



Highlands Mutual Water Company

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Dear Shareholder/Customer:

We want to bring an important issue to your attention regarding an ongoing lawsuit filed by the City of Clearlake. This legal action along with the following issues has led to an astonishing increase to the costs of providing water service to you, forcing an impending rate hike that impacts you in two ways:


As a ratepayer – Higher service rates are necessary to cover the costs of providing water to you.

As a taxpayer – Your tax dollars are funding the City’s legal battle(s).

In addition to the lawsuit, the City's **December 2024 adopted ordinances** are driving up costs even further for utility providers.

These ordinances impose extreme financial burdens. For example, **Ordinance 277-2024** requires utilities to make unbudgeted replacements when Measure V roads are completed noting these roads are preselected by the City without prior coordination with utilities. Additionally, **Ordinance 275-2024** is the City’s threatening attempt to regulate inspection and testing of hydrants that they do not have jurisdiction over—both of which are **unnecessary, costly, and an extreme overreach** by the City Council.

We believe in working together for the betterment of our community! **Communication and coordination between agencies is the solution—not wasting time and money on lawsuits and takeovers.**

 **Contact Your City Council Members** today and urge them to **stop these actions**. Please join us in demanding responsible decision making from the City of Clearlake.

Clearlake City Hall: (707) 994-8201

Mayor: rcremer@clearlake.ca.us (707) 350-1925

Vice Mayor: dslooten@clearlake.ca.us (916) 704-2463

City Council Member: tdowney@clearlake.ca.us (707) 350-3385

City Council Member: jhooten@clearlake.ca.us (707) 350-6136

City Council Member: mwilson@clearlake.ca.us (530) 300-6257

(Listed contact information for City Council Members found at

<https://www.clearlake.ca.us/230/Elections> and

<https://www.lakecountycalifornia.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3531/City-of-Clearlake-PDF>)