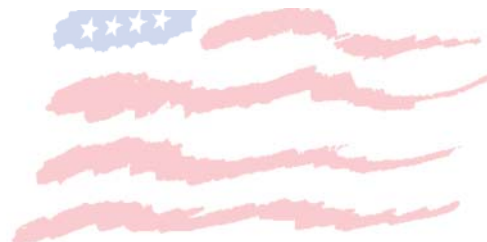




City Clerk's Office
City of Cupertino
10300 Torre Avenue
Cupertino CA 95014



PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SACRAMENTO, CA
PERMIT NO. 333

OFFICIAL BALLOT ENCLOSED

**FOR PROPERTY OWNERS IN THE CITY OF CUPERTINO
FOR PROPOSED CLEAN WATER AND STORM PROTECTION FEE**

OFFICIAL MAIL

**OFFICIAL PROPERTY OWNER
BALLOT ENCLOSED**

PLEASE OPEN IMMEDIATELY

MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4 P.M. JULY 5, 2019

Please Complete Your Ballot and Mail It Back Promptly

Ballot Instructions

To complete the enclosed ballot, mark the oval next to either “Yes” or “No” for the 2019 Clean Water and Storm Protection Fee. Then sign and date the ballot, place it in the provided postage-paid return envelope and mail or hand deliver it by 4:00 p.m. on July 5 to:

City Clerk’s Office
City of Cupertino
10300 Torre Avenue
Cupertino, CA 95014

Only official ballots that are signed and marked with the property owner’s support or opposition, and are received by 4 p.m. on July 5, 2019, will be counted. Post marks do not count.

The 2019 Clean Water and Storm Protection Fee can not be imposed if votes submitted in opposition to the fee exceed the votes submitted in favor of the fee.

If the fee is approved, the fee may be levied on property tax bills beginning in fiscal year 2019-20 and will continue in future years, unless ended by the City Council.



Third grade students conduct creek water monitoring and learn about the ecosystem and its importance through the City’s educational program.

Ballot Tabulation

Each parcel with a proposed fee greater than zero will get one vote. Ballots will be tabulated under the direction of the City Clerk at a location accessible to the public. The tabulation will commence the week of July 8, 2019 at City Hall, and may be performed by technological methods including but not limited to optically readable (bar-coded) ballots. Results of the tabulation are expected to be announced at the City Council meeting on July 16, 2019.

Public Accountability Safeguards

If approved by property owners, the proposed 2019 Clean Water and Storm Protection Fee revenues will be collected and deposited into a fund that can only be used for the Clean Water and Storm Protection Program. The funds cannot be taken by the County or the State, and cannot be used for other purposes. The revenues and expenditures will be reviewed by a local Citizens’ Oversight Committee, and will be regularly audited by an independent auditor along with the rest of the City’s budget.

Additional Information

For additional information or if you lose your ballot, require a replacement ballot, or want to change your vote, please call (408) 777-3200.

You may find additional information on the City’s website at www.cupertino.org/CleanWater.

All Ballots must be received by 4 p.m. on July 5, 2019 to be counted.



Official Ballot Information Guide City of Cupertino 2019 Clean Water & Storm Protection Fee

Why Did You Receive This Ballot?

The City of Cupertino Clean Water and Storm Protection Program manages rain water that runs off hard surfaces such as roofs, driveways and streets. The City is responsible for constructing and maintaining an integrated system of storm drainage inlets, pipes, culverts, and ditches. The City also complies with strict government clean water standards regulating the removal of pollutants from storm water prior to its entering our local creeks and the San Francisco Bay.

Current Funding for Clean Water and Storm Protection

The Clean Water and Storm Protection program is funded by a fee that has been in place since 1992. This fee of \$12 per home (and \$144 per acre for non-residential property) has not been increased since it was implemented. As a result, the revenue to support this important program is no longer sufficient to cover the costs.

To provide sufficient funding to prevent flooding and to ensure only clean water flows to our creeks and the Bay, the City is proposing this new funding measure.

Community meetings on this topic were held on March 28, April 9, April 13, and April 30. A public hearing authorizing this ballot was held during the regular City Council meeting on May 7.

The enclosed ballot provides property owners in the City the opportunity to vote on whether to approve the proposed new 2019 Clean Water and Storm Protection Fee. If approved, the proposed new fee would be in addition to what you are already paying.

Please complete your ballot and mail it back promptly.
All Ballots must be received by 4 p.m. on July 5, 2019 to be counted.

What This Fee Would Provide

The City of Cupertino provides essential clean water and storm protection services to prevent flooding, protect property values, and improve the environmental health, cleanliness, and safety of the community. Throughout the year, public works crews inspect and clean the underground storm system to ensure that trash, cigarette butts, litter, and toxic particulates such as copper, nickel, zinc, pesticides, which adhere to dirt and mud, are removed before they can flow into the City’s storm drainage system and into our local creeks.

The Clean Water program enhances the required Science curriculum of all third-graders in the Cupertino School District by training students to conduct creek water monitoring and teaches the concepts of preventing water pollution and conserving rain water. This education, taught by the City’s naturalist, runs throughout the school year and teaches children the importance of ecosystem and creek stewardship for the future.

To ensure that these benefits to property owners are maintained and enhanced, The City Council voted to propose a new Clean Water and Storm Protection fee. The fee, in order to be implemented, must be approved by a majority vote of property owners, since the property owners will decide whether to fund these services.

For more information, visit our website at www.cupertino.org/CleanWater.



Official Ballot Information Guide

City of Cupertino 2019 Clean Water and Storm Protection Fee

How Much Is the Proposed Fee?

The proposed new 2019 Clean Water and Storm Protection Fee for your property (or properties) for fiscal year 2019-20 is printed on the Official Ballot included with this notice and information guide. As shown below, the annual fee for a single-family home on a medium-sized parcel between 0.13 and 0.22 acres, (the most common size of residential parcel), would be \$44.42. The total anticipated revenue to be collected by the proposed 2019 Clean Water and Storm Protection Fee in Fiscal Year 2019-20 is \$1.1 million. The entire schedule of proposed rates is shown in the table below.

Land Use Category	Proposed Fee
Single-Family Residential *	
Small (under 0.13 acre)	\$ 36.58 per parcel
Medium (0.13 to 0.22 acre)	\$ 44.42 per parcel
Large (0.23 to 0.40 acre)	\$ 55.58 per parcel
Extra Large (over 0.40 acre)	\$ 106.42 per parcel
Condominium 1 (1 story)	\$ 36.58 per parcel
Condominium 2+ (2+ stories)	\$ 11.99 per parcel
Non-Single-Family Residential **	
Multi-Family Residential	\$ 30.88 per 0.1 acre
Commercial / Retail / Industrial	\$ 40.38 per 0.1 acre
Office	\$ 30.88 per 0.1 acre
Church / Institutional	\$ 26.13 per 0.1 acre
School (w/playfield)	\$ 19.00 per 0.1 acre
Park	\$ 7.13 per 0.1 acre
Vacant (developed)	\$ 2.38 per 0.1 acre
Open Space / Agricultural	
Low Impact Development Adjustment ***	

* SFR category also includes duplex, triplex and four-plex units.
** Non-SFR parcel size is calculated to the tenth of an acre or portion thereof.
*** Low Impact Development Adjustment only applies to condominium and non-single-family properties.



City crews proactively clean clogged drains before storms to prevent local flooding.

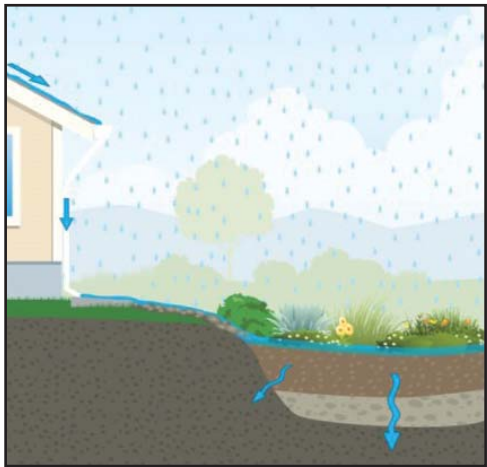
How Was the Fee Determined?

The City of Cupertino protects the local environment and prevents flooding by collecting, cleaning, and managing all rainfall and urban runoff via its storm drainage system. Without additional revenue, the Clean Water and Storm Protection Program faces a rising deficit over the next several years. The proposed fee will address the shortfall between projected revenues and expenses.

The fee is based on the quantity of water runoff generated by each parcel or category of parcel, which is proportional to the impervious surfaces (such as pavement) found on the property or category of parcel. The 2019 Clean Water and Storm Protection Fee Report, which includes more information about the Program's revenues and costs, as well as more details about how the proposed fees were calculated, can be found on the City's website.



Stormwater picks up pollutants as it runs off of roofs, driveways, and streets. Funds from this measure will help the City remove these pollutants from the water before it is discharged into our local creeks.



Home owners may be able to reduce their impact on the system by replacing paving or other hard surfaces with a rain garden.

Are any discounts available?

The fee amount is calculated so each property will pay its fair share of the costs of the program. Commercial properties which meet certain strict standards will receive a 25% lower rate in recognition of their reduced impact on the system. Residential property owners may receive a rebate of part or all of the cost of certain improvements intended to reduce their impact on the system.

Will the Fee Increase in the Future?

In order to offset the effects of inflation on labor and material costs, the proposed fee is subject to an annual increase based on the change in the San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward Consumer Price Index-U ("CPI"), not to exceed 3 percent per year.

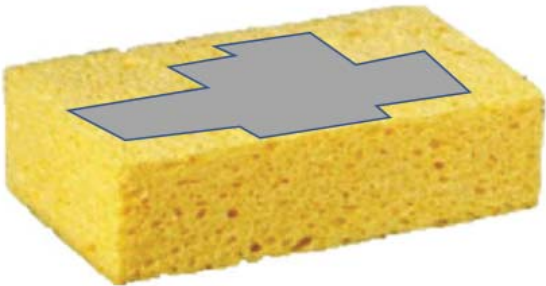
How Long Will the Fee Last?

The proposed ballot measure, if approved, may continue each year with Council approval. However, the Council must annually review actual clean water and storm protection needs and costs, and may not charge more than is needed to cover the costs of these services.

What if This Fee Is Not Approved?

Less Ability to Clean Water Flowing to Creeks
The City has implemented a variety of measures to remove from storm water the various types of pollutants it picks up as it flows from rooftops and streets through underground pipes and out into our local creeks. Trash capture devices, street sweeping, and other methods of trash and pollutant removal cannot be enhanced, and their frequency and effectiveness may even have to be reduced, if a dedicated source of funding for them is not secured.

Reduced Service Levels
Without the new fee, the program will compete for funding with all the other programs funded by the City's general fund, and will face potential reductions in service levels, which will likely result in a decrease in water quality that impacts the creeks and Bay, as well as increased flooding. Without the funding, the City may not be able to respond to all the calls from the public regarding clogged storm drains and related issues, and may not be able to conduct its annual inspection and cleaning of all of the thousands of storm drain inlets and outfalls throughout the City.



Open space acts like a sponge, absorbing rain water. Covering land with impermeable surfaces like paving and rooftops causes water to run off of property and into the storm drain system, carrying pollutants with it as it goes.

City of Cupertino
10300 Torre Avenue
Cupertino, CA 95014

OFFICIAL FEE BALLOT CITY OF CUPERTINO CLEAN WATER AND STORM PROTECTION FEE

☐ **YES**, I approve the proposed yearly fee for clean water and storm protection.*

☐ **NO**, I do not approve the proposed yearly fee for clean water and storm protection.*

Signed _____ **Date** _____
Signature of Record Property Owner, or Authorized Representative

Print Name _____
I hereby declare, under penalty of perjury, that I am the property owner or owner's
authorized representative of the parcel(s) identified on this official ballot.
**(The proposed fee amount is printed on the back of this ballot.)*

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE COMPLETION AND RETURN OF OFFICIAL FEE BALLOTS

This fee ballot may be completed by the person(s) or firm(s) owning the property or properties identified by parcel number on this ballot. An explanation of who may complete the fee ballot on behalf of the recorded property owner and additional instructions are provided on the other side of this Official Fee Ballot. To be tabulated, fee ballots MUST be received before **Friday, July 5, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.** by the office of the City Clerk at 10300 Torre Avenue, Cupertino, CA.

You may return your ballot in the following ways:

- 1) Mail your fee ballot to the address shown on the enclosed return envelope so that it is received on or before July 5, 2019.
- 2) Deliver it in person to the address shown on the enclosed return envelope so that it is received before 4:00 p.m. on July 5, 2019.

FOLD SO THAT THIS SIDE IS ON THE INSIDE OF THE FOLD BEFORE PLACING THIS BALLOT IN THE RETURN ENVELOPE

Who May Complete this Official Fee Ballot

1. If the property is owned by an individual, the individual may sign.
2. If a property is owned by more than one person, any one owner may sign for all.
3. If the property is owned by a corporation, the fee ballot may be signed for the corporation by an officer or officers authorized to make contracts or by resolution of the corporation's Board of Directors.
4. If the property is owned by another legal entity, the fee ballot may be signed by any person authorized by law to make contracts for the entity.
5. If the property is owned by a public agency, the fee ballot may be signed by any person authorized by law to make contracts for the agency or by resolution of the agency's Governing Board.

Please see other side to complete this fee ballot.

Steps for Completing the Official Fee Ballot

1. Verify that the owner name, address, and parcel number(s) listed on the fee ballot are correct. If they are not correct call (408) 777-3200.
2. Fill in or clearly mark the oval next to the word "YES" or "NO" to approve or disapprove of the proposed fee. You may use a pen only.
3. Sign and date the fee ballot. Only official fee ballots which are signed and marked with the property owner's support or opposition will be counted. After marking your vote, simply FOLD the fee ballot so that your vote is on the inside of the fold. Then place the fee ballot in the return envelope provided. No postage is necessary to mail back your fee ballot.
4. If you make a mistake in completing your fee ballot or wish to change or withdraw your assessment ballot, please call (408) 777-3200.
(See enclosed notice for further information)

← **FOLD HERE** (this side should be on outside after fold)

CITY OF CUPERTINO
CLEAN WATER AND STORM PROTECTION FEE
PROPERTY OWNER BALLOT



NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

Do Not Open Before July 5, 2019



POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE



CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
CITY OF CUPERTINO
10300 TORRE AVE
CUPERTINO CA 95014-9906

