



4699 HOLLISTER AVENUE  
GOLETA, CALIFORNIA 93110-1999  
TELEPHONE 805/964-6761  
FAX 805/964-7002

## PRESS RELEASE

**News Media Contact:**

John McInnes, General Manager  
(805) 879-4620

[jmcinnes@goletawater.com](mailto:jmcinnes@goletawater.com)

DATE: January 18, 2011

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Goleta Water District Cost of Service Study Underway – First Workshop Scheduled for January 25, 2011**

The Goleta Water District has initiated a Cost of Service study to ensure that rates paid by customers adequately fund water system operations. The District will host a special Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday, January 25, 2011 at 5:30 pm to provide an overview of the study process and methodology, as well as the District's financial status. The meeting will be located at the Goleta Union School District Board Room, at 401 N. Fairview Avenue.

Special legal counsel and utility rate consultants hired by the District will be on hand to answer questions at the January 25, 2011 Board meeting. "We want our customers to be confident that we are doing everything we can to protect their investment in the District's water system," said Board of Directors President Bill Rosen. "The District does not collect any taxes, so it is critical that a modern rate structure is in place."

The last Cost of Service study was completed in 2006, resulting in rate changes which went into effect in 2006 and 2007. According to President Rosen, the current review is timely. "The Board just adopted the District's first Infrastructure Improvement Plan, which identified about \$12 million in unfunded regulatory and critical projects. In addition, we have minimal reserves for emergency repairs." President Rosen added "finding solutions for these significant deficits is critical if we are to continue providing the excellent service our customers have come to enjoy and expect. It is my hope that our customers will engage with us in this public process."

The District provides water to a diverse population of approximately 85,000 customers, including agricultural, residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional accounts. The District's water system includes over 270 miles of pipelines, a water treatment plant, storage reservoirs, pumping facilities, active wells, a recycled water system, and connections with Lake Cachuma and the State Water Project. The estimated replacement value of the entire system is approximately \$700 million.

Additional workshops are anticipated in the future, with the conclusion of the Cost of Service study scheduled for April 2011. More information is available at [www.goletawater.com](http://www.goletawater.com).

###