

2018 MAY 21 PM 2:41

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

May 16, 2018

Clerk of The Board
4th Floor, County Administration Building
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101

I am writing to PROTEST the proposal by Laguna County Sanitation District to raise sewer rates by \$27.50 per year for a single family residence. I reside at 4363 Coachman Way, Orcutt, Ca. 93455.

PGE and Southern California Gas Company have applied to the CPUC in order to raise their rates as well. The only thing that hasn't been raised is my fixed income i.e. Social Security. Separately, the amounts seem inconsequential but, taken as a whole, they are egregious!

Truly,



Myrna B. Heldfond

To: Clerk of the Board, 4th floor
County Administration Building
105 East Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

From: Ernest L. Bevilacqua
747 Loma Way, Orcutt, CA 93455
Par. # 103-092-012

Re: Protest, Proposed Sewer Rates for fiscal year 2018-2019.

This communication is a PROTEST against the proposed increases in sewer rates and fees for the following reasons:

1. The yearly increases in all Santa Barbara County government, school bond funding, and Laguna County Sanitation charges is outpacing the ability of my non-COLA pension and Social Security income to meet my total monthly obligations.
2. Laguna County sewer charge, alone is \$981.99 and this proposed increase is 2.8% to 1009.49 per year. That is another \$84.12 monthly that is not replenished by my pension and S.S. It is a LOSS in my ability to cover other costs of living in this area.
3. Residential customers with Laguna sanitation saw their annual bill of \$551 in 2010 spike to \$963 in 2016, per Grand Jury report. That averages \$68.66 per year during that period. For 2018-19 LCSD seeks and increase of 2.8% to 1009.49 per year. How can the county justify these continuous, punitive increases.
4. As a 50 year resident of Santa Barbara county I have experienced serious tax increases which led to the Proposition 13 tax revolt and the resultant tax adjustments which throttled massive property tax increases to the benefit of the local property owner. Without that adjustment there would be no possibility of living in this area.
5. Yearly Increases in Property tax, Sewer Charge, 4 School bonds, Water rate (4.3%), electric and gas rates, food costs, home and auto insurance, doctors and medicine, state and federal income tax severely affects the retiree's ability to stay above the rising tide of costs. The state of California is seeing an exodus of residents seeking tax relief in other states, many from Santa Barbara county.
6. Santa Barbara County departmental decision makers treat taxpayers as a limitless county checkbook. If They need more funds they just raise fees, taxes, sur charges, without the taxpayers vote. We who foot the bill for everything the county buys are being stretched to the limit. As consumers we are asked to conserve, conserve, conserve. I now ask that Santa Barbara county conserves on unnecessary spending that leads to ever higher taxes.

Ernest L. Bevilacqua

5/14/18

PROPERTY ADDRESS 2765 FOOTHILL ROAD SB, CA 93105

PROPERTY OWNER Jason Jewell

2018 MAY 15 PM 1:23
COUNTY OF SAN JUAN
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

To Whom it May Concern at Public Works:

I AM writing to protest the proposed rate increase of 15.17.18 for the fiscal year 2018-2019 for sewer services. I AM sure you have run conservative numbers to determine the need for this increase, but I feel that "repair costs and financial reserves" are matters that should be ~~considered~~ considered in long-term planning and not something that should be captured in an annual increase. Moreover, a 6% annual increase is 2-3x the rate of CPI. For these reasons, I protest this increase.

Thank You, Jason Jewell



5/30/18

Dear Sirs:

I protest water/sewer rate increase

property owner: DEAN NOVOTNY

property address: 4048 Berrywood Drive
Santa Maria CA 93455

2018 JUN -1 PM 1:32

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Dean Novotny

May 21, 2018

Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara, CA

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors:

As a retired person on a fixed income living in and owning a home in Santa Barbara, I strongly encourage that the Board of Supervisors reconsider the proposed 6% service rate hikes to be discussed at the public hearing on June 19, 2018. As you know, inflation rates have averaged between 2-3% over the last few years. Social Security sees even a lower adjustment annually. Yet the rates being proposed are twice as high as inflation. How is that justified?

In addition to the rate increase proposed at the County level, the City is also proposing a 6% increase in sewer services. This is a 12% increase when combining both proposals. That seems outrageous!

We in Mission Canyon continue to pay annually a never ending bond for the sewer system that was put in years ago. This payment appears on our annual property taxes. This is a sizeable chunk of change in and of itself, so we are sensitive to proposed "large" increases in our sewer service.

I have made a point of conserving more and more water annually – meaning less and less has gone into the waste water system. Yet, I continue to watch our water and wastewater bills rise annually, way above inflation rates.

Enough is enough, really! Keep your proposed increases closer to inflation levels. If you can't, re-negotiate your contracts with the City of Santa Barbara Wastewater Treatment Facility. They shouldn't feel like they can get what they ask for every time they ask.

Please, do the right thing and reduce these proposed increases to more reasonable levels.

Sincerely,



Tim Owens
2852 Ben Lomond Dr.
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

2018 MAY 24 PM 2:26
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Laguna County Sanitation District
Subject: Proposed Rate Increase

May 25, 2018

I am writing in regards to the proposed sewer rate increase in my district. This letter is to act as a clear protest and rejection for this rate increase.

The need to upgrade and replace outmoded facilities is completely understood. The need to raise monthly rates to do so is not and is inherently what yearly property taxes should be put aside for.

In addition to paying property taxes, my neighborhood also pays a Mello Roos tax. The town of Orcutt is unincorporated and therefore all of this tax money should be going straight to the County of Santa Barbara. This money should already be set aside, allocated and distributed to pay for these kind of jobs.

If County assets such as sewer treatment plants cannot be maintained or upgraded using the yearly tax income, then you and your department need to take a hard look inward as to how you are managing your assets and income.

Sincerely,

The Hewitt Family
815 Sage Crest Drive
Orcutt, Ca. 93455

2018 MAY 29 PM 2:53
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS