

CORRESPONDENCE

From: Jomsky, Mark
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2009 4:01 PM
To: Vandervort, Kathy
Subject: Fwd: Water Rate Increase

Sent from my iPhone
Begin forwarded message:

From: "Suzuki, Takako" <tsuzuki@cityofpasadena.net>
Date: April 22, 2009 11:52:48 AM PDT
To: "Beck, Michael" <mbeck@cityofpasadena.net>, "Jomsky, Mark" <mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net>
Subject: FW: Water Rate Increase

I'm forwarding this message per Bruce Bailey's request.

From: Bruce Bailey [<mailto:bbailey@gwa-architects.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2009 10:45 AM
To: Suzuki, Takako
Subject: Water Rate Increase

Dear Ms. Suzuki, Who can I talk to that can explain the proposed new water rates? If I am reading this rate chart correctly everyone, whether they try to save water or not, will see there basic rate double in two years. That seems excessive even with the increased costs for water.

The Block schedule seems to reward people that use more water by increasing the cut off from 26 to 40 in Block 2. If you were penalizing people that used more water than they should, these numbers should have been reduced. Also the chart does not show the billing rate for each block level (my last bill was for Block 1, 9HFC @ .83385). Will this number increase? To reward people, the multiplier should be a sliding schedule within each Block (ie if I used 8HFC it might be @ .82385 and if I used 10HFC it might be .84385). Also no mention was made about the CIC charge on the water bill. Is that changing?

I would rather see a smaller base increase and a larger penalty for water abuse and a commensurate bill reduction for conservation.

Please pass along my comments to Councilman Madison and the City Clerk (It would be nice if they gave an email address to send comments to on their Notice of Public Hearing.).

Thanks, Bruce
Bruce A. Bailey, AIA
168 Glen Summer Road
Pasadena, CA 91105-1419
323-938-4422 p
323-938-4114 f
bbailey@gwa-architects.com

RECEIVED

'09 APR 27 A8 50

City of Pasadena
ATTN: City Clerk
100 N. Garfield Avenue, Rm. S228
Pasadena, CA 91109

CITY CLERK
CITY OF PASADENA

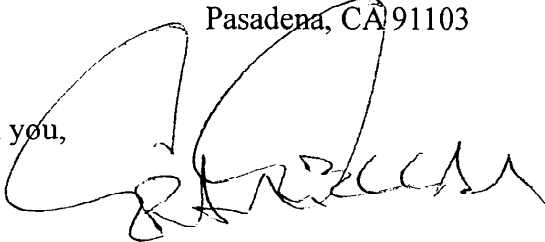
RE: PROTEST to City of Pasadena PWP Rate Increase 070109

To who it may concern:

I, Sean L. Stellar, protest the City of Pasadena's proposed increases to water and power rates.

Property Address: 1449 Scenic Dr
Pasadena, CA 91103

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sean L. Stellar', written over the 'Thank you,' text.

Sean L. Stellar
(626) 786-2983

RECEIVED

09 APR 27 AM 8:49

CITY CLERK
CITY OF PASADENA

City of Pasadena
ATTN: City Clerk
100 N. Garfield Avenue, Rm. S228
Pasadena, CA 91109

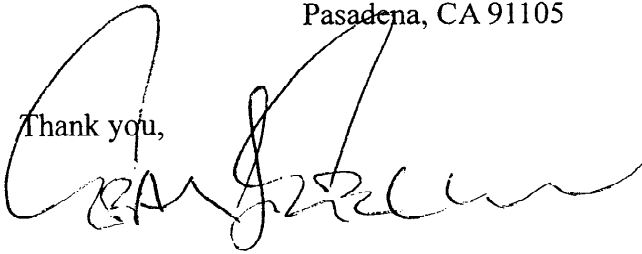
RE: PROTEST to City of Pasadena PWP Rate Increase 070109

To who it may concern:

I, Sean L. Stellar – owner of Stellar Prosthetics & Orthotics, protest the City of Pasadena's proposed increases to water and power rates.

Property Address: 753 S. Arroyo Parkway, Ste. 2
Pasadena, CA 91105

Thank you,



Sean L. Stellar
(626) 584-0805

Caroline Mayrina
183 Glorieta Street
Pasadena, California 91103

RECEIVED

09 APR 27 08:48

CITY CLERK
CITY OF PASADENA

April 22, 2009

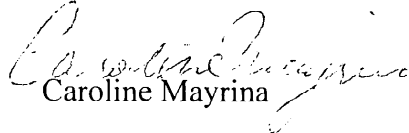
City Clerk
100 North Garfield Avenue, Room S228
Pasadena, CA 91109

Re: City of Pasadena PWP Rate Increase 070109
Parcel No. 5728-024-051
183 Glorieta Street, Pasadena, CA 91103

To Whom It May Concern:

I, Caroline Mayrina, resident of 183 Glorieta Street, Pasadena, CA 91103, hereby protest to the proposed PWP Rate Increase as itemized in your Notice of Public Hearing dated April 24, 2009.

Very truly yours,


Caroline Mayrina

CM:cm

RECEIVED

04-22-09

'09 APR 27 A8:41

CITY CLERK
CITY OF PASADENA

Ivory Williams
244 Atchison St
Pasadena, CA 91104

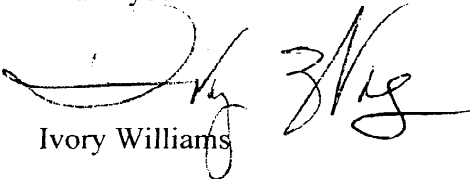
City Of Pasadena
100 N. Garfield Av.
Pasadena, CA 91109

RE: Water and Power Rate Hike--PROTEST

This letter is to inform you that I object to this proposed rate hike. I am a DISABLED person, and my monthly income is fixed.

Are you proposing not to increase residents that are in my same situation? Or do you take into consideration that this puts a strain on people in my same category. Therefore, I am protesting this rate hike.

Thank you


Ivory Williams

RECEIVED

09 APR 27 A8:49

City of Pasadena
ATTN: City Clerk
100 N. Garfield Avenue, Rm. S228
Pasadena, CA 91109

CITY CLERK
CITY OF PASADENA

RE: PROTEST to City of Pasadena PWF Rate Increase 070109

To who it may concern:

I, Karla A. Vallejo, protest the City of Pasadena's proposed increases to water and power rates.

Property Address: 110 El Nido Ave. #23
Pasadena, CA 91107

Thank you,



Karla A. Vallejo
(626) 786-4727

4/25/09

RECEIVED

'09 APR 28 110:51

CITY CLERK
CITY OF PASADENA

To whom it may concern;

My name is Rosalinda Medina, property owner
at 1701 Harding Ave, Altadena, CA 91001.

This a formal "protest" on the proposed increases
by the "City of Pasadena" PWP Rate Increase
for 7/1/09.

This increase is not supported by me and the
occupants at my home! "I PROTEST!"

Please feel free to contact me at
626 644 8330.

Thank you

Respectfully

Rosalinda Medina

From: Suzuki, Takako
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2009 8:12 PM
To: Jomsky, Mark
Subject: FW: Pasadena water rates: discount for edible gardens?

Yvonne Savio would like every Councilmember to receive a copy of her email. She would like to have a reduced water rate for people who have edible gardens.

Taka Suzuki

From: Yvonne Savio [<mailto:ydsavio@ucdavis.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2009 4:34 PM
To: Suzuki, Takako
Subject: Pasadena water rates: discount for edible gardens?

My Pasadena ¾-acre home garden at 385 Malcolm Drive, Pasadena 91105, is a demonstration garden for our University of California Cooperative Extension Los Angeles County Common Ground Garden Program Master Gardener Volunteer Training Program. Approximately ¾ of my household water bill is for vegetables and fruit trees. I understand there is no current provision for a rebate or discount based on growing food. I would like to propose that this be considered.

In these times of continuing drought, it's imperative that individuals utilize their water in an efficient manner. Food gardening is an excellent way to "feed the soil" and guide water back into the groundsource while personally benefiting from eating our homegrown produce. This is an infinitely more valuable use of our limited water supplies than flooding grass several times a week and having it overflow onto pavement and into storm drains. It would be wonderful to economically encourage Pasadena residents to "grow their own" by providing a discount for water used in the food garden.

While my garden isn't open to the public, each year's new group of 55 Master Gardeners tours the garden on five Saturdays in March and April, and then they participate in hands-on activities throughout the fall and winter months. Three main elements of my garden focus on efficient water use -- soaker hoses, raised beds, and the entire garden covered with four inches of mulch from local provider Tim Dundon in Altadena (<http://www.2doo.com/thepower2be/>).

Yvonne Savio
Common Ground Garden Program Manager
University of California Cooperative Extension, Los Angeles County
PO Box 22255
4800 E. Cesar E. Chavez Avenue

Los Angeles CA 90022

Phone: 323-260-3407

Fax: 323-881-0067

Email: ydsavio@ucdavis.edu

Website: [http://celosangeles.ucdavis.edu/Common Ground Garden Program/](http://celosangeles.ucdavis.edu/Common_Ground_Garden_Program/)

Master Gardener Email Gardening helpline: mglosangeleshelpline@ucdavis.edu

Master Gardener Phone Gardening helpline: 323-260-3238

2007 Lifetime Achievement Award, Los Angeles Community Garden Council

2007 Certificate of Commendation, Los Angeles Unified School District

2006 Certificate of Appreciation, City of Los Angeles

2004 "Feeding the Hungry" Garden Crusader Award, Gardener's Supply Company

Since 1978, the Common Ground Garden program has helped Los Angeles County residents to garden, grow their own food, and healthfully prepare it. Our targeted audience and priority are to serve limited-resource residents and those traditionally underrepresented. By training community volunteers, we empower neighborhoods to create their own solutions. Our Master Gardener volunteers work primarily with community gardens, school gardens, seniors, and homeless and battered women's shelters.

In 2008, 181 Master Gardeners volunteered 9,272 hours serving 87,376 low-income gardeners in Los Angeles County at 28 community gardens, 46 school gardens, 15 shelter gardens, 5 senior gardens, and 13 fairs and farmers markets.

RECEIVED

LAW OFFICES OF GEOFFREY D. COMMONS

122 Patrician Way
Pasadena, California 91105
(626) 449-7499 Fax (626) 577-5143

MAY 5 9:52
CITY CLERK
CITY OF PASADENA

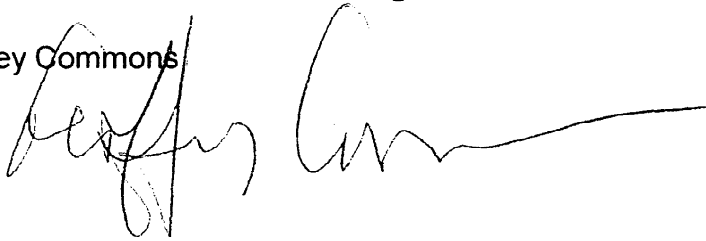
To: Department of Water & Power, City of Pasadena
From: Geoffrey Commons
Re: PWP Rate Increase 070109
Cc: Steve Madison, Councilman
Attachments: Address and Parcel #

I oppose the proposed rate increase for the following reasons:

- It is not a rate increase; it is a rate decrease for small water users
And a rate increase for medium and large water users. Thus the
Handout is dishonest on its "face".
- The rate increase is biased against large families that use more water
For toilets, drinking, clothes and bathing
- The rate increase is biased against large properties that need more water
- The rate increase will increase fire risk in the dangerous areas of our
City since failure to water will increase amount of combustible vegetation
- The brochure does not define block 4 and block 5 and therefore notice
Is inadequate and needs to be redone.

In my opinion a better way of achieving conservation is to retain the proposed rate
changes in blocks one and two and too reward or punish users in block 3 based upon
increases or decreases I water usage.

Geoffrey Commons



Property Detail Report

RealQuest.com

For Property Located At

122 PATRICIAN WAY, PASADENA CA 91105-1024

Owner Information:

Owner Name: **COMMONS GEOFFREY & LOURDES/COMMONS G & L /TR**
 Mailing Address: **122 PATRICIAN WAY, PASADENA CA 91105-1024 C030**
 Phone Number: _____ Vesting Codes: **// TE**

Location Information:

Legal Description: **TRACT # 13218 LOT COM AT NW COR OF LOT 7 TH S ON W LINE OF SD LOT 60 FT TH S 48\ 20'33" E 15 FT TH S 49\27'50" W 34.43 FT TH S 37\54'20" E 275.57 FT TH NE TO MOST E COR OF SD LOT TH N 77\08'05" W 365.32**
 County: **LOS ANGELES, CA** APN: **5708-009-008**
 Census Tract / Block: **4,608.00 / 2** Alternate APN: _____
 Township-Range-Sect: _____ Subdivision: **13218**
 Legal Book/Page: **265-8** Map Reference: **26-D4 / 565-E5**
 Legal Lot: **8** Tract #: **13218**
 Legal Block: _____ School District: **PASADENA UNIF**
 Market Area: _____ Munic/Township: _____
 Neighbor Code: _____

Owner Transfer Information:

Recording/Sale Date: **05/24/2004 / 03/19/2004** Deed Type: **GRANT DEED**
 Sale Price: _____ 1st Mtg Document #: _____
 Document #: **1321621**

Last Market Sale Information:

Recording/Sale Date: **11/30/1973 /** 1st Mtg Amount/Type: **/**
 Sale Price: **\$60,000** 1st Mtg Int. Rate/Type: **/**
 Sale Type: **FULL** 1st Mtg Document #: _____
 Document #: _____ 2nd Mtg Amount/Type: **/**
 Deed Type: **DEED (REG)** 2nd Mtg Int. Rate/Type: **/**
 Transfer Document #: _____ Price Per SqFt: **\$28.64**
 New Construction: _____ Multi/Split Sale: _____
 Title Company: _____
 Lender: _____
 Seller Name: _____

Prior Sale Information:

Prior Rec/Sale Date: **/** Prior Lender: _____
 Prior Sale Price: _____ Prior 1st Mtg Amt/Type: **/**
 Prior Doc Number: _____ Prior 1st Mtg Rate/Type: **/**
 Prior Deed Type: _____

Property Characteristics:

Gross Area: 2,095	Parking Type: CARPORT	Construction: _____
Living Area: 2,095	Garage Area: _____	Heat Type: FORCED AIR
Tot Adj Area: _____	Garage Capacity: 4	Exterior wall: STUCCO
Above Grade: _____	Parking Spaces: 2	Porch Type: _____
Total Rooms: 6	Basement Area: _____	Patio Type: PATIO
Bedrooms: 2	Finish Bsmnt Area: _____	Pool: POOL
Bath(F/H): 2 /	Basement Type: _____	Air Cond: CENTRAL
Year Built / Eff: 1948 / 1949	Roof Type: _____	Style: CONVENTIONAL
Fireplace: Y / 1	Foundation: _____	Quality: AVERAGE
# of Stories: 1.00	Roof Material: RAISED WOOD SHAKE	Condition: AVERAGE

Other Improvements: **FENCE;ADDITION;LAUNDRY ROOM;SHED**

Site Information:

Zoning: PSR2	Acres: 1.48	County Use: SINGLE FAMILY RESID (0101)
Flood Zone: _____	Lot Area: 64,650	State Use: _____
Flood Panel: _____	Lot Width/Depth: 202 x 320	Site Influence: _____
Flood Panel Date: _____	Res/Comm Units: 1 /	Sewer Type: TYPE UNKNOWN
Land Use: SFR	_____	Water Type: PUBLIC

Tax Information:

Total Value: \$169,161	Assessed Year: 2008	Property Tax: \$2,461.43
Land Value: \$67,926	Improve %: 60%	Tax Area: 7500
Improvement Value: \$101,235	Tax Year: 2008	Tax Exemption: HOMEOWNER
Total Taxable Value: \$162,161	_____	_____

RECEIVED

'09 MAY -5 P5:02

CITY CLERK
CITY OF PASADENA

City of Pasadena
ATTN: City Clerk
100 N. Garfield Avenue, Rm. S228
Pasadena, CA 91109

RE: PROTEST to City of Pasadena PWP Rate Increase 070109

To who it may concern:

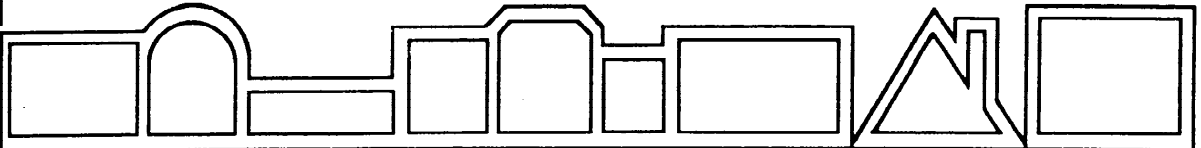
I, Marcella Vallejo-Fleck, protest the City of Pasadena's proposed increases to water and power rates.

Property Address: 2374 Brigden Road
Pasadena, CA 91104

Thank you,



Marcella Vallejo-Fleck
(626) 797-0889



May 4, 2009

City Clerk
100 N. Garfield Ave
Room 5228
Pasadena, Ca 91109

PWP Rate Increase 070109

I am an owner of each of the three properties listed below.
I wish to protest the increase.

John Gordon

- Parcel 5729 025 021 1293 N. Garfield Avenue
- Parcel 5850 013 016 1559 N. Hill Ave
- Parcel 5721 012 023 900 S. Madison Ave

RECEIVED
09 MAY -7 P4 50
CITY CLERK
CITY OF PASADENA

RECEIVED
09 MAY -7 P4 50

CITY CLERK
CITY OF PASADENA

City of Pasadena
ATTN: City Clerk
100 N. Garfield Avenue, Rm. S228
Pasadena, CA 91109


RE: PROTEST to City of Pasadena PWP Rate Increase 070109

To who it may concern:

I, Ines Alvarenga, protest the City of Pasadena's proposed increases to water and power rates.

Property Address: 720 E. Mountain Street #1
Pasadena, CA 91104

Thank you,


Ines Alvarenga
(626) 840-6433

From: WPD_Answerline
Sent: Thursday, May 07, 2009 5:44 PM
To: Thomas, Shari; Mc Lemore, Latasha
Subject: FW: Proposed Water Rate

Please add this to the protests of the PWP Water Rate Increase.

Patrick Tucker
Customer Service Manager
Pasadena Water and Power
626-744-4764
patricktucker@cityofpasadena.net

From: Birgit Gabig [mailto:Bgabig@charter.net]
Sent: Thursday, May 07, 2009 3:12 PM
To: WPD_Answerline
Subject: Proposed Water Rate

Acc # 65557-1 Gabig

While I understand that a water rate increase may be appropriate, the extent of this rate increase is exorbitant.

The D & C charge increases by 50% starting this July for my 1" meter and basically doubles from current rates by July 1, 2010!!!

On top of it, until now I did not even realize that as a county resident I am charged a 35% surcharge!!

BTW, why am I paying for fire maintenance when Pasadena is not even providing me with fire protection...that's the county and they are charging me already for that via my property tax bill

I am really appalled.

Birgit Gabig
7039 Vera Terrace
San Gabriel, Ca 91775

To: Pasadena City Clerk
100 N. Garfield Av., Room 5228
Pasadena, CA 91109

RECEIVED

09 MAY 11 AM 24

CITY CLERK
CITY OF PASADENA

From: Daniele L. Tran
7181 Hidden Pine Dr.
San Gabriel, CA 91775

Date: May 8, 2009

Subj.: Written Protest

Ref: City of Pasadena PWP Rate Increase 070109.

Madam/Sir,

This is to protest the proposed Increase under reference.

My property is located at

7181 Hidden Pine Drive, San Gabriel, California 91775.

The APN is 5379-002-030.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely yours,



Daniele L. Tran

RECEIVED

09 MAY 12 A7:52

CITY CLERK
CITY OF PASADENA

Caroline Mayrina
183 Glorieta Street
Pasadena, California 91103

May 11, 2009

City Clerk
100 North Garfield Avenue, Room S228
Pasadena, CA 91109

Re: City of Pasadena PWP Rate Increase 070109
Parcel No. 5728-024-051
183 Glorieta Street, Pasadena, CA 91103

To Whom It May Concern:

I, Caroline Mayrina, resident of 183 Glorieta Street, Pasadena, CA 91103, hereby protest to the proposed PWP Rate Increase as itemized in your Amended Notice of Public Hearing dated May 5, 2009.

Very truly yours,


Caroline Mayrina

CM:cm

PASADENA Laundry

Glengarry Enterprises, Inc.
1433 Glengarry Road, Pasadena, CA 91105
(626) 676-9290, Fax (323) 256-8007

RECEIVED

09 MAY 19 P4:13

CITY CLERK
CITY OF PASADENA

May 19th, 2009

RE: Proposed Water Rate Increases

Business Address: 2585 E. Colorado Blvd, 91107, Parcel # 2585

Residential Address: 1433 Glengarry Rd, 91105

Dear City of Pasadena,

As owner of a laundromat in East Pasadena and long time resident, I am writing to protest the proposed water rate increases. Our laundry is five years old and we provide a vital service and clean facility to Pasadena residents. We have been successful over the past five years because we take great care of our facility and customers.

We are also the greenest Laundromat in Pasadena. Below is a list of why:

- Have many very high efficiency washers that have qualified for thousands of dollars in energy rebates from The Gas Company.
- Have three 99% efficiency tank less water heaters that also qualified for energy rebates.
- Have insulated all appropriate plumbing that has also qualified for energy rebates.

Water is obviously a large utility expense for us and the proposed 50% increase in 2009 and then another 48%, in effect will result in a 100% increase in less than a two year span.

How can any organization propose such an unconscionable increase? Whatever the reason for the increase, it is a negligent decision to impact small businesses and residents in this manner.

No one can run a business like this. It would be irresponsible for me to pass this kind of an increase along to my customers from a business standpoint and from an ethical standpoint.


My family is also a long time Pasadena resident and along with so many people in our state, we are going through significant financial struggles.

My wife will be laid off from her job at Washington Mutual Bank in June and with the increase in DMV fees, Sales tax, business' taxes, workers compensation insurance increases, and other financial impacts, makes your proposed increase just another huge burden. This is all at a time that we all need help not more obstacles to overcome.

This is simply irresponsible. Shame on you for even proposing such an increase. However, you got yourself in a position to need such an increase is negligent and making your small businesses and residents to pay for it is not right.

I will sharing these thoughts to anyone who will listen. I am willing to discuss this with anyone who is willing.

Sincerely,



Peter L. Quinn
Small Business Owner and Pasadena Resident

Tim Duby
260 Patrician Way
Pasadena CA 91105

RECEIVED

'09 MAY 26 A8:51

CITY CLERK
CITY OF PASADENA

City Clerk
100 N. Garfield Avenue Room S228
Pasadena CA 91109

Re: City of Pasadena PWP Rate increase 070109


To the Pasadena City Council,

I understand rates need to rise in order to cover the PWP budget shortfall. I only request that the increase be fair and equitable among all meter sizes. Most of my neighbors have 1-1/2" meters. For some reason this meter size is receiving the largest rate increase. Please review the current and proposed rates for block 1 usage to see the glaring inequity:

size	current block 1	proposed block 1
1"	0-12	0-12
1 1/2"	0-40	0-22 !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
2"	0-50	0-48

Why 1 1/2" accounts are forced to take a 50%!!!! belt tightening is beyond me while other block 1 rates have essentially no change in Block 1. This proposed Block 1 rate for 1 1/2" meters needs to be revised. No other meter size comes close to a 50% drop in billing units for Block 1. I am doing everything I can to conserve now other than removing hillside greenery in this high fire hazard area.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this extremely unfair block structure.


Tim Duby
260 Patrician Way
PWP acct# 338574-7

I am opposed to the Comprehensive Water Conservation Plan because it brings up a lot of red flags. I am concerned that it is a smokescreen ordinance that scapegoats the residents.

1. Not the least of which is that *this critically serious ordinance was approved by the Council in the middle of the night after the public had fizzled out and gone home. It was deliberately placed as the last thing on the agenda just before the close of the meeting which had started at 6:30 p.m. nearly eight hours prior.* To me, that's a red flag
2. The May-June 2009 *Pasadena In Focus* , "Council Approves Comprehensive Water Conservation Plan" article leaves out important information as to the context in which Margaret McAustin introduced the motion for this ordinance to short the residents water. She named the city's desire to receive grant money from the Federal Department of Reclamation as her reasoning for creating the ordinance.
3. Which brings up the question of what is the City Council going to use the grant monies for? If the city is going to bill the residents for water deprivation while the city is granted a huge amount of federal money if the city will do so, isn't there something haywire with that ordinance?
4. In the mean time leading up to this, the Council has been making several references at meetings that it wishes to copy and follow what the city of L.A. does. Now why would Pasadena's City Council want to be just like Los Angeles?
5. Maybe that's not a good idea because on March 25, L.A. Superior Court Judge Kenneth Freeman handed down a tentative ruling against the city of L.A.'s practice of skimming 5 percent off the top of Angelenos' water bills, and slammed L.A. city officials for their sleazy move.
6. L.A.'s City Hall can least afford to give back any ill-gotten funds. For years, L.A.'s city leaders propped up the general fund with as much as \$30 million in revenue derived from an added tax on water used by residents and firms. The L.A. City Council used the Department of Water and Power as an ATM machine. Last year the L.A. DWP transferred \$175 million to its general fund. Let's hope the our City Council shows the courage it will take to address the question that receiving the Federal Department of Reclamation grant money and putting it into the general fund while hiking water rates brings up.
7. When the motion was introduced as a Water *Shortage* ordinance, but now the city is fudging by sugar-coating it as a "Comprehensive Water Conservation Plan." It is still in actuality deliberate deprivation of the commons of which water is a birthright.
8. It's comprehensive all right! *In focus* calls it a roadmap for reducing water consumption citywide by 10, 20, and 30 percent. That's a partial lie. It leaves out over half of the information. Whatever happened to the truth, the full truth, and nothing but the truth?
9. McAustin's motion was more that 10, 20, and 30 percent less water for residents. It was all the way up to 40 percent less water! And the criteria was a timed schedule of increments every so many years for the residents 40 years from now being deprived about half as much water as we have. This is an insidious long-term ordinance that penalizes the children and grandchildren and it only gets one public hearing?? Whoever controls the food and water controls the people.

10. Making an ordinance that permanently prohibits water to our kids and making it unaffordable means the government is taking over the commons from the people. When did the commons of water become theirs to claim in the first place? There's something fishy about the very name of the department called reclamation. "Re" needs to be questioned. The city is doing an error of omission in its *In Focus* by hiding the fact that McAustin explained when she introduced the ordinance that it is a "serious," "long-term," "40-year," "irrevocable" "irreversible," "permanent," and "whether OR NOT there is draught."

11. Furthermore the Council said that the Code Enforcement will be able to "criminalize" residents who overuse water as a serious offense, a "crime". That increases the Police Powers which are para military. It may start out in the first phase as educational with just fines as penalties, but as the deprivation plan proceeds as "law" McAustin did use the word crime and criminalize, so either she has now tweaked it. But if she doesn't like the heat from public scrutiny of a resident who attended all the meetings and heard the words she used when she introduced the motion, she should get out of the kitchen. Soft pedaling after the fact doesn't change the harshness of the motion as she introduced it. If it has been tweaked to be less invasive of the resident's water rights, then fine, but just don't shade the truth of what she intended at the outset.

The public expects the Council members to be accountable and to not say afterwards that they don't remember saying what they absolutely did say. Their amnesia is convenient for them, and their ability to edit the minutes is convenient for them, but there is something very dishonest about the Mayor's answering me, "Would I do a thing like that?" Well, yes, he did do a thing like that! And that type of a pull-the-wool over the eyes of the audience was evasion of coming clean.

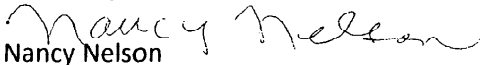
McAustin's answer to my question only covered what Victor Gordon had requested which was that the first phase of the shortage begin with educating the public. It starts out with 10 percent less water and "not a crime" but only monetary fines, but that's a half truth because the plan is ongoing for four decades and she did say crime and criminalize the residents when she introduced it. So those 26 pages on line need to be read with a fine tooth comb because they are not beyond pulling a sneaky based on the hedging they did this Monday night when questioned.

The Mayor's statement for residents not to watch the city meetings later over TV indicates he doesn't want the public to hear and see it over TV. Why? Could it be because, unlike the minutes that get edited, maybe the TV showing has the accuracy of what actually goes said and done during meetings and the filming hasn't been edited?

Such shenanigan does make one wonder about the ethics, or lack thereof, when the questions are evaded or left unexplained as to how it got changed out of session. So how did one ordinance become two separate ordinances between sessions? They want the price hikes regardless so made it separate? So between when they unanimously approved it as one ordinance in the middle of the night when there would be no public, what goes on? And the original question that they never answered either was, "Why don't you just refuse the federal grant money?" instead of turning Judas on the people. They ignore and refuse to give answers to questions from the public comments sector but leave questions up in the air. Huuummm.

12. The city is counting on global warming chickens before they hatch in anticipated draught based on Al Gore's theory, even though just a few years ago there was the theory of global cooling. I guess they really want to fine people and fill up those prisons. But making green ecology infractions punitive will dampen the whole eager trendy enthusiasm of the movement and backfire because people will resent it being punishable as crime.
13. *In Focus* was hush that McAustin said her ordinance will only be for residents. City property sites such as parks and libraries will not be shorted. Nor will commercial business be shorted. It exempts the city and businesses. That's unfair.
14. They also discussed at the Council meeting how they own swimming pools so their pools wouldn't be affected until 30 or 40 years for now. So when *In Focus* says the conservation is encouraged in a manner that minimizes the impact on customers who are already practicing conservation efforts, they mean the well-off who can afford the price tags of solar and etc. are not the ones who will be impacted.
15. *In Focus* conveniently leaves out the day, date, time, and location of the meager "just one" public hearing. The residents have to do their own footwork of remembering to go on-line to try to find the public hearing details and to read the 26-pages of details. Again, the residents are the ones being inconvenienced to do the finding out on their own accord.
16. But it's not like the residents get nothing good out of the ordinance.
17. The really menacing thing about this water ordinance is that it fails to address the real cause of water pollution such as factory farming, industrialized waste, overfishing, and the military. It is a perpetrator protection type of ordinance that punishes the grassroots people.

Public objections to the Water Shortage ordinances,


Nancy Nelson

RECEIVED

'09 MAY 26 P2:40

CITY CLERK
CITY OF PASADENA

-----Original Message-----

From: CityWeb-Server@cityofpasadena.net
[mailto:CityWeb-Server@cityofpasadena.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2009 10:38 AM
To: Corey, Delia
Subject: WWW PUBLIC COMMENT

Subject: Water Rate Increase
Name: Felicia Williams
Address: 1235 Sinaloa Ave.
City: Pasadena
State: CA
Zip: 91104
Email: felixtcat11@yahoo.com

Comments: I am writing in SUPPORT of the proposed water rate increases,
specifically the new Block structure. Southern California will always have a constrained water supply and we should develop a culture of conservation to ensure our limited water supplies are used efficiently. Unfortunately, people haven't listened and we need to implement penalties, but I have confidence that the Pasadena residents can adopt a new lifestyle that preserves our resources for now and the future.
Date: 6/4/2009 10:37:57 AM

RECEIVED

09 JUN -4 P4 :07

CITY CLERK
PASADENA



June 2, 2009

Mayor Bill Bogaard
Pasadena City Council
100 North Garfield Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91109

Dear Mayor Bogaard and Pasadena City Council,

The Board of Directors of the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce at its meeting of May 26, 2009 formally chose to express concern about the significant increase in the cost of water service proposed by the City of Pasadena.

The Chamber Board is very concerned that water costs for commercial customers will rise by 10% to 30% on July 1, 2009, with additional increases proposed for July 1, 2010. Residential customers may see an increase of 10% to 20% over the same period, with a second increase in 2010.

The Board and staff of the Chamber have heard a significant level of unease that has been expressed by Chamber membership over the recent spate of cost increases imposed by the City of Pasadena, especially the proposed hike in the cost of water.

Concerns being expressed very strongly by Chamber members are (followed by the pertinent recommendation by the Chamber Board):

- These increases are coming in the midst of a very severe economic downturn. Many businesses, and residents, have to make difficult decisions to maintain their financial viability. Added costs for City services, especially the dramatic increase in water costs, may have far reaching negative impacts on Chamber members and the local economy.
 - The Chamber Board recommends cushioning the water rate impacts by phasing the increases in over a four year period, rather than the two years currently being proposed. That would provide some time for the economy to begin to grow again, and for businesses to get back on their feet before having to cope with the entirety of the increases proposed by the water department. If that were not deemed appropriate, the Chamber would recommend mitigating the potentially negative consequences of the increase by lowering the percentage increase.
- The Board also expressed concern that the Pasadena Water Department needs to demonstrate efficiencies and cost reductions before asking for a rate increase. Businesses in Pasadena, throughout Los Angeles County, our state and nation are forced to reduce budgets, many by 20% or more. Pasadena Water Department is seeking an increase to maintain its budget at present levels without demonstrating to its customers that a thorough evaluation of department operations has resulted in cost savings.



- The Chamber Board recommends the City Council ask for significant reductions in operating costs from the Water Department before imposing these increases on customers. The Chamber Board reasons that a thorough and exacting surgical evaluation of the operations of the Water Company could result in significant cost savings that have no impact on vital services or the supply of water for Pasadena Water Company customers. While it is clear there have been efforts to reduce costs, both within the Water Department and the City, the Chamber Board would like to see a significant effort made to reduce costs further. It is also suggested that the City look at reducing some costs, or eliminating costly processes in other departments to help mitigate the increased cost of water for commercial customers.
- Pasadena Water Department's commercial customers are paying a disproportionate amount of the proposed increases, especially when departmental reports indicate that residential customers may waste water at a disproportionately high level compared to businesses. Pasadena Water's larger customers will pay significantly more for water while likely being unable to make substantial savings as they already have implemented conservation measures and may have already reached the 10% reduction level targeted by the water company. The commercial customers are unable to recoup the additional costs associated with this significant increase in water costs, so likely will have to reduce costs in other areas. This could mean workforce reductions, temporary or permanent closures, curtailment of some services or restriction in operating hours. Those measures could impact our community in lost jobs for residents, lost opportunities to do business and decreased revenues to the City.
 - The Chamber Board recommends the increases be adjusted so that those customers who are wasting water are responsible for paying the costs in the highest rate tiers, not simply the largest users of water. Simply because a customer uses a large amount of water does not mean they waste the resource. In fact, most of the large commercial water customers are running very efficient operations, but their operation may be dependent on using significant amounts of water. The Board also recommends that those customers who have reduced their water usage by the requested 10% from 2006 levels be rewarded by being exempt from charges in the tier 4 and tier 5 range and that those costs be shifted to those customers who are shown to be wasting the resource.
- An examination of budget-based water rates has been ordered by the Council and will be considered for implementation next year.
 - The Chamber Board recommends that the City Council consider all rate adjustments together at one time, and forego the current proposal in favor of a comprehensive program that adjusts rates to achieve real conservation and that places the cost for wasting water on those who are known to be ignoring conservation measures.

The Board of Directors of the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce considered the water increases carefully. After a lengthy discussion and debate, the Board unanimously approved expressing the above concerns about the proposal to increase the cost of water.

The Chamber Board recommends very strongly that the City Council reconsider the proposal to increase costs of water for commercial and residential customers. This cost increase was proposed by the

Department to stabilize its income for the future, according to the report to the Council made by Phyllis Currie, Director of the Water and Power Department. The Chamber Board feels that the current state of the economy, and the impacts being felt by important businesses here in Pasadena, as well as our residential community, requires that a very thorough and comprehensive public evaluation of the water increases be undertaken before these hikes are implemented. The Chamber Board recommends that review take into account economic conditions and potential consequences to the local employment base and economy, as well as Water Department and City finances.

While it is very likely the department has made some operational efficiencies to reduce costs, the Chamber Board also strongly suggests the department be induced to make significant cuts in its own operational budget that could mitigate some of the cost increases being proposed by the Department.

During its deliberations, the Chamber Board was very mindful of the challenges faced by all businesses, including the Pasadena Water Department and the City of Pasadena, as well as the impact the economy is having on the residents of Pasadena. We all know the City Council and city staff are aware of the impact the recession has had on local businesses and residents and we are all concerned about the prospect of rising costs. The Chamber Board is urging the Council and senior level staff to bring that concern into the deliberations of the proposed increase to the cost of water and give significant weight to the impact these increases may have on some of the cornerstone institutions and businesses in our community as well as our employment and revenue base.

Thank you for your consideration.
Sincerely,



Paul Little
Chief Executive Officer and President

Cc: M. Beck, Chamber Board of Directors, M. Jomsky

THE FERTIG & GORDON COMPANIES, INC.

REAL ESTATE INVESTORS

June 4, 2009

City Council
Fax 744 3921

For the public hearing of June 8.
Re: Proposed Water rate increases.

I random sampled 5 multifamily properties from our management portfolio. Based on the w&p water bill estimator, their water bills will double by July 1, 2010.

My understanding is that the average city wide increase is 20 %.

It appears that multifamily will be getting a percentage increase of 5 times the city wide average. Yet the average multifamily unit uses less then half the water used by the average single family home. And the median income of multifamily is less than half that of single family.

In addition the multifamily property that used the least water per unit was getting double the rate increase (150 %) of another property that used twice as much water per unit.

The proposed water rates, in many cases. hurts the most water efficient and the poorest.

Recommendations.

1. the Council hearing be continued for 60 days to allow for the following.
2. the internet water bill estimator be changed to show the increase on July 2010 not July 2009 teaser rate. This will give citizens the information they need to respond.
3. the percentage rate increase for multifamily in total should be 20%, the same as the city as a whole.
4. the rate bands be adjusted to have lower percentage increases for those properties that use the least water per unit. The City has the number of units per property in at least one data base. So this should not be that hard to implement. This will reward those being water efficient and give a better financial incentive to water wasters to become more efficient.



John Gordon