



## **Important Notice**

Dear Utilities Customer:

The costs associated with providing potable water and sanitary sewer service have escalated substantially as has the requirement to replace aging infrastructure. We must also prepare to fund an alternative water supply project to provide service to our 2025 population. In addition, revenues have substantially been reduced due to recent water restrictions imposed as a result of the severity of our recent dry seasons.

In accordance with the Utilities Department rate plan, a study has been completed by our rate consultant, Public Resource Management Group, Inc. (PRMG), to determine the sufficiency of our existing rates to accommodate our operational needs as well as our capital improvement requirements. PRMG's recommendations call for a net 20% increase on August 1, 2009, and a net 12.4% increase on October 1, 2010 for customers receiving both water and wastewater service.

For a single-family residential customer with the average water and wastewater usage of 7,000 gallons per month, the proposed 20% increase in the monthly bill would be approximately \$7.36, starting August 1, 2009; and the proposed 12.4% increase, the monthly bill for the same usage would raise approximately \$6.80, starting October 1, 2010.

The rate structure designed in conjunction with these proposed adjustments is a conservation rate structure wherein the higher the water consumption, the higher the rate. The largest component to reduce Plantation's overall necessity to install very costly alternative water supply projects is our ability to reduce the per-capita consumption of water. Such reduction in our individual water use not only saves us from spending capital improvement dollars but also helps to ease the effects of global warming. When we conserve water, we conserve energy as well.

These proposed adjustments will continue to place Plantation's rates lower than the average rates charged by other neighboring utilities for a single-family residential customer at the 7,000 gallons per month usage level.

These adjustments are necessary for the continued provision and enhancement of utility service in Plantation. Your Utilities Department will continue our long history of cost conscious, efficient operation and the provision of quality, "hometown" service.

Please read the NOTICE below of the public hearings that have been set for this matter.

Yours truly,

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