

**Trinity Public Utilities District  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD  
APRIL 10, 2025**

Location: Trinity Public Utilities District Community Room  
26 Ponderosa Lane, Weaverville, California

Board Present: Alex Cousins, Nicholas Goulette, Andrew Johnson, Michael Rourke,  
Joseph Trindade

Board Absent: None

Others Present: Paul Hauser, Jim Underwood, Sarah Sheetz, Julie Catanese, David  
DeLange, Delmont Senter, Wes Scribner, James Aven and Amanda  
Barragar.

**1. President Rourke called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.**

**2. Approval of the Agenda Order**

Director Cousins made a motion to approve the Agenda Order. Director Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Alex Cousins, Nick Goulette, Andrew Johnson, Mike Rourke,  
Joe Trindade

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

**3. Public Input**

None

**4. Consent Calendar**

Director Trindade made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Director Cousins seconded the motion. The Consent Calendar included:

- a. Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting, February 13, 2025
- b. Accept Minutes of Safety Meeting, March 4, 2025
- c. Accept Minutes of Safety Meeting, April 1, 2025
- d. Validate Bills of February 2025
- e. Validate Bills of March 2025
- f. Approve Financial Reports for January 2025
- g. Approve Financial Reports for February 2025
- h. Ratify Electric Service Contract in the amount of \$6,878.65 for additional service at 797 Mountain View Drive in Lewiston.

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Alex Cousins, Nick Goulette, Andrew Johnson, Mike Rourke,  
Joe Trindade

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

**5. Action Items**

- a. Items Pulled from Consent Calendar  
None

## 6. Conduct a Public Hearing to Consider Rate Restructuring

Mr. Hauser reviewed the proposed rate restructuring with the Board of Directors, attached and incorporated herein by reference.

President Rourke opened the Public Hearing at 1:07 p.m.

The Board discussed the Rate Restructuring, including timing of implementation, wholesale power costs, the status of the Right-of-Way project, status of pending grants, vegetation management services and strategies relative to District Reserves. In addition there was a discussion on revising the Residential Rate Schedule to include additional meters that serve residential accessories, such as pumps and/or shops/garages. There was also a discussion on a Grid Benefits charge to potentially be applied to Solar customers.

There were no comments from the Public in attendance.

President Rourke closed the Public Hearing at 3:07 p.m.

## 7. Reports:

### a. Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) Reporting Metrics Update – February and March, 2025

Mr. DeLange provided a summary of the Wildfire Mitigation Plan Reporting Metrics for February and March, 2025. Intrusive Inspections are nearly complete, patrol and visual inspections are on track.

### b. General Managers Reports:

#### i. Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser reported that the United States Forest Service (USFS) had advised that they would be completing the survey work by the end of Calendar Year 2024. The District has not had an update from the USFS in 2025.

#### ii. Right of Way Project Update

Mr. Hauser reported that the Right of Way Project is still moving forward.

#### iii. Balancing Authority of Northern California (BANC)

Mr. Hauser reported that due to the uncertainty of staffing levels at the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA), enrollment in the Extended Day Ahead Market may be delayed.

#### iv. Power Outage Summaries, February and March, 2025

Mr. Hauser reviewed the summaries with the Board, highlighting the WAPA transmission outages in February and March. Mr. Senter advised that the District has a good relationship with WAPA, but that there are some new personnel to work with, which may have contributed to the delay in restoration of service.

#### v. Reinitiation of Consultation on the Long Term Operation (ROC on LTO) of the Central Valley Project

Mr. Hauser advised that he does not anticipate additional updates on this topic and that it can be removed from future Agendas.

vi. Grants Update

Ms. Sheetz advised that there has been little progress on the grant status for the following grants currently being tracked:

United States Department of Agriculture Community Wildfire Defense Grant, \$9.5 million funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill (IIJA)  
Status: notified of award, agreement partially executed

Community Facilities Grant – Sno Cat acquisition, \$236,140.  
Status: notified of award, agreement not yet executed.

Community Facilities Grant – Fault Tamers, \$300,000.  
Status: application submitted.

vii. Northwest Public Power Association (NWPPA), Voting Delegate for Annual Meeting

The Board unanimously affirmed the voting delegate(s) for the NWPPA Annual Meeting:

Voting Delegate: Alex Cousins  
Alternate: Paul Hauser

viii. Trinity County Collaborative, Alert West Camera, Bonanza King Lookout

Ms. Catanese advised that at the most recent meeting it was announced that the project will be funded by Alert California. A smaller group has been appointed to move the project forward.

c. Committee Reports

- Ad-hoc Forestry Committee  
None

d. Board Member Reports

Director Goulette reported that all local funding has been restored for the Watershed Center, including Community Wildfire Defense Grant awards.

Director Cousins reported on meetings with legislators at the American Public Power Association trip to Washington DC at the end of February.

**8. Discussion Item**

None

**9. Communications Received**

The Board received correspondence from the Trinity Trail Alliance thanking them for support of the LaGrange Classic Mountain Bike Race for 2025; and from a customer regarding Troubleman Ben Dailey's excellent work.

**10. Meetings and/or Workshops**

- a. Northwest Public Power Association – Annual Conference  
Santa Rosa, CA  
May 19-22, 2025

*Director Cousins, Mr. Hauser and Ms. Sheetz will attend.*

**11. Public Input**

Amanda Barragar commented that the impact of the rate restructuring seems reasonable, and requested that the Board offer additional consideration to the idea of an increased flat rate for low energy users, stating her concern of making it more difficult for customers to conserve in order to reduce their bill.

The Board took a brief recess at 3:49 p.m. and entered Closed Session at 3:56 p.m.

**12. Closed Session**

- a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9  
**Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation**  
Claimant: California Fair Plan Association  
*No Reportable Action*
- b. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9  
**Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation**  
Four Potential Case(s)  
*No Reportable Action*

**13. Adjournment**

There being no further business, President Rourke adjourned the meeting at 4:36 p.m.

*/s/ Michael Rourke*  
Michael Rourke, President

ATTEST: /s/ Nicholas Goulette  
Nicholas Goulette, Clerk

# TRINITY PUD

2025 RATE DISCUSSION & FORECAST





# BACKGROUND

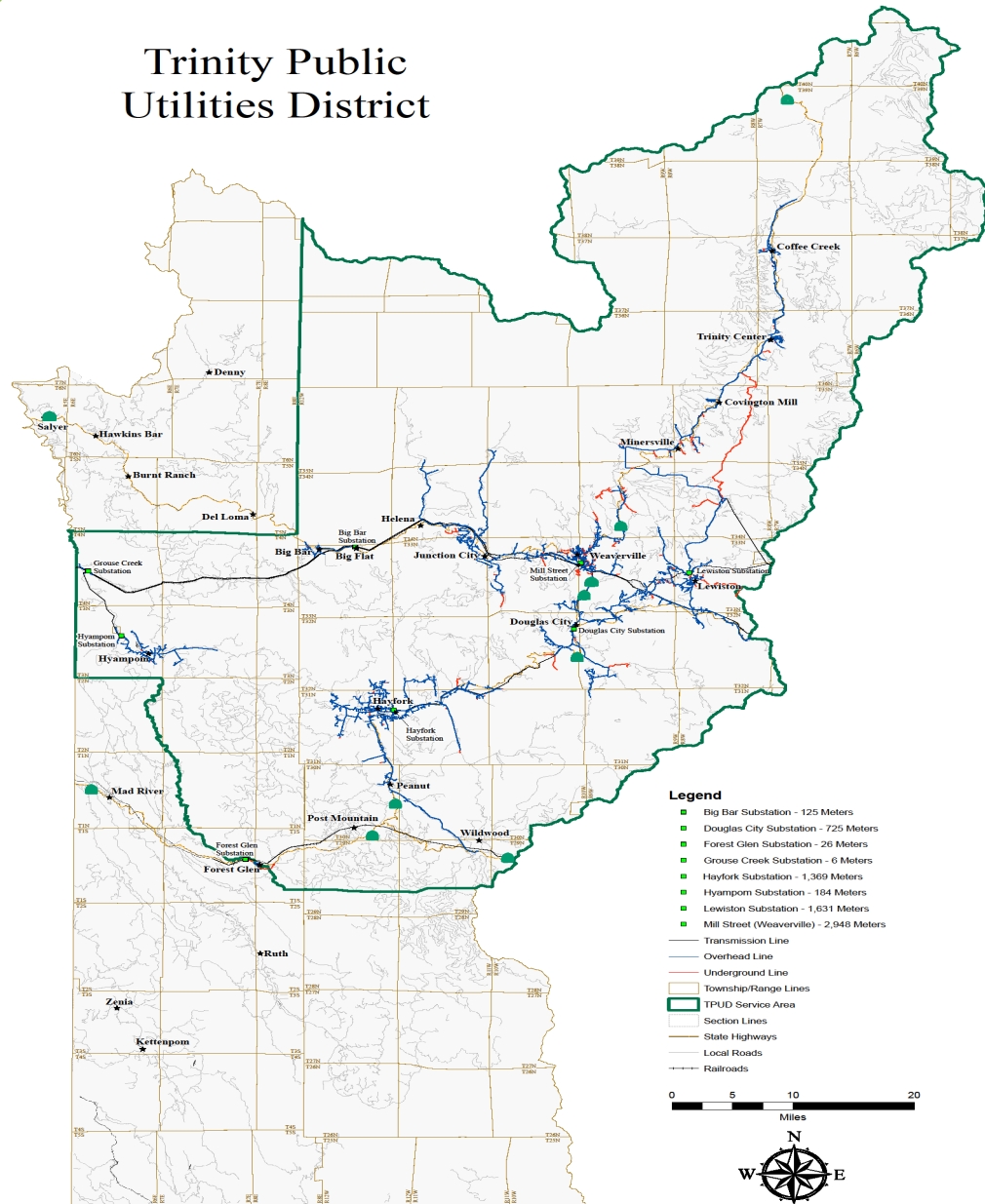
- TPUD began delivering power to Weaverville in 1982 taking advantage of the 1955 Trinity River Division Act that set aside 25% of the power generated from Trinity River water for “the use of the citizens of Trinity County”
- TPUD has a “first preference” right to purchase power from the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA)
- TPUD’s first preference power satisfies California’s renewable power mandate under SB100
- In 1993 TPUD purchased powerline and substation assets from PG&E allowing the PUD to provide power to the areas outside of Weaverville expanding to the current service area.

## MORE..

- Today TPUD has 25 employees that provide electric service to 7,282 customers located over a 2,200 square mile service territory
- The PUD has 9 substations and more than 700 miles of power lines
- 94% of the power is delivered over WAPA and TPUD transmission lines with the remaining 6% delivered from PG&E transmission lines
- All of the power is renewable, emission free hydropower from the Central Valley Project

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# Trinity Public Utilities District





# 2024 RATE RESTRUCTURE

- In February 2023, the District implemented a 4-year rate restructure. In February 2024, the District accelerated years 3 and 4 into year 2 resulting in equalized rates over each rate class;
- The Drought Relief Surcharge was replaced with a Wholesale Power Charge which was intended to recover wholesale power costs in a more timely manner

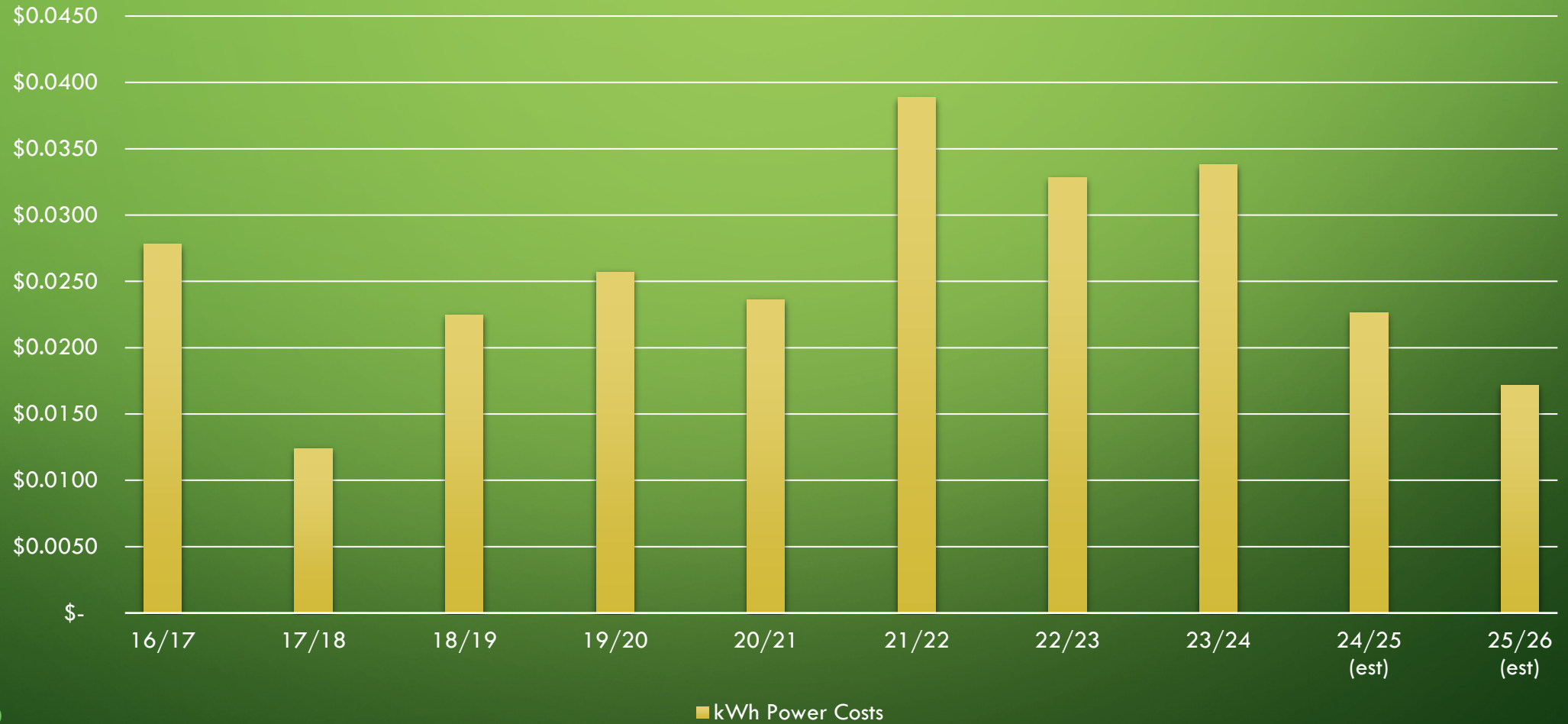
# RESERVES HISTORY

- Reserves began to decline in 2019 as capital expenditures increased
- Increased cost for vegetation management
- ROW Expansion Project
- Capital Investments to upgrade the system to Serve New Load - \$15 million to date
- Borrowed \$9.0 million in 2021 for system upgrades
- Helena Fire settlement = Loss of wildfire liability insurance
- Proactive rate restructure and revenue increase in 2024

## Trinity Public Utilities District History of Reserves



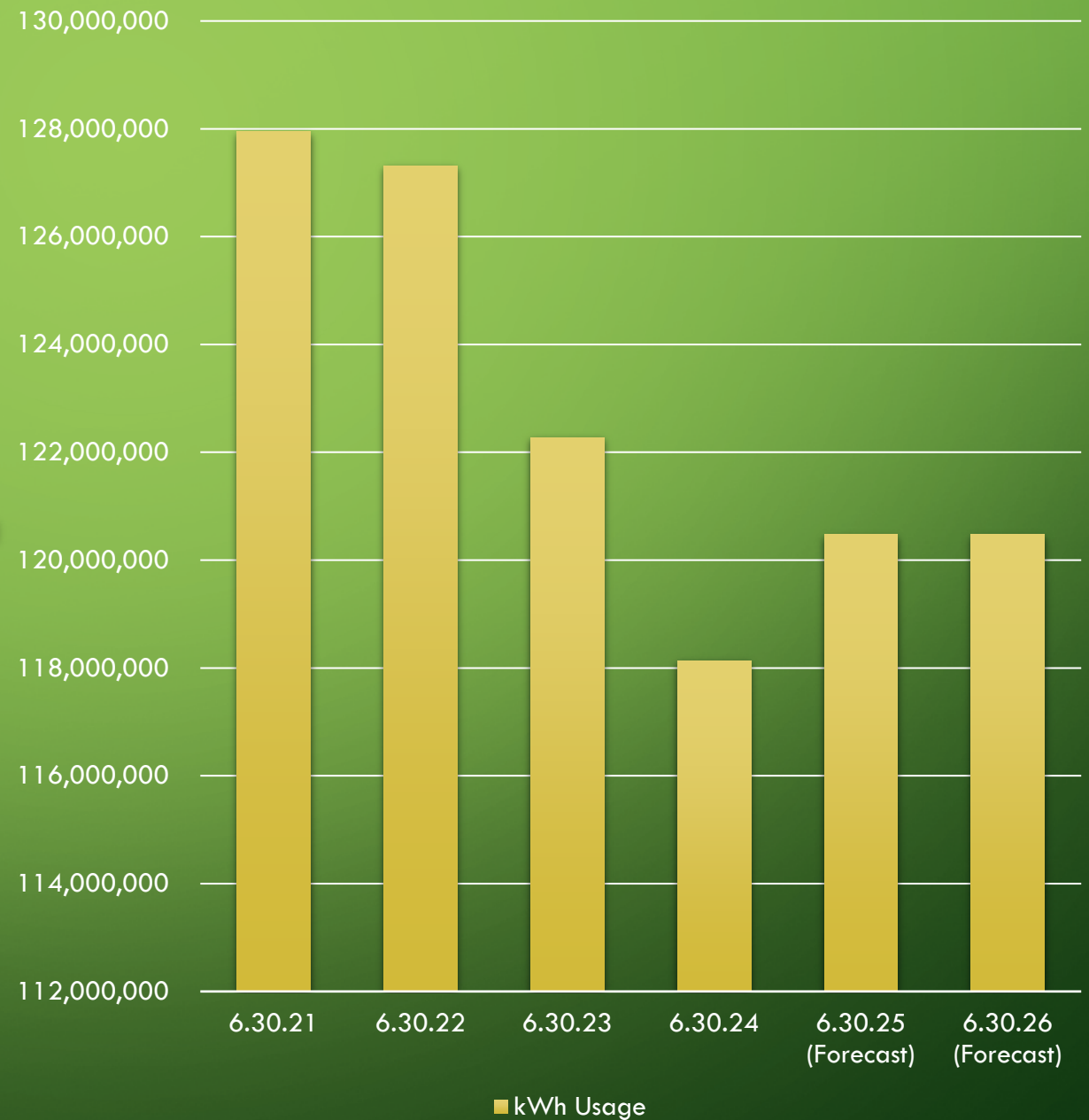
# POWER COST TRENDS





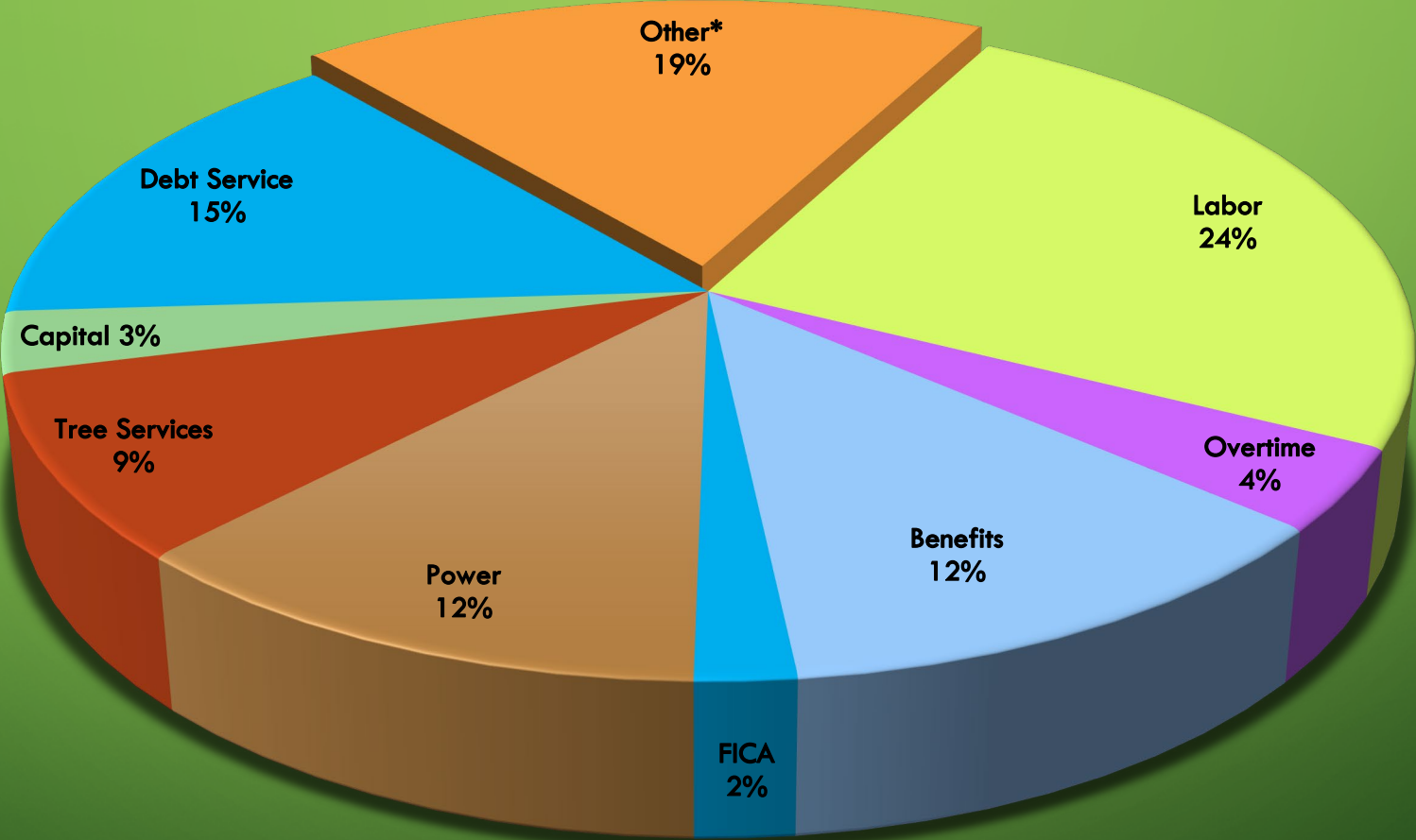
# POWER SALES

- TPUD has lost load since 2021
- All of the load loss is in the High Impact and Commercial categories
- Residential load has increased slightly

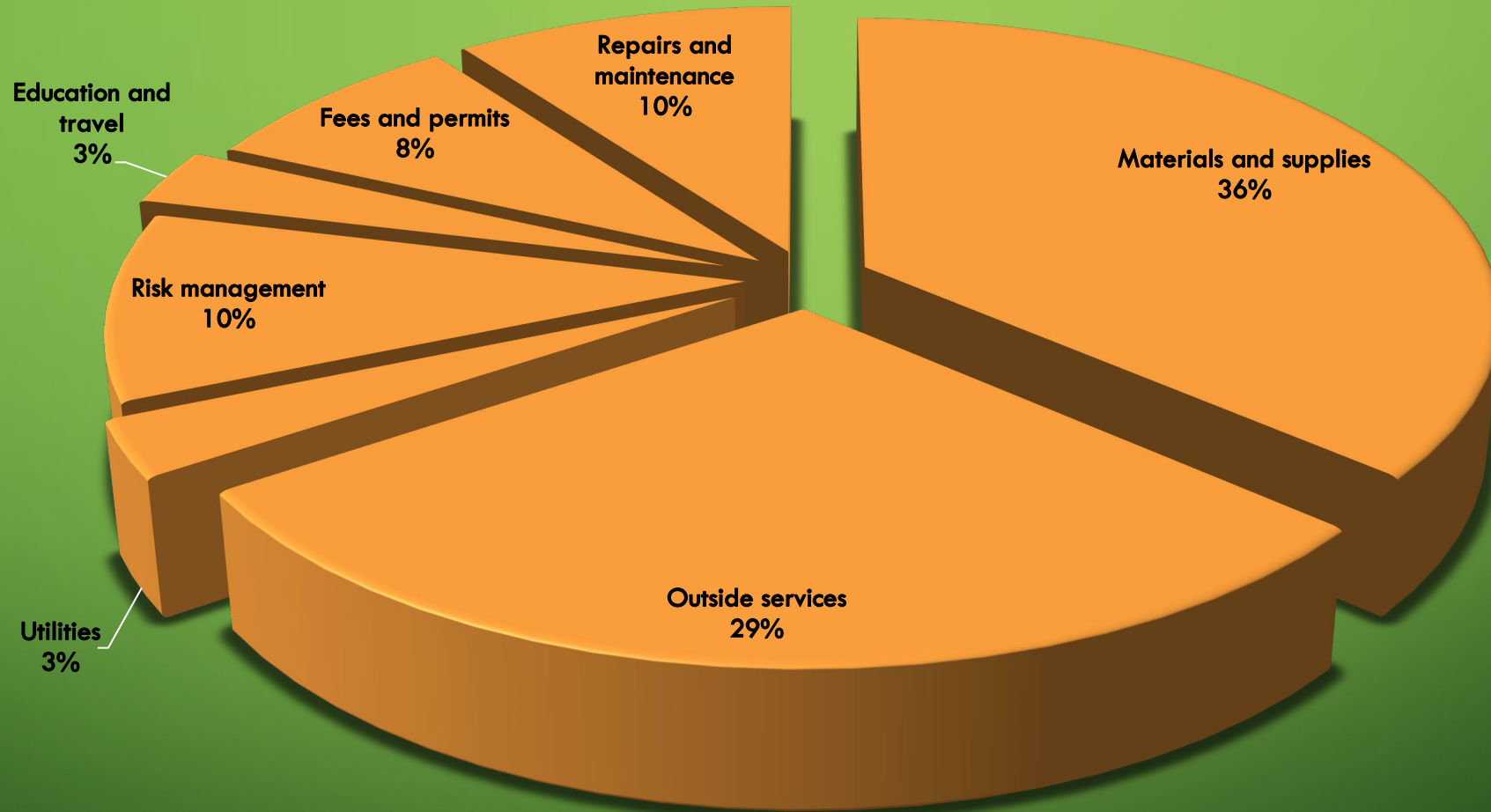




# 25/26 PROPOSED BUDGET



# 25/26 PROPOSED "19% OTHER ACTIVITY"



# CUSTOMER DEMOGRAPHIC

Class	Number of Meters	Annual Usage	% of Services	% of Usage
Residential	5777	63,329,616	80%	54%
Commercial	1150	25,156,953	16%	21%
High Impact	232	17,669,984	3%	15%
Industrial	1	10,589,156	0%	9%
State	35	967,554	0%	1%

# PROPOSED CHANGES – SINGLE RESIDENTIAL

RESIDENTIAL	Sample Usage:	1000 kWh							
Detail of Charges:	Current		Year 1		Incremental Year 1	Year 2		Incremental Year 2	
	Rate	Total	Rate	Total		Rate	Total		
System Access Charge	\$ 39.00	\$ 39.00	\$ 41.00	\$ 41.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 43.00	\$ 43.00	\$ 2.00	
Kwh Charge	\$0.04682	\$ 46.82	\$ 0.04862	\$ 48.62	\$ 1.80	\$ 0.05056	\$ 50.56	\$ 1.94	
Wholesale Power Charge	\$0.01940	\$ 19.40	\$ 0.01760	\$ 17.60	\$ (1.80)	\$ 0.01760	\$ 17.60	\$ -	
California Energy Tax	\$0.00030	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.00030	\$ 0.30	\$ -	\$ 0.00030	\$ 0.30	\$ -	
CA Public Benefit Charge	2.85%	\$ 3.00	2.85%	\$ 3.06	\$ 0.06	2.85%	\$ 3.17	\$ 0.11	
<b>Total</b>		\$ 108.52		\$ 110.58	\$ 2.06		\$ 114.63	\$ 4.05	
<b>% increase</b>					<b>2%</b>			<b>4%</b>	



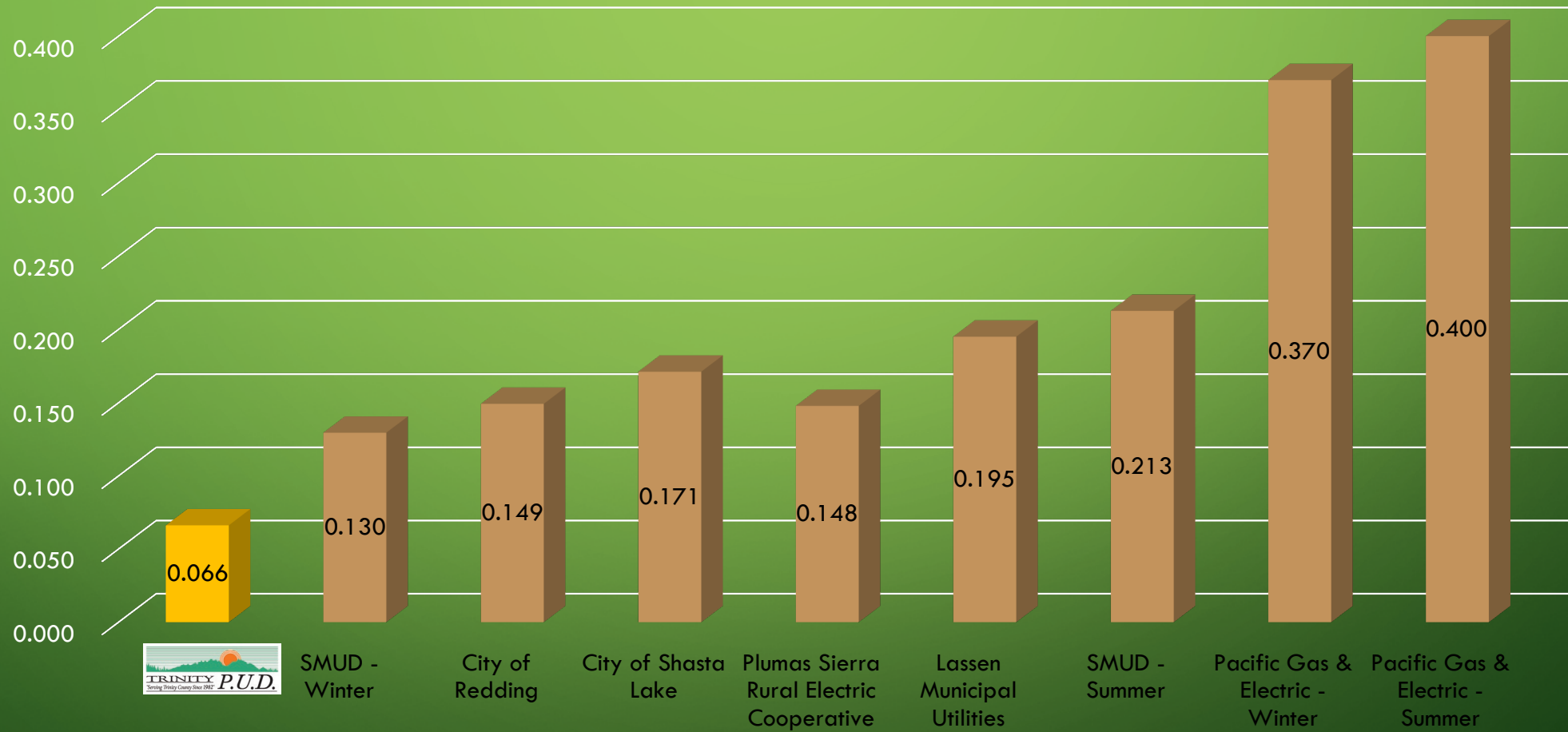
# PROPOSED CHANGES – MULTIPLE CLASSES

	INPUT: KWH USED	FLAT CHARGE	PUBLIC BENEFITS CHARGE ON FLAT CHARGE	BASE RATE	WHOLESALE POWER CHARGE	CALIFORNIA ENERGY TAX RATE	PUBLIC BENEFITS CHARGE	CURRENT FINAL BILL	PROJECTED BILL JUNE 2025	PROJECTED BILL 2026
<b>Residential</b>	1000	\$ 39.00	\$ 1.11	\$0.04682	\$0.01940	\$ 0.0003	\$1.8900	<b>\$108.52</b>	<b>\$ 110.58</b>	<b>\$ 114.63</b>
<b>Commercial</b>	3500	\$ 58.00	\$ 1.65	\$0.06519	\$0.01940	\$ 0.0003	\$8.4400	<b>\$365.21</b>	<b>\$ 379.58</b>	<b>\$ 401.90</b>
<b>High Impact Load</b>	10000	\$ 125.00	\$ 3.56	\$0.12860	\$0.01940	\$ 0.0003	\$42.1800	<b>\$1,653.74</b>	<b>\$1,743.12</b>	<b>\$ 1,859.45</b>

# OTHER PROVIDER COMPARISONS - ACCESS CHG



# OTHER PROVIDER COMPARISONS – KWH RATE (\$)



# OTHER PROVIDER COMPARISONS – MONTHLY BILL





# PROPOSED BUDGET IMPACTS – W/O RATE INCREASE

	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28
	(Actual)	(Actual)	(Preliminary)	(Budgeted)	(Projected)	(Projected)
<b>Operating receipts</b>	17,674,892	15,933,937	18,631,177	15,421,835	15,457,082	15,498,267
<b>Operating expenditures</b>	14,740,369	14,566,659	13,352,876	13,290,655	13,134,704	13,189,873
<b>Available for capital</b>	2,934,523	1,367,278	5,278,301	2,131,180	2,322,379	2,308,394
<b>Capital outlay</b>	7,817,194	4,359,668	3,539,562	4,627,151	4,740,353	4,575,883
<b>Bond/loan proceeds</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net County/MCMS repayments</b>	97,933	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Change in total reserves</b>	(4,784,738)	(2,992,390)	1,738,739	(2,495,971)	(2,417,974)	(2,267,489)
<b>Reserves balances (end of year)</b>						
<b>Other reserves</b>	5,779,018	1,544,041	1,544,041	2,067,187	2,086,015	2,103,957
<b>Contingency reserves</b>	(510,592)	715,147	2,450,166	(568,951)	(3,005,752)	(5,291,184)
<b>Total reserves</b>	<b>5,268,426</b>	<b>2,259,188</b>	<b>3,994,207</b>	<b>1,498,237</b>	<b>(919,738)</b>	<b>(3,187,227)</b>

# PROPOSED BUDGET IMPACTS – W/PROPOSED INCREASE

	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28
	(Actual)	(Actual)	(Preliminary)	(Budgeted)	(Projected)	(Projected)
<b>Operating receipts</b>	17,674,892	15,933,937	18,631,177	16,045,322	16,736,345	16,776,105
<b>Operating expenditures</b>	14,740,369	14,566,659	13,352,876	12,290,655	12,119,704	12,159,648
<b>Available for capital</b>	2,934,523	1,367,278	5,278,301	3,754,667	4,616,642	4,616,456
<b>Capital outlay</b>	7,817,194	4,359,668	3,539,562	4,627,151	4,740,353	4,575,883
<b>Bond/loan proceeds</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net County/MCMS repayments</b>	97,933	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Change in total reserves</b>	(4,784,738)	(2,992,390)	1,738,739	(872,484)	(123,711)	40,573
<b>Reserves balances (end of year)</b>						
<b>Other reserves</b>	5,779,018	1,544,041	1,544,041	1,983,854	2,001,431	2,018,123
<b>Contingency reserves</b>	(510,592)	715,147	2,450,166	1,137,870	996,581	1,020,462
<b>Total reserves</b>	<b>5,268,426</b>	<b>2,259,188</b>	<b>3,994,207</b>	<b>3,121,724</b>	<b>2,998,012</b>	<b>3,038,586</b>

# PROPOSED RESERVE IMPACTS





# QUESTIONS

