

# Connection Fee and Rate Study Workshop #1

March 7, 2019

**WATER**  
OUR FOCUS  
OUR BUSINESS  
OUR PASSION

 **carollo**  
*Engineers...Working Wonders With Water®*

# Meeting Objectives:

- Introduce the study and project team
- Provide overview of study purpose and objective
- Describe project scope
- Discuss member agency questions

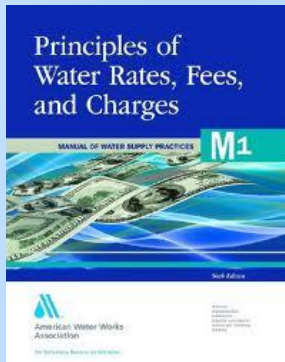


# Who we are...



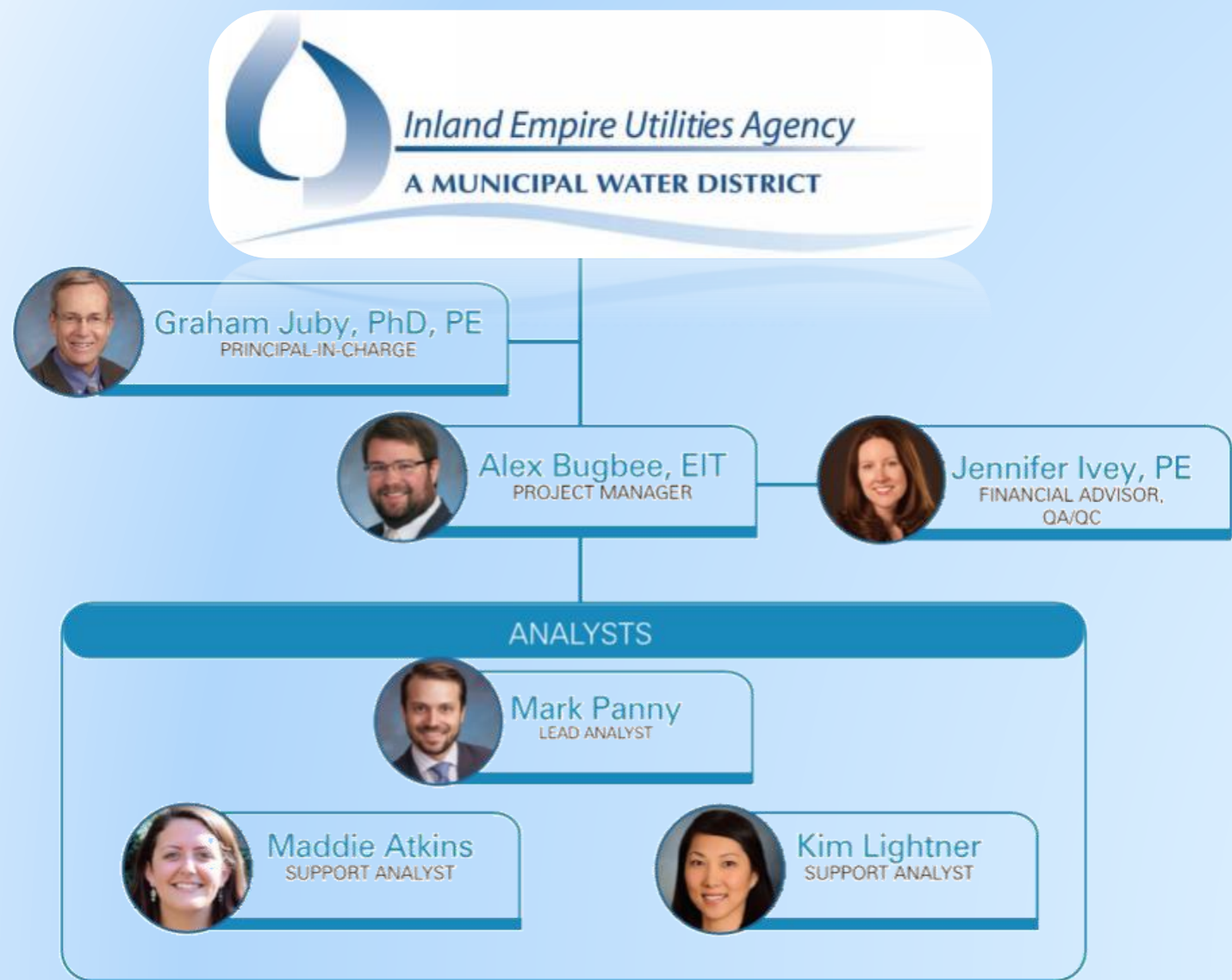
Industry leader in water and wastewater with over 20,000 successful projects

Carollo's Financial Management Group (FMG) specifically focuses on financial, management, and economic consulting



Recognized industry experts on rate setting and design

# This team has provided financial and rate consulting for 300+ clients





# Study Overview and Considerations

# Study Components: Comprehensive update of fees and rates.

Wastewater  
Connection Fees

One Water  
Connection Fees

Recycled Water  
Rates

Assess Potential  
Impact of CBP

Wastewater EDU  
Rates

Water MEU Rates

Recharge Water  
Rates

Assess Alternative  
Rate Collection  
Methods

# Agencies within IEUA Service Area

## Water Agencies

City of Chino  
City of Chino Hills  
Cucamonga Valley Water District  
Fontana Water Company  
Golden State Water Company  
Monte Vista Water District  
City of Ontario  
San Antonio Water Company  
City of Upland  
Water Facilities Authority

## Wastewater Agencies

City of Chino  
City of Chino Hills  
Cucamonga Valley Water District  
City of Fontana  
City of Montclair  
City of Ontario  
City of Upland

# Guiding Principles: Will be considered for each of the study elements.

## Project Elements

Wastewater Connection Fees	One Water Connection Fees	Recycled Water Rates	Assess Impacts of CBP
Wastewater EDU Rates	Water MEU Rates	Recharge Water Rates	Assess Alternative Rate Collection Methods

## Guiding Principles

- Financial Resilience
- Water Resources Stewardship
- Open & Transparent Public Process
- Publically and Member Agency Accepted Rates and Fees
- Compliance with California Law

# Updating of rates and connection fees must account for four disciplines

Prop 26 & CGC §66013 requires that IEUA defines a nexus between the charges and system costs

Rate and fee updates must account for the current value of system assets and proposed capital improvements

The connection fee analysis must equitably allocate system costs to users based on usage/capacity requirements and benefits

Implementation of updated rates and fees requires clear communication and transparency

# Study Approach: Rate and fee analyses will be completed in parallel.



*Outreach will be completed throughout the process to provide transparency and collaboration.*



# Connection Fees

# What is a connection fee? One-time charge imposed on new or upsized meters or connections to compensate for the cost of providing system capacity

- Assessed per unit of capacity required:
  - Wastewater per Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU)
  - Water per Meter Equivalent Unit (MEU)

Wastewater  
Connection Fees

FY 2018/19: \$6,624 per EDU  
FY 2019/20: \$6,955 per EDU

One Water  
Connection Fees

FY 2018/19: \$1,604 per MEU  
FY 2019/20: \$1,684 per MEU

## Regulatory Requirements: Connection fees are subject to California Government Code §66013

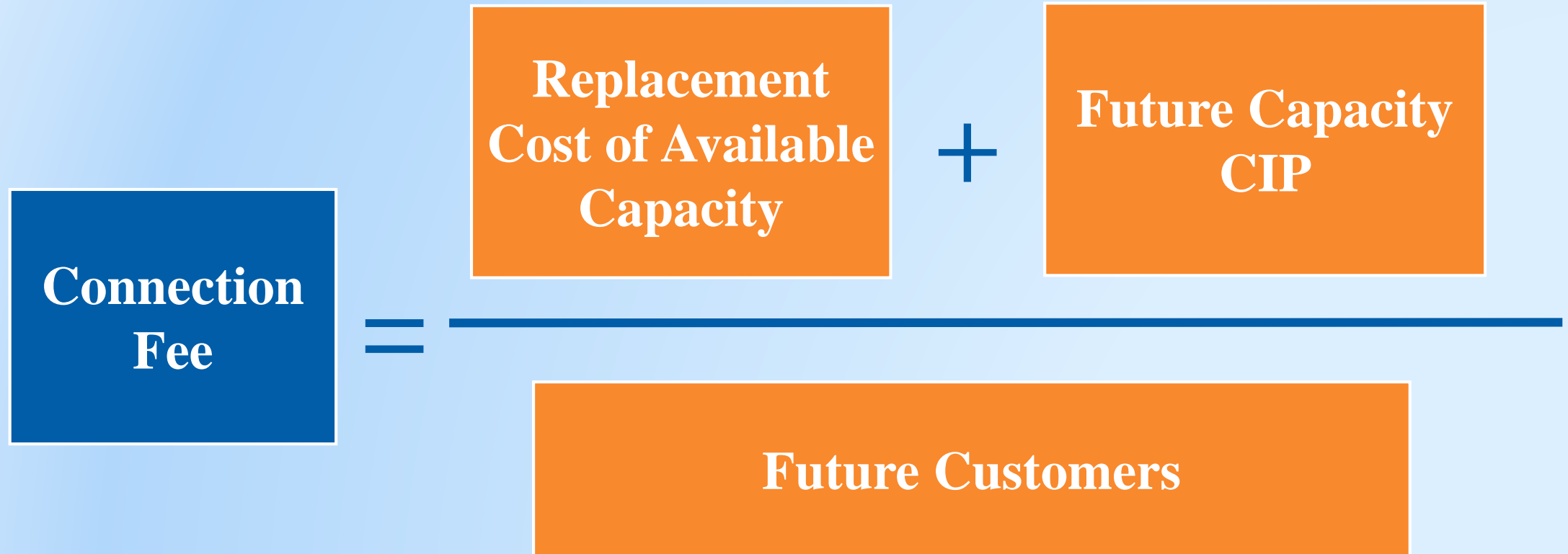
- Requires a reasonable nexus between the amount of the charge and the cost of capacity to serve the new development
- Defines maximum fee that may be imposed
- Legally permissible to include components for water resources, production, storage, distribution, and financial reserves
- Expansion fee revenues may only fund expansion related projects
- Not subject to Proposition 218

# Connection Fee Methodologies: There are three basic types of connection fees.

- System Buy-In Approach
  - Recovers equitable share of available capacity within the existing system
- Incremental Cost Approach
  - Recovers equitable share of future capacity related capital projects
- Hybrid/Combined Approach
  - Recovers equitable share of capacity within the existing system and planned capital system

# Hybrid Connection Fee Methodology:

Recovers proportionate share of capacity for existing system and planned future improvements



# Comparable Agency Capacity Fee Methodology Examples

- City of Las Vegas – Hybrid (“Combined”) Approach
- Orange County Sanitation District – Incremental Cost Approach
- Portland Water Bureau – Buy-In Approach
- Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District– Hybrid (“Combined”) Approach
- San Francisco Public Utilities Commission – Buy-In Approach
- Seattle Public Utilities – Hybrid (“Combined”) Approach



# Service Rates

# Key Rate Setting Issues:



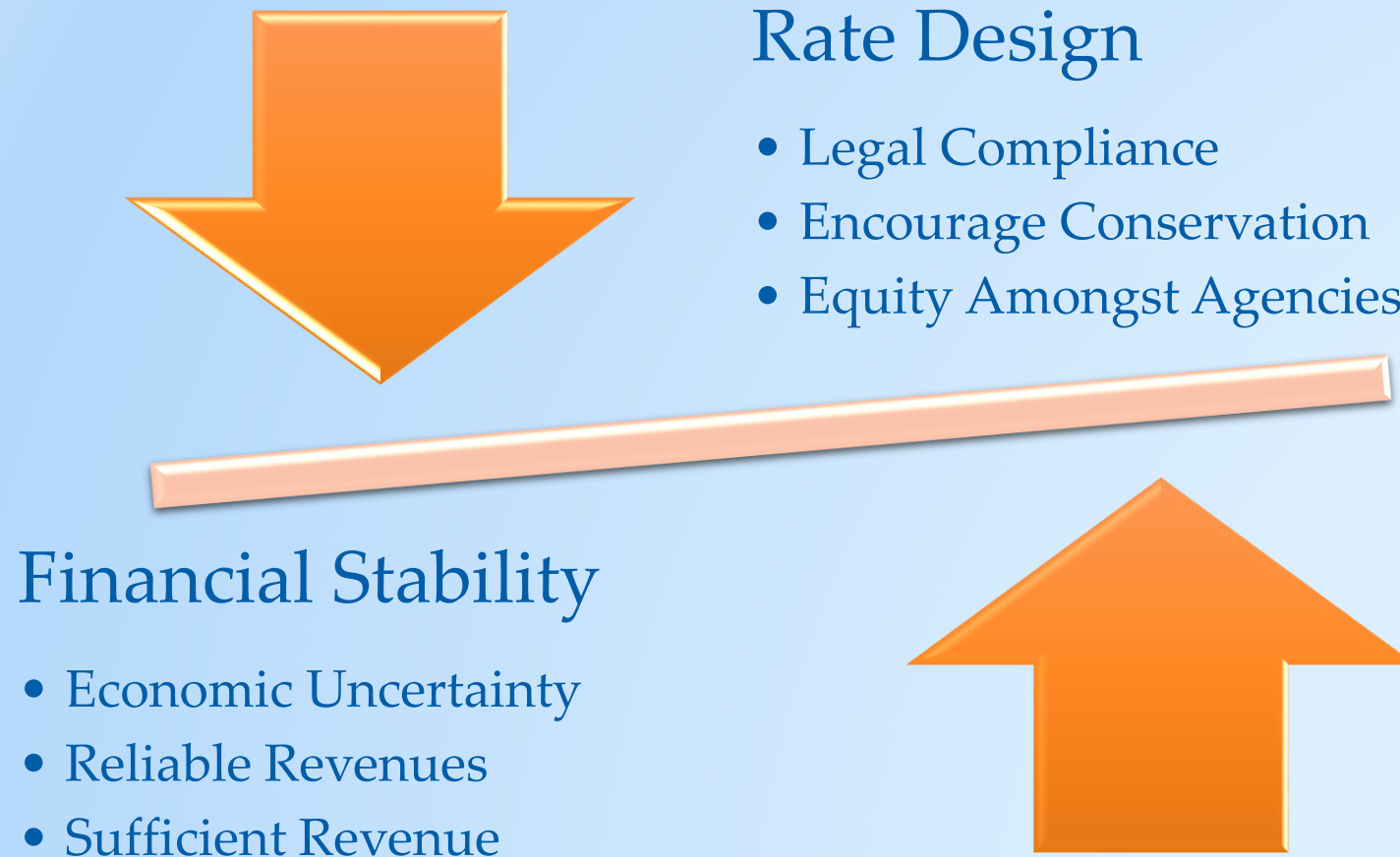
**Legal Basis:** All rates must comply with legal requirements and illustrate proportionality

**Engineering Basis:** Rates and cost of service parameters must be tied to IEUA's unique system



**Financial Analysis:** The rate plan must be financially achievable and account for future infrastructure needs and water demand changes

# Rate Structure Considerations: Must balance competing objectives



# Key Study Components:

Step 1



## Revenue Requirement Forecast

Compares existing revenues of the utility to its operating, capital, and policy driven costs to establish the adequacy of the existing cost recovery levels.

Step 2



## Rate Structure Review

Reviews existing rates and determines their alignment with IEUA's needs and policy objectives.

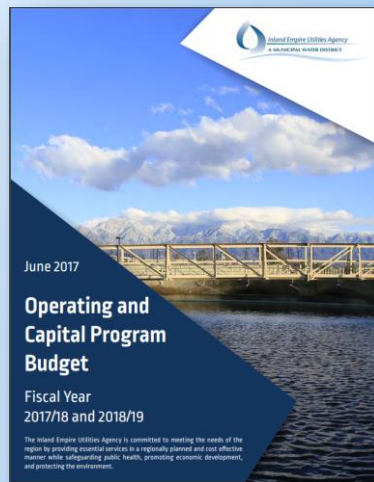
Step 3



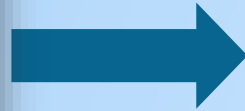
## Rate Structure Development

Allocates revenue requirements by function and considers structure of the rate design to collect the revenue requirements from each class of service.

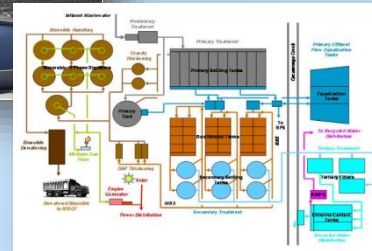
# Step 1 Revenue Requirements Forecast: Provides a road map for funding operational and water supply needs



Financial  
Planning and  
Budgeting



Capital and  
Water Supply  
Needs



1. System infrastructure and operational needs
2. Capital funding strategy
3. Rate strategy
4. Water Supply Needs

# Step 1: Revenue Requirements Forecast



- Projections developed for each service fund
  - Potable Water, Recycled Water, Recharge Water, Wastewater Operations and Capital
- Review operating and capital cost drivers
- Evaluate a capital funding strategy that balances near and long-term rate impacts
- Develop a financial forecast that achieves immediate and long-term needs

## Step 2: Rate Structure Review

- Evaluate the existing rate structures based on the following considerations:
  - Do they meet regional policy objectives?
  - Do they achieve desired equity and perceived fairness?
  - Do they reflect changes in water demand patterns?
  - Is the rate structure adaptable to drought conditions?
  - Do they fully fund regional operations and capital needs?

# Potable Water Rates: Cover MWD Pass-through and IEUA Costs

- **Pass-throughs** to cover MWD costs
- **IEUA Rate** to cover program costs

## MWD Volumetric Rate

Untreated Tier 1 (1/1/2019): \$731 per AF

Untreated Tier 2 (1/1/2019): \$813 per AF

## MWD Capacity Charge

(1/1/2019): \$8,600 per cfs capacity

## MWD Readiness-to-Serve Charge

(7/1/2019): 60% of MWD RTS Charge,  
phasing to 100% by 7/1/2022

## IEUA Monthly Retail Water MEU Charge

(7/1/2019): \$1.04 per MEU per month

# Recycled Water and Recharge: Volumetric rates per AF used or delivered

- Direct Sales Rate

- Covers O&M, capital, and debt service costs of the recycled water system

(7/1/2019): \$490 per AF

- Recharge Rates

- Covers recycled water costs as well as recharge basin maintenance costs not covered by the Chino Basin Watermaster

(7/1/2019): \$550 per AF

# Wastewater Service Rate: Fixed monthly rate per EDU

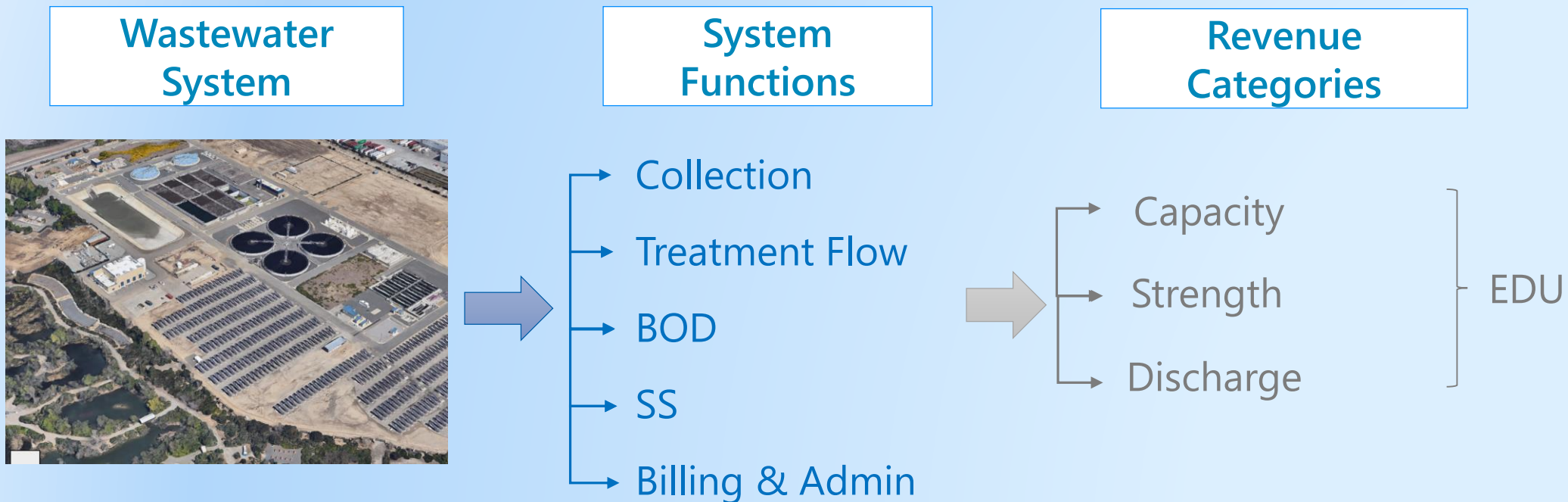
- Monthly EDU Rate
  - Covers O&M, R&R capital, and debt service costs of the regional wastewater system
  - Costs tracked primarily Regional Operations Fund
- Contracting Agency EDU's
  - Calculated based factors in Regional Contract
  - Account for Flow, BOD, and SS

(7/1/2019): \$20.00 per EDU per month

# Step 3: Rate Structure Development

- Develop a cost allocation assigning system expenditures to functional categories
- Allocate costs based on system demands and capacity requirements

## Wastewater Example



## Step 3: Rate Structure Development

- The structure of the existing rates is fundamentally sound
  - Substantial changes to the rate structures are not expected
- The study may evaluate potential future changes
  - Additional loadings constituents for wastewater as driven by treatment needs and constraints
    - nitrogen, TDS, phosphorous
  - Other considerations



# Alternative Rate Collection Methods

# Alternative Collection of Rates:

- Evaluate alternative methods of collecting wastewater and water monthly rates
  - Property Tax Roll, Direct Billing
- Identify the steps needed to transition to alternative billing methods



# Impact of Chino Basin Program

# Chino Basin Program Impacts: Assess the potential long-term impact of the CBP on financial projections and rates.



CIP Projects

New O&M Needs

Supply Enhancements

Cost Savings

Ownership Shares

- Key analysis elements:
  - Defining costs and benefits
  - Determining how costs are allocated
    - By Fund and By Agency
  - Determining impact on rates and fees (water, wastewater, recycled and recharge, other?)



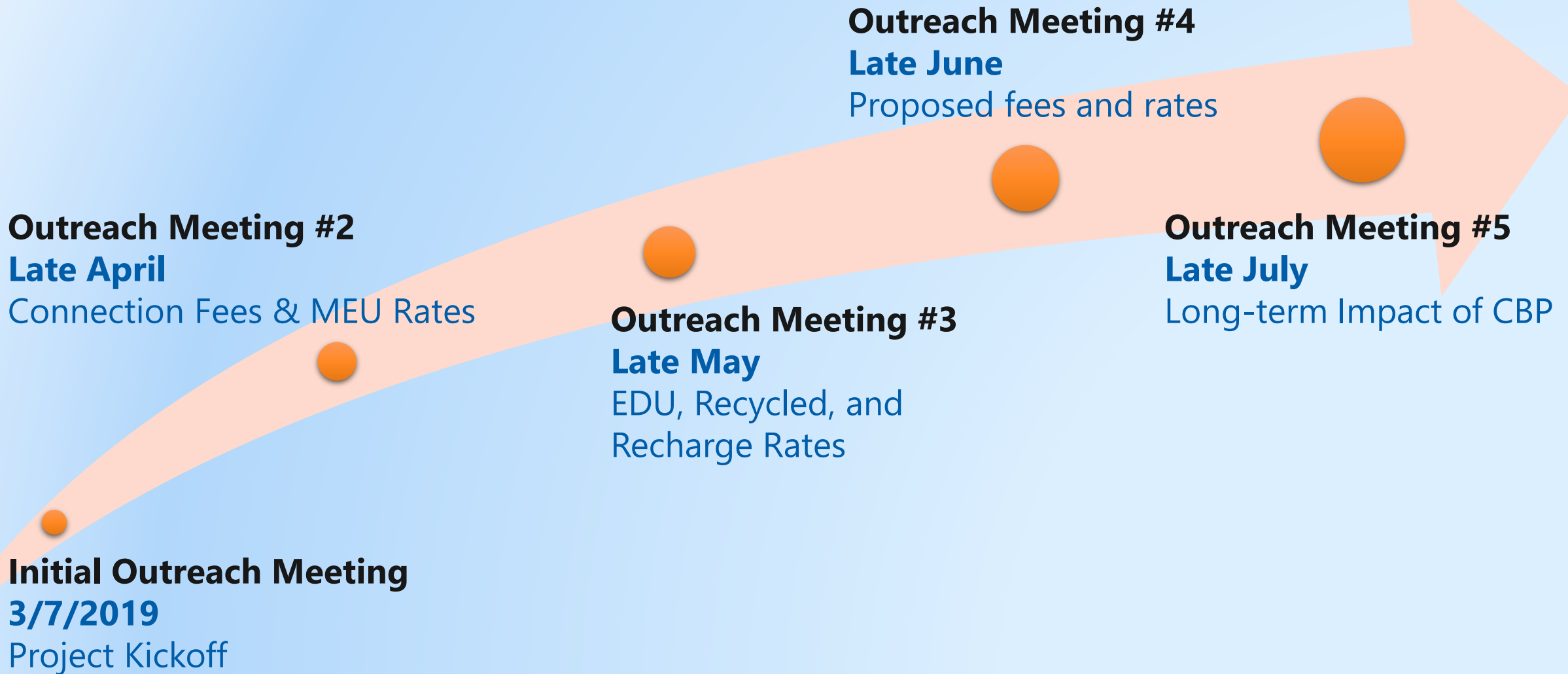
Public Outreach

# Guiding principles for effective outreach

- Align process, policies, and recommendations with communities values
- Engage stakeholders and community advocates
- Translate complex technical and financial concepts into simple language and clear illustrations
- Pay close attention to perceived equity and affordability



# Public Outreach: Five meetings are anticipated





Questions