



Meeting Date: March 25, 2026

TOWN OF MORAGA

STAFF REPORT

To: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers

From: Nate Levine, Interim Public Works Director / Town Engineer Deirdre Castillo, Senior Engineer

Subject: Adoption of the FY 2026-27 Annual Assessment Rate for Drainage Maintenance and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution continuing the rate for Fiscal Year 2026-27 of \$35 per Equivalent Runoff Unit as the annual assessment for drainage maintenance and the NPDES program.

BACKGROUND

In 1993, at the request of the Town, the Contra Costa County Flood Control & Water Conservation District (District) completed the process for formation of a Stormwater Utility Area (SUA), including adoption of Stormwater Utility Assessment Drainage Ordinance No. 93-47. The SUA agreement between the Town and the District requires each participating municipality to establish its annual Equivalent Runoff Unit (ERU) rate each year.

An ERU is the basic unit used to calculate stormwater assessment and is based on the typical runoff volume from a single residential property during a 10-year, 24-hour rainfall event. The ERU rate, as determined annually by the Town Council, provides funding for the Town's Clean Water Program efforts required by the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and related permit requirements administered by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB).

The Town of Moraga's current rate is \$35.00 per ERU. This is the maximum rate currently allowed and has been in place since Fiscal Year (FY) 2003-04. This is also the rate currently charged by most other jurisdictions within Contra Costa County. As stormwater activities and associated expenditures have increased due to requirements mandated under the Countywide National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, jurisdictions throughout the county have generally reached the maximum allowable rate established under the existing assessment structure.

DISCUSSION

According to the County, funding for the Town is based on an estimated 8,373 ERUs and is expected to generate approximately \$293,018 in FY 2026-27. Of that amount, the Town is expected to receive approximately \$239,987 for local stormwater program activities. The remaining amount is retained at the countywide level to support the Contra Costa Clean Water Program (CCCWP).

Because this is part of a countywide assessment process, the annual ERU rate must be established now rather than through the Town's normal budget adoption process. Once approved by the Town Council, the rate is transmitted to the County for inclusion in the annual Engineer's Report, which is then considered by the Board of Supervisors. The rate is established for one year and will return to the Town Council for consideration again next year.

CCCWP coordinates regional stormwater compliance efforts and addresses stormwater and pollutant issues affecting Contra Costa municipalities. The Town has historically programmed its NPDES-related revenues to stormwater and drainage maintenance, operations, compliance activities, and related capital needs that support implementation of Clean Water Act requirements. These funds are transferred to the Town's Storm Drain Maintenance operating budget (Department 730) and used for stormwater-related operations, maintenance, permit compliance, and related projects. Staff recommends maintaining the annual assessment at \$35.00 per ERU for FY 2026-27 to continue supporting the Town's ongoing stormwater program and NPDES compliance obligations.

Two certified originals of the recommended resolution to continue the existing rate per ERU are required to be submitted by April 30, 2026, so that the Town may continue collecting funds for local stormwater program activities.

FISCAL IMPACT

If the Town does not set the annual assessment rate for Drainage Maintenance and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), the Town will not receive funding for stormwater activities. In Fiscal Year 2026-27, the Town is projected to receive \$239,987 in NPDES funds.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

Adoption of the recommended resolution and submission of the required resolutions are not projects under Section 15378 of the CEQA Guidelines, as the action has no potential for direct or indirect physical change to the environment.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Adopt the resolution with modifications; or
2. Not adopt the resolution and provide direction to staff.

NEXT STEPS

Upon adoption, staff will submit two certified originals of the resolution to the District in

accordance with the SUA agreement to set the ERU rate for FY 2026-27.

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment A - Draft Resolution](#)