

## **NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CIRCULATE PETITION**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that proponents of the following proposed ordinance intend to circulate a petition within the City of Cerritos to place the proposed measure on the ballot for approval by the voters, pursuant to Article XIII C, section 3 of the California Constitution and Elections Code § 9202. Pursuant to Elections Code section 9203, the proponents hereby request that the City Attorney prepare a ballot title and summary of the proposed measure.

### **STATEMENT OF REASONS**

Residents of the City of Cerritos recognize the necessity of maintaining safe, reliable, and financially sustainable water and sewer systems. On January 26, 2026, the City Council adopted a multi-year water and sewer rate increase schedule following a Proposition 218 protest process. Approximately 6,400 written protest forms were submitted during that process, reflecting significant public participation and concern regarding the magnitude and structure of the proposed increases. Following the protest hearing, the City Council adopted the rate increase schedule without modification. The California Constitution reserves to voters the power of initiative to adopt, amend, or repeal local ordinances, including ordinances relating to utility rates. This measure exercises that authority by repealing the January 26, 2026 rate increases and requiring replacement rates supported by objective, evidence-based cost-of-service analysis consistent with Article XIII D. The measure is intended to preserve lawful and financially sustainable utility operations, maintain constitutional compliance, and ensure that future rates are supported by objective evidence-based cost-of-service analysis.