#### McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Sent: To: Subject: Rashna D Wednesday, May 8, 2024 12:10 PM PublicComment-AutoResponse City of Pasadena Proposed Refuse Collection Fees

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Hello,

I am writing to protest the proposed refuse rate increase and I strongly urge the city not to increase rates at this time. Some of us have been greatly impacted in a negative way financially and physically from the COVID-19 pandemic and are still struggling to barely manage and pay our bills. The Pasadena low-income community was already struggling before the pandemic and our situation has only become worse with prices rising all around in food, shelter, basic necessities...etc. We cannot afford another price increase and I strongly urge the city to reconsider and not raise rates at this time.

I'm a renter who lives in the back house with my landlord living in the front house. We are 2 single women who don't generate a lot of trash and only end up using one trash bin for each item: mixed waste, recycling, and yard waste. However, since the property has 2 different addresses I have been told by the city that we are required to have separate bins, even if we don't end up using them. Therefore, in the 9 years I've lived here I have continued to pay for refuse bins we don't use. I understand this is a citywide policy, but it's another policy that should be addressed at some point and possibly changed. This would give residents who are in a similar situation as myself more flexibility and cost savings on their utility bills.

In sharing my personal experience I wanted to call attention to the fact that residents like myself are already paying for bins they may not use and we certainly cannot afford a refuse price increase at this time.

Thank You, Rashna Dordi Billing Address:

, Pasadena, CA 91104

### McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From:	Rose Malmberg
Sent:	Monday, May 13, 2024 4:55 PM
То:	PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject:	City of Pasadena Proposed Refuse Collection Fees - Protest
Attachments:	IMG_9960.jpg; IMG_9961.jpg; IMG_9962.jpg; IMG_9959.jpg; IMG_9958.jpg; IMG_ 9957.jpg

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The city may have complied with the letter of the law by sending out mailers to each address. However, the spirit of the law was not met. The two letters informing residents that they would have a rate hike for sewer use, and refuse collection were put in an unmarked, nondescript envelope. The use of envelopes that did not distinguish or highlight what was in them caused people to throw them away as trash mail. Many of my neighbors had no idea what was going on because they threw away important information simply because the envelope was so nondescript. I pose that this was deliberate and meant to obscure the information held within.

I demand that the city provide the exact envelopes used to inform the rate payers of the public hearings related to the increase in rates for both sewer rates and refuse collection before any vote is made tonight.

The city provides mailers all the time that are highly visible and easy to read. The city should provide important information in envelopes that are highly visible and marked with the bells and whistles or flags and balloons or fireworks, so that those people who are most directly affected by the proposed rate hikes will know what's inside.

I provide six different mailers from the city. The one regarding the water rates is highly obvious. All the others most people will open. I pose to the city Council that it was a deliberate act to provide the mailers in envelopes that were nondescript.

60,000 opposition letters is a very large burden. This is especially true when the envelopes were deliberately nondescript and easily thrown away. Someone in the city obscured the public hearing by the use of nondescript envelopes. The city has all the resources and the addresses of the 120 thousand payers for refuse, sewer, water, and electricity.

I demand that the city does NOT vote on the refuse rate increases until the rate payers are properly notified. I demand that the city resend the information in the next bill and wait to vote on this increase until the appropriate time after the payers will receive the bill.

Please plan ahead and when the electricity rates are to increase, the city sends the rate increase letter in the bimonthly bill. Thereby notifying the rate payers meeting the letter of the law and the spirit of the law.

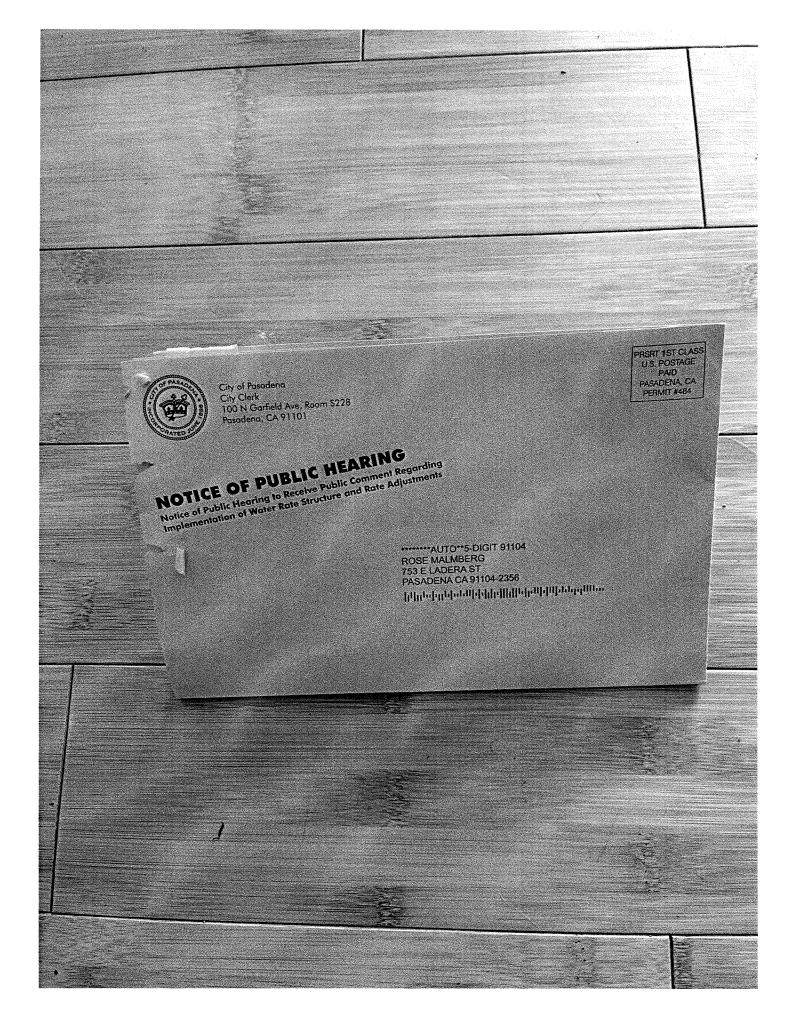
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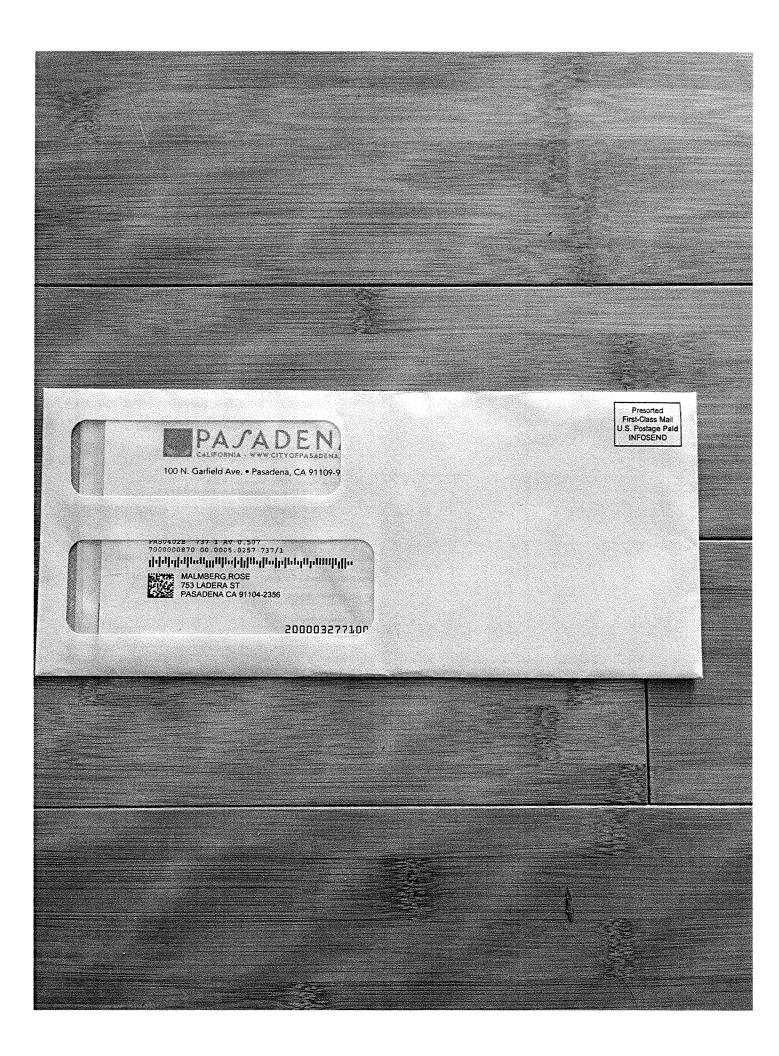
The city raised the sales tax to 10.25% Sewer And is about to do three more: Refuse Water Electricity

This piecemeal approach is not in the best interests of the people. It is disingenuous of the city. The burden on the people is too great. This is certainly not exemplary municipal service. Please vote to have all future rate hike increases put into the bimonthly bill, so that the payers know what to expect. Rose Malmberg









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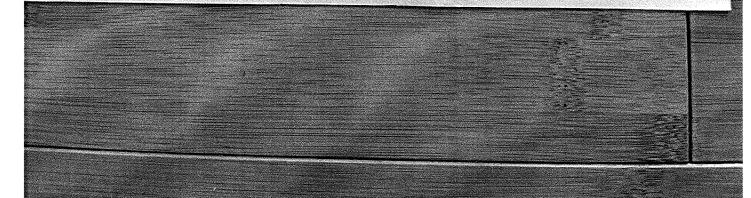




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Councilmember Jess Rivas

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