**DATE: / /2025**

**Subject: Formal Protest – Sewer Rate Increase**

Dear Bakersfield City Council,

I am writing in protest of the proposed sewer rate increase from $239 to $950 per year.

Flat-rate charges like this amount to a regressive fee—where people with lower incomes are disproportionately burdened. A household surviving on $15,000/year in Social Security or wages will feel this much more than someone earning $120,000/year. Yet both are being asked to pay the same amount.

Additionally, the rate does not account for property value, water usage, or household size. This structure is inequitable and deeply concerning, especially as our city continues to face rising housing and utility costs.

I urge the City to explore a more progressive and just funding model—one that does not treat every resident the same on paper while affecting them so differently in real life.

Sincerely,

Signature of owner or authorized representative: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

First & Last Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parcel Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_