



North Coronado Heights Neighborhood Association

MARCH 2025

Next Meeting

Our next NCHNA meeting will be held on **March 25 at 6:30 p.m.** at Messiah Lutheran Church on the southeast corner of Portland Avenue and N.W. Expressway.

This is our Annual Meeting, where we make decisions that help guide our organization in the coming year, including the election of officers. It's not too late to throw your hat in the ring if you wish to run for one of the officer positions. Just let us know you are interested by emailing northcoronado@gmail.com.

We will also talk about goals, review a proposed budget, and decide whether dues will change or remain the same.

Bring your ideas and suggestions and join us on March 25!

Utilities Rates Raised for OKC Residents

Last November, the Oklahoma City Council approved an increase in rates for Oklahoma City's water, sewer, and solid waste services. In asking that residents pay higher fees, the Utilities Department cited increased costs it has to pay for water treatment chemicals, electricity, labor, construction, materials, and interest on financing infrastructure projects.

The higher rates went into effect on January 1, 2025 and the first phase is now reflected on customer bills. To ease the impact of the rate hikes on customers, the increases will be gradually phased in. Costs for most services will adjust upward each November between now and November 2028.

Some of the increases apply to flat-rate monthly fees—called “base charges”—which do not vary, regardless of the amount of water you use monthly. A base charge for water that was \$38.34

monthly before the new plan took effect has now increased to \$44.17 per month, and will grow to \$73.96 monthly by November 2028.

Increases were also made to water volume rates, which are calculated based on the number of gallons of water used in a customer's household per month, and are higher for heavy water users. Being conservative with the amount of water used is the one area where utilities customers may be able to reduce some of the effect of the higher prices.

The monthly cost for sewer services, which is a base charge plus a fee

related to a household's average water consumption during the months of December, January, and February, has also increased, as has the volume rate per 1,000 gallons of water used during those winter months.

Trash, recycling, and bulky waste services cost \$25.62 monthly prior to approval of the new rate structure. This expense rose to \$27.04 in January 2025 and will increase to \$32.72 by November 2028.

Additionally, the new rate structure raised the mandated EPA drainage fee assessed to each utility customer from \$5.69 per month in 2024 to \$8.24 by July 2028.

CHECK OUT THE DETAILS OF OKC'S NEW UTILITIES RATES

The complete schedule of new rates for Oklahoma City utility services is too detailed to present here in its entirety, but you can see it on the city's website at www.okc.gov/departments/utilities. The schedule shows rates for various types of residential and non-residential properties.

Visit our web site: www.northcoronadoheights.org

**NCHNA
News in Brief**

◆ **Date Set for Litter Blitz.** Each April, NCHNA participates in a street cleanup project called Litter Blitz. We are looking for volunteers for a couple of hours on April 26 to help with this year’s event. We will meet at 10 a.m. in the parking lot of Northwest Bible Church at N.W. 63rd Street and Tulsa Avenue and split into teams. Volunteers will be furnished with trash bags and gloves. Join us and do your part to keep our neighborhood looking good!

◆ **Town Hall on Human Trafficking.** The OKCPD’s Hefner Division and the Neighborhood Alliance will present a Town Hall meeting on human trafficking on April 1. Presenters will discuss common myths about this criminal enterprise, how prevalent it is in our city, and what measures can be taken to prevent it. The Town Hall will be held at the Healthy Living Center, 11501 N. Rockwell Avenue, from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. Please pre-register by calling 405-528-6322.

◆ **Placement Matters!** Ever feel that you are navigating an obstacle course on our neighborhood streets? Remember that your trash and recycling containers should be placed at the curb line, on your property, and not in the street itself. Follow this guideline, and we will have “smoother sailing” as we travel our streets.

◆ **New Water Mains Coming.** Some of our neighborhood water mains are scheduled to be replaced through a newly contracted project of the city’s Utilities Department. The affected areas are to be mostly along Holiday Place, N.W. 62nd Street, and N.W. 61 Terrace west of Tulsa Avenue. Design work is currently under way. Construction should start about this time next year,



◆ **Rain Barrels Available.** Don’t let this summer’s rain go to waste—give your plants a boost while saving on water costs! Oklahoma City is again partnering with Upcycle Products, Inc. to offer large plastic rain barrels to city residents. You can order your barrel now online by visiting

<https://upcycle-products.com>. Click on the link entitled “municipal and conservation programs” and find the one for Oklahoma City. Place an online order by April 28 and pick up your order on May 3 or May 10 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Household Hazardous Waste Center, 1621 S. Portland Avenue. The cost is \$69.50 for a 55-gallon barrel or \$64.50 for a 50 gallon barrel. Twelve-inch-high pedestals for the barrels, built of recycled wood, can be purchased for \$34.50.

and be complete in the summer of 2026. Decisions about what mains get replaced are made by studying data on the frequency of line ruptures in a given area. When you

see a leak, always report it promptly to the Action Center, 405-297-2535.

We will update NCHNA members as more project information is released.

■ **Coming Soon: A New Way to Pay Your Dues!**

NCHNA’s annual dues for 2025-26 will be payable as of March 25. We know that some members would like to have the option to pay electronically, and we will soon add the capability for you to do so through an app on your phone. For those who prefer, we will continue to accept dues in cash or by check.

Income from our voluntary dues is used to cover the organization’s expenses, such as the cost of neighborhood projects and events. Currently, dues are \$20 per household per year.

Every resident or property owner within our boundaries is considered an NCHNA member, but

being a paid member has advantages: it qualifies you to vote on NCHNA issues (such as officer elections or setting the amount of dues) and it makes you eligible to serve as an officer or committee member. Be an active part of the organization’s efforts to enhance our neighborhood by paying dues!