SPRINGS

### DRINKING WATER AND SANITARY\STORM SEWER IMPROVEMENTS

#### DATE

The City of Valley Springs intends to replace clay sewer and asbestos cement water & sewer pipe that has outlived its useful life. Improvements to this infrastructure, originally installed in 1956-1958, are necessary to maintain the integrity of the system by reducing inflow and infiltration; therefore prolonging the life of our wastewater stabilization ponds, slowing system leakage, preventing sewer backups in home and preventing raw and untreated wastewater from entering our groundwater system. The project, scheduled for 2021, will replace approximately 4,700 feet of asbestos cement water main and 8,100 feet of sanitary and storm sewer with PVC pipe, and replace 23 manholes. Also included with this project are repairs and recoating of the water tower in 2020. The storage structure was last recoated over 20 years ago and is showing signs of rust.

The estimated costs of these required upgrades is \$3,382,000: \$1,779,000 for wastewater system improvements and \$1,603,000 for water system improvements. The City of Valley Springs was awarded a low interest loan (2.125% - 30 years) to finance this project. However, monthly water\sewer rates will need to increase by \$24/month to repay the loans for this project (\$19 water utility increase and a \$5 sewer utility increase).

We are mindful of the financial burden of increased rates; we have worked to keep rates at a reasonable level. Listed below is a comparison of monthly water, sewer and surcharge costs of area municipalities.

<b>VALLEY SPRINGS</b>	<b>\$85.50</b> as of 10/1/2020	BALTIC	\$79.65	CROOKS	\$87.75
HARTFORD	\$88.53	GARRETSON	\$102.85	BRANDON	\$103.14
DELL RAPIDS	\$103.80	COLTON	\$110.42		

*Cost of monthly billing for 5,000 gallons usage (including surcharges, if any)*

The new rates and monthly billing of water/sewer utilities will begin October 2020. The City of Valley Springs will be offering Direct Payment/ACH for your convenience. Enclosed is an authorization form if you choose to have your utility bill balance automatically deducted from your bank account on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Credit card payments are not an option at this time due to the price of transaction fees associated with this process.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

*Valley Springs City Commission*