

CITY OF SAN BERNARDINO MUNICIPAL WATER DEPARTMENT
300 North "D" Street
San Bernardino, CA 92418

RULE AND REGULATION NO. 13
SERVICE CONNECTIONS RULES

1.0 SERVICE CONNECTIONS:

1.1 General Provisions and Conditions

It is the intention of these Rules and Regulations that all water delivered through a service connection will be metered and billed. Acquisition of Service Charges (ASC) and payment for all water used from the time of initial service installation shall be the responsibility of the Applicant. In addition, the installation of a backflow prevention assembly may be required per Rule and Regulation No. 22.

The Water Department reserves the right to limit the size and type of the service connection to be installed per Rule and Regulation No. 2. The minimum lateral size shall be 1". For new service connections 1" and greater, the lateral pipe shall be the same size as the meter. No service connection shall be approved of a size larger than can be supplied by the main without adversely affecting service to other Applicants.

In the event the entity having jurisdiction over the right-of-way within which the service connection will be installed requires a permit for such installation, the Applicant will make application for such permit with the Water Department as permittee for all work to be performed by the Water Department and for water facilities installed by a private contractor which are located within the permitted right-of-way. Any fees or charges associated with such application will be borne by the Applicant. Should such permit not be issued to the Water Department by the entity having jurisdiction, the Applicant shall be so notified in writing. The Applicant may then make application for such permit to the entity having jurisdiction or may request the return of all fees and charges paid. If the Applicant chooses the latter option, the Water Department shall not be required to provide service. If the Applicant is unable to obtain the required permit or easement, the Water Department has no obligation to provide service and shall not be obligated to return fees and charges paid by applicant.

1.2 Location

Service connections shall be installed at nominal right angles to a main in accordance with Water Department's *Water Standard Specifications and Drawings For Construction of Domestic Water Systems* (Standards). The point of connection shall not be within a street intersection from curb return to curb return, nor shall any portion of the service connection be within the intersection. The meter location shall be directly adjacent to the parcel being served within the public right-of-way. In the event street right-of-way is not available, the Water Department may approve installation within an approved recorded easement dedicated to the Water Department adjacent to or on the parcel to be served. In alleys or easements, meters shall be located at a point as close as practicable to the property line within which the main is located. All meters shall be located outside of driveways and other areas where access by Water Department personnel for operation and maintenance may be restricted. The meter vault shall be located outside of travel lanes and driveways and shall be protected from vehicular traffic, as determined by the Water Department. If the Applicant feels extraordinary conditions exist that would prevent compliance with this requirement, Applicant may submit to the Water Department a written request for a waiver of this requirement at the time the water plan is submitted for review.

1.3 Composition

Specifications for materials, appurtenances, and construction techniques for service connections are determined and approved solely by the Water Department.

1.4 Installation of Service Connection

The Applicant shall be responsible for payment to the Water Department of all applicable fees and charges in effect at the time the application is made per these Rules and Regulations. Service connections may be installed by the Water Department or a licensed contractor contracted by the Water Department. Service connection installed by the Applicant shall comply with the requirements of Rules and Regulation No. 20.

1.5 Nonstandard Service Connection

A nonstandard service may be approved when the Water Department determines that a main extension will not be necessary for orderly development of the system, fire protection, service to other property, or other reasons. Onsite piping from the meter to the property served shall be located within a public thoroughfare.

A copy of the recorded easement for the onsite piping shall be provided to the Water Department. Only the property owner, or duly authorized designee, may execute a nonstandard service connection agreement with the Water Department.

1.6 Metering Requirements For New Developments

The Water Department shall, per these Rules and Regulations, separately meter all services for each dwelling unit, public, quasi-public, commercial, and/or industrial occupancy. The use of master meters will only be allowed on an individual parcel containing multiple dwelling units and is subject to Water Department review and approval.

2.0 GENERAL SERVICE RULES:

The Water Department may reject, rescind, reduce, or terminate current or proposed uses of water where such use:

- (a) Is contrary to the Water Department's obligation to assure reasonable use including, but not limited to compliance with rules for water efficiency, drought, conservation, and the use of nonpotable water for irrigation.
- (b) May encumber or impair the Water Department's ability to maintain an adequate level of service to other customers.
- (c) Compromises public health and welfare due to circumstances that limit the available water supply to the Water Department.
- (d) There is no water main fronting the parcel.

- (e) The account of the Applicant at the same or other location is delinquent.
- (f) The purpose of the Applicant, in the opinion of the Water Department, is to circumvent discontinuance of service in another name because of nonpayment of bills or other infraction of these Rules and Regulations.
- (g) Other requirements of these Rules and Regulations are not fulfilled.

2.1 Interruption of Service

The Water Department will endeavor to notify customers in advance of any interruption in service due to repairs, or other causes. However, in emergency conditions or when notification is not practical, service may be interrupted without warning for indefinite periods of time.

2.2 Parcel Location Adjacent to a Main

New applications for service will only be accepted if a useable main which meets the Water Department's pressure, flow, and capacity standards is located adjacent to the parcel to be served. Said main must be owned and maintained by the Water Department and be located within a dedicated right-of-way or easement granted to the Water Department. Where these conditions are not met, an application for service will require a main extension per Rule and Regulation No. 20.

Whenever two (2) mains are available from which service can be provided, the Water Department shall, at its option, determine the main to which the service connection will be made.

2.3 Parcel Not Adjacent to a Main

In order to obtain service to a parcel not immediately adjacent to a main as required by Subsection 1.2 above, the applicant will be required to provide a main extension in accordance with the requirements of Rule and Regulation No. 20. Plans prepared by a licensed Engineer in accordance with the Department's Design and Construction Standards shall be required for all main extensions.

Plans acceptable to the Water Department are required for all water main extensions and service connections except individual service connections that are installed by the Water Department. Water improvement plans shall be prepared by a California Registered Professional Engineer for review by the Water Department for conformance to Water Department standards. However, the review is not an indication that a property right in water is or will be granted nor shall evidence of review be construed as a preference for obtaining water service. It is the applicant's responsibility to obtain development approval from other agencies along with other commitment requirements specified in these Rules and Regulations.

2.4 Damage to Property

The Water Department will not be liable for damage to property occasioned by water running from open or faulty piping or fixtures on the customer's property per Rule and Regulation No. 11.

2.5 Access to Water Department Facilities

Property owners who permit landscaping, fencing, structures, or other fixed or movable obstructions to block, prevent, hamper, or restrict free and easy access to the Water Department's facilities for work of any nature, including meter reading, shall be liable for costs incurred in removing such items. In the event of an emergency, the Water Department has the right to cause the obstruction to be removed without notice to the property owner and all related costs are the property owner's responsibility. At the property owner's option, subject to Water Department's prior approval, the Water Department's facilities may be relocated by a licensed Contractor of the property owner's choice at the sole expense of said property owner but subject to the standards and procedures of the Developer-Installed process with water improvement plan previously approved by the Water Department; or the property owner may make application for relocation by the Water Department and at that time pay a fee towards the actual total cost of relocation to be borne by the Water Department per Rule and Regulation No. 5.

Failure of the property owner to comply shall be just cause for terminating water service to the subject property.

2.6 Efficient Water Use

Any person(s) or association(s) is prohibited from imposing private covenants, conditions, restrictions, deed clauses or other agreements between the parties, which prevents person(s) from utilizing water efficient landscaping.

As a condition of service, customers of the Water Department must use water delivered through the Water Department's system in a manner that promotes efficiency and avoids waste.

2.7 Customers' Premises

Water Department employees shall have the right to access customers' property at all reasonable hours for any purpose related to the furnishing of service and protection of water quality. Except where specifically authorized for the purpose of conservation, employees are prohibited from entering upon customers' premises to engage in repair or alteration of customer piping and fixtures. Water Department employees shall have the right to access customers' property to inspect service connections during the developer installed process of a water main extension with previously approved water improvement plans.

2.8 Existing Service Connection

Applicants requesting service through existing service connections must provide information as required by the Water Department. Such information shall include, but not be limited to, full name and address to be served and assessors parcel number. The Applicant shall provide any other information, which will assist the Water Department in properly locating the service connection, including a description of the development, documentation of installation approval, the use of water and plumbing plans of the private facilities if required.

Any costs incurred by the Water Department to bring a service connection to Water Department standards are the responsibility of the property owner. Physical evidence of a service adjacent to property does not necessarily mean the service is available for use without additional fees or charges.

2.9 New Service Connection

A service connection shall be made to a main only after evidence of water fronting the parcel to be served is presented to the Water Department.

If a new main is installed under the rule 20 developer installed process the service connection can only be activated after all fees are paid, all requirements are met and the main is conveyed through a conveyance agreement to the SBMWD.

A separate landscape irrigation meter shall be required for all new service connections that serve a parcel containing more than 5,000 square feet of irrigated landscape area for all commercial and industrial developments.

2.10 Service Relocation

A service connection may be relocated on an existing parcel; however, it may not be moved to a new parcel. The construction of service connection relocation is subject to the requirements of this section.

2.11 Reapplication For Disconnect Service

The Applicant shall be required to pay all past due charges and costs before service shall be reinstalled, including, but not limited to, disconnection and reconnection charges, delinquent processing fee, returned check fee, deposits due, service charge, and consumption fees unpaid per Rule and Regulations Nos. 6 and 8. The Water Department may, at its option, require payment of additional fees before service is reconnected.

It shall be the responsibility of the Applicant to inform Customer Service that the service has been disconnected for "delinquent status" and that reconnection is desired.

In the event a service is disconnected for illegal or unauthorized use or connection, the Applicant will be responsible for reestablishing service and shall be required to pay all applicable fees, charges, and deposits.

2.12 Deserted Service Connection

Applicants who apply for activation of a service that has been classified in Water Department records as deserted will be required to make application for a new service connection per Rule and Regulation No. 10. The property owner is required to pay all installation charges to replace the service. In the event a property owner or Applicant, at his expense, can locate a service classified as deserted, the service must be brought to Water Department standards at the Applicant's expense before it is reactivated.

2.13 Property Subdivisions

When property provided with a service connection is subdivided, the service connection shall be considered as supplying the lot or parcel of land which it directly enters or fronts.

Each structure under separate ownership shall be supplied through a separate service connection or service connections. Two or more structures under one ownership and on the same lot or parcel of land may be supplied through one service connection, or a separate service connection may be installed for each structure. Each separate parcel shall have its own service connection.

2.14 Adjacent Parcels

A service connection to a parcel shall not be used to supply adjoining parcels of a different owner or to supply parcels of the same owner for which proper application for service connection was not made or is on opposite sides of a public right of way, public alley way, or public utility easement.

2.15 Abandoned Service and Reestablishment of Service

Whenever any service connection is authorized to be abandoned or removed, any reestablishment of service shall be considered a new service connection subject to the rules and regulations herein.

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