



METROPOLITAN DISTRICT
33712 Mountain View
Trinidad, CO 81082

CO Public Water System ID: **CO 0136700**

January 14, 2022

Dear SFTR Metro Customer,

Evolving Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) oversight coupled with Metro infrastructure challenges have prompted the SFTR Metro Board to review long-term infrastructure priorities so that the Metro can continue to deliver a safe supply of potable water to customers. It's been about twenty-five years since the water system was installed, and as some may recall the installation was not without problems as the company contracted to do the installation went bankrupt before project completion. The majority of the water distribution lines were installed without trenching and bedding. This has resulted in continuing and persistent issues regarding the Metro's capacity to provide service to customers.

To correct these long-standing concerns, the Metro has embarked on a multi-year plan to address about 8 miles of problematic lines. While the efforts of the Ditch Rats have saved owners \$210,000 in the past two years alone, their availability and enthusiasm are sorely taxed by the thought of this additional work. We also anticipate the water line remedies will place an unsustainable burden on the Metro's normal operating budget, a budget that has not seen a rate increase since 2011.

Since activation of the water system, the Metro has sustained operations using only the maintenance fees charged to the connected water users. With this added future expense looming, the Board has voted to discontinue the \$39.50 monthly "maintenance" fee being charged the current customers and instate a \$35 monthly "water availability" fee for each lot on the ranch, excepting the J lots, which were not included in the system design. This new fee will appear on the quarterly April 1, 2022 Metro statement.

All owners, whether connected to the system or not, are reminded of the value added to their property by having City water available.

Should you have questions or comments, please contact the Metro Office or any Board Member.

Respectfully,
Metro Board