## **Bulk Water Rate Reduction Proposal**

To: City of Sweet Home, Sweet Home City Council From: No Drought Potable Water Service, LLC

RE: Bulk water rate reduction

Date: October 24, 2018

**OUR MISSION:** As a potable water service provider, it is our mission to provide our customers potable water at affordable prices. We realize that water is vital to life. As Sweet Home residents, born and raised in this community, we are honored to be able to serve our community.

WHAT WE OFFER: Revenue, emergency relief, service to Sweet Home residents, and community support.

## ISSUES WITH THE CURRENT BULK WATER RESOLUTION:

- "Bulk users" include all bulk water purchased regardless of the amount: Resolution No. 7 for 2018 defines "bulk users" as swimming pool fills, tanker fills, street sweeper fills, and other bulk usage. This includes both standard users (i.e. a resident filling their pool once a year) and mega users (i.e. No Drought) both with very different usage. The impact on mega users is also much greater than the impact on the standard user. For example:
  - STANDARD USER: A 12,000 gallon pool fill is \$120 under the new rates (an increase of \$36.00 from the previous rates.)
  - MEGA USER (NO DROUGHT): Under the new rates, our July 2018 bill was \$2950.51 (an increase of \$912.00/month from the previous rates.)
    - > We are on track to pay \$10,000/year to the City of Sweet Home under *previous* rates.
- New bulk water rates aren't competitive with surrounding cities we get water from: Sweet Home \$9.40 (two rate average), Monmouth \$2.62, Lebanon \$5.06, & Springfield \$3.06.

PROPOSAL: One rate of \$5.21/unit for mega users (those using more than 50 units/month.)

**OUR PLEA:** The rate increase is too great and is damaging for mega users. We are unable to pass the increase on to our Sweet Home customers. Sweet Home is not a wealthy community and with potable water being vital, it has to be affordable for them. We would like to continue our mission in Sweet Home. However, it has to be feasible. Please consider our proposal. Thank you for your time and understanding.

Respectfully,

Matt & Brandy Jordan

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The Sweet Home School District appreciates the opportunity to work with the City of Sweet Home to provide parks and recreation opportunities for community members.

To help encourage public use of school district grounds, the district agrees to the following provided school policies are followed:

- Allowing youth sports and community use of the athletic field south of the high school when school activities are not taking place
- Providing the City with first access to school facilities (classrooms, gyms, auditorium, etc.) for City sponsored events and programs that do not interfere with school related operations and existing agreements with other organizations such as the Boys & Girls Club and LBCC.
- Allowing community use of school playgrounds when school is not in session and school activities are not taking place (with the exception of the Foster Elementary interior courtyard play area)
- Continuing to provide space for the skateboard park
- Continuing to operate the Sweet Home Community Pool provided the local option levy passes
- · Providing field space at Roy Johnston Field for youth sports and community use
- Providing field space at the varsity baseball field for Boys & Girls Club sports when school activities are not taking place
- Allowing community use of the track and artificial turf field during daylight hours when school activities are not taking place
- Developing a regulation sized natural grass soccer/football field south of Husky Stadium
- Considering the development of an irrigated softball field area for youth sports and community use at Foster Elementary School

In exchange, the District requests that the City waive water fees to irrigate the following fields:

- The athletic field south of the high school\*
- The varsity baseball field
- The proposed soccer/football field south of Husky Stadium
- The softball field area at Foster Elementary School if it is irrigated

We are excited about partnering with the City to enhance parks and recreation facilities in Sweet Home. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Tom Yahraes, Superintendent

<sup>\*</sup>We understand that there is concern about the Oregon Jamboree not being charged for additional water usage caused by the festival. Therefore, the District agrees to pay the City the bulk water rate each summer for 75,000 cubic feet of water that will then be charged to the Oregon Jamboree.