

City of Los Altos

Clean Water and Sustainable Storm Drainage Initiative

Fact Sheet

WHY

- 💧 Los Altos residents deserve and desire safe, clean and healthy creeks and waterways, as well as a reliable storm drainage system that protects against local flooding downtown and in our neighborhoods.
- 💧 The City's Clean Water/Storm Drainage System is one of the most important elements of our public infrastructure, and needs continuous maintenance.
- 💧 Polluted stormwater is the largest source of water pollution flowing into our local creeks and the San Francisco Bay.

WHAT

- 💧 Pro-actively maintain, operate, repair and upgrade the City's 55+ miles of pipes and over 1,350 drain inlets.
- 💧 Protect our neighborhoods and properties from local flooding.
- 💧 Reduce pollutants and trash in our local creeks before they flow into the Bay.
- 💧 Rehabilitate and improve our aging storm drainage infrastructure through a capital improvement program.

HOW MUCH

- 💧 The Program's annual costs are \$522,000 for clean water compliance, operations and maintenance; and \$611,000 for critical capital improvements per year.
- 💧 The proposed fee would be \$88.00 per year for the average, typical single-family home. Other properties would be charged according to the impervious surface area and size of their parcel.
- 💧 The proposed Storm Drainage Fees could be adjusted annually for inflation, but could not be increased without an additional property-owner balloting.

WHEN

- 💧 **Ballot must be returned by 5:00 pm June 18, 2019**
- 💧 If approved, the City intends to collect the Storm Drainage Fee on property tax bills starting Fiscal Year 2019-20.