AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Public Hearing - Proposition 218 Hearing for Water and Wastewater Rate Changes for Fiscal Year 2012

PROTEST LETTERS FOR WASTE WATER
May 2, 2011

City Clerk
City of Palo Alto
250 Hamilton Ave
Palo Alto, CA 94301

RE: Objection to Proposed Utility Rate Increases

Gentlemen,

I am writing this letter to object to the increase in the utility rates. This increase would adversely affect most, those with the lowest earnings and the retired and elderly.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Robert K. Stitt
Pau Acct. #: 132153-42677
On June 13, 2011, the Palo Alto City Council will consider proposed changes to the City’s water, and wastewater collection services rates for the fiscal year that begins in July 2011. If approved, the revised rates will be effective starting July 1, 2011.

WASTEWATER
Wastewater Utility rates are imposed in order that the City may recover its costs of transporting and treating wastewater. All revenue derived from the proposed rates and charges will be used exclusively for the recovery of costs associated with providing wastewater service and to fund the capital improvement program required in order to maintain and periodically replace aging wastewater infrastructure. The Wastewater Utility’s wastewater rates and charges are developed based on generally accepted cost of service principles. They are evaluated on an annual basis to determine if adequate revenues will be collected to pay for operations and maintenance costs and to provide funds for the capital improvement program. More information regarding the proposed wastewater rate changes can be found on the City’s website at www.cityofpaloalto.org/rateincrease

Proposed Wastewater Rate Increases:
The proposed wastewater rate structure for residential customers continues to have a monthly charge and no volumetric component. Rates for commercial customers continue to have a “volumetric” charge for each ccf of water consumed during the billing period, and a minimum monthly charge should the calculation for volumetric charges fall below that level. The qualifications for Large Dischargers have been modified placing customers formerly under that schedule on general applicable Commercial rates.

The following chart shows the current and proposed wastewater rate schedule components:

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May 5, 2011

City of Palo Alto
City Clerk
250 Hamilton Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301

967 Oregon Expressway, Palo Alto, CA

To Whom It May Concern:

We protest the potable water increases as proposed as excessive and adding charges in excess of inflation.

a. Your own letter states that a component of the increases is for the increased wholesale third party rates.
b. The City needs to demand that the wholesale water districts and the State of California start efforts to increase water supplies.
c. The City needs to demand of the State and Federal governments that ill-advised court rulings to stop pumping and delivering water to users to protect the non-native delta smelt, need to be overturned by whatever means necessary.

We protest the Storms Sewer increases as proposed as excessive and adding charges in excess of inflation:

a. Your own letter states that a component of the increases are for regulatory compliance
b. The City needs to resist and demand that the regulatory agencies justify their regulations on a cost benefit basis.
c. Developers have told you time and time again that the cost of the storm water regulations is exorbitant and ineffective yet the City takes no action.
d. Developers have told you time and time again that the storm water regulation compliance costs should be, instead of being required on site, be instead, collected and used to fund regional facilities, stream bed restoration and clean up, regional detention.
e. The public and private cost of designing, approving and administering the storm water regulation compliance costs on thousands of individual projects is largely wasted versus using the same expenditures on one or several regional projects.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Myron Crawford
Email: mcrawford@missionwest.com
Ph. 408-725-7633

10050 Bandley Drive, Cupertino, CA 95014 – Tel: 408-725-0700 – Fax: 408-725-1626
City of P.A.

Re: Proposed Water and Wastewater

Please be informed that I protest any increase in water and wastewater rates

Kathy Tullus
2450 W. Bayshore #1
Palo Alto, CA 94303
Account # 3000 816 2

Kathy Tullus
To City of Palo Alto Utilities

Re: Protest rate changes for Water and Wastewater

From: Huangpin Hsieh
3290 Berryessa St., Palo Alto, CA 94303

I protest the wastewater rate change because the rate or the proposed changes does not have an element to encourage conservation such as the incremental rates for water. It appears the residential wastewater rate is increased to subsidize the decrease for commercial or restaurant uses. I propose the wastewater rates to be adjusted to reflect the water usage—after all, water after use becomes wastewater to be treated.

I also protest the water rate adjustment because it reduces the discrimination against heavy usage that could discourage conservation. Although the volumetric per ccf is reduced for first 6 ccf, the service charge increase significantly out pace it. I would suggest not change the service fee but raise the volumetric fee on high volume usage even more to encourage conservation, unless the goal of the change does not include encouraging conservation?

Best Regards,

Huangpin Hsieh

5/10/2011
May 20, 2011

ATTENTION: Palo Alto City Council

As a resident of Palo Alto, I strongly object to a rise in present rates to be considered on June 13, 2011.

I recall that in 2010 the garbage disposal rates were increased.

I recall also the breach of contract with Enron Corp. which the City of Palo made with Enron. The result of a suit by Enron amounted to millions of dollars in damages the City had to pay for its breach of contract.

The City Council should realize that in Palo Alto while there are many well-to-do residents, many in our city are struggling to survive in a time of great economic depression.

Unfortunately, many property owners in Palo Alto are afflicted with an oppressive bureaucracy with too many rules, regulations, which serve to control its citizens rather than to serve them.

This letter is meant to OBJECT to any further rise in utility rates.

The undersigned resident is a property owner at the address given above and with a utility contract number of 300221721.

This objection is timely given prior to the hearing on this matter set for June 13, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond V. Dunn
Palo Alto Resident and property owner
Himanshu Dwivedi  
2410 Bryant Street  
Palo Alto, CA 94301  

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter to protest the proposed Wastewater and water rate increases. I live at 2410 Bryant Street; Palo Alto, CA.

Thanks,

Himanshu Dwivedi
City of Palo Alto
Palo Alto, CA 94301
Attn: City Clerk

Subject: Objective to Obliquely Increase Fee:

To whom it may concern:

This is to notify you of my objection/protest to a rate increase for:

1) Water Commodities
2) Waste Water Surcharge

My address is:
3607 Bregst St.
Palo Alto, CA 94306
Account: 300 16 397

Wayne E. March
05.05.14
Dear City Council, Mayor, Clerk & Utility Department,

I am writing to express my protest of rate increases to residential property both in water and wastewater. I do not think this increases are warranted. The size of the wastewater increase at over 13% is just unbelievable. In terms of general water usage, most home owners would see between 8-35% increases. These are just too much for Palo Alto households to endure. I think money charged for utilities should be used for that and not passed over to other city budget lines that are coming up short.

These rate increases are not necessary and I do protest.
City of PA: 4/30/11

I am writing to protest the Utility rate adjustment for water and/or wastewater.

Enough is enough, my hours have been cut back severely at work... and all prices seem to continue to go up, when my pay check keeps going down.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

738 E. Charleston Rd
Palo Alto, CA 94303
Dear City Council:

This is a protest against the proposed utility rate changes as apply to the parcel of address 763 E. Charleston Rd., Palo Alto, CA 94303-4706.

I protest the proposed increase in the monthly wastewater rate.

I protest the proposed increase in the monthly water service charge.

Sincerely,

Michael C. Fischer

Michael C. Fischer
May 9, 2011

City Clerk  
City of Palo Alto  
250 Hamilton Avenue  
Palo Alto, CA 94301

Re: Protest of proposed utility rates for 2011  
Acct Number: 300 12674  
Parcel Number 137-08-054-00  
Address See letterhead above

Attn City Clerk and City Council;

This letter is written to protest the proposed increases in water rates and waste water rates. The city currently extracts millions of dollars form the sizable profits made by the utility department, including, if I understand this correctly, profits from the water utility. The city management and the Council have demonstrated over the years, that the utility department profits are used to balance the city’s General Fund. While a certain amount of this transfer of profits may be justified, the ever increasing amounts are not in my opinion, especially when the Council continues to spend funds for special interest groups like the children’s theater and zoo, while we are faced with years of annual deficits. Giving the Council more money only prolongs the inevitable when the Council and the managers must bring spending to the level the city can afford and stops spending money on unneeded consultants and such.

In addition, it is my understanding, AND I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE CORRECT INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT IF I AM WRONG, that it is against state law to use water utility profits for any purpose other than for the water utility needs. If the city is transferring water profits along with gas and electric profits, then the law is being violated and this practice must stop. All the more reason why the water rates should not be increased.

That the city owns the utility department is supposed to be reason for our rates to be lower than PG&E. They are not. The city should be making efforts to accomplish this once promised benefit.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Placone
City Clerk, Please note that I am protesting the proposed Water and Wastewater rate adjustments that were outlined in the Notice of Utility Rate Change dated April 25, 2011 and mailed to my home.

Regards,

Gary Holl
200 Colorado Ave
Palo Alto, Ca 94301
Re: Wastewater Rate Increase.

My account number is: 30010361

I am writing to protest the proposed City of Palo Alto Utilities Wastewater Rate Increases. I do not want the rates to be increased.

Thank you,

Larry Shapiro
391 Curtner Ave, Apt A
Palo Alto, CA 94306-3426
May 23, 2011

City Clerk of Palo Alto
250 Hamilton Ave.
Palo Alto, CA 94301

Re: Written Protests to Proposed Wastewater Rate Increases and Proposed Water Rate Increases

Dear City Clerk:

I propose wastewater and water rate increases are highly discriminatory in favor of Commercial and Restaurant customers and against Residential customers as shown.

Wastewater
On S1-Residential and S2-Commercial & Restaurant you are hiking the rates by 13.2%, while on S2-Commercial and S2-Restaurant you propose to lower those rates by 6.3% and 10.5% respectively. Why should Residential rates be raised significantly while at the same time the Commercial and Restaurant rates are being lowered? The swing is almost 20% in favor of S2-Commercial and almost 24% in favor of S2-Restaurant. If rates are going to be raised, shouldn't all entities, whether Commercial, Restaurant and Residential all bear the increases? Instead the home owners are being severely punished in favor of the Commercial and Restaurant interests.

Water
Volumetric Charges
Here you propose to lower the rates for W4-Commercial by almost 10%. You throw a bone to those using 6ccf or less residentially, which seems hard to do if you have any landscaping at all but increase W1-Residential by over 8% between 7-29 ccf and a whopping 35.8% increase to $7.64 per ccf for those using over 29 ccf. Anyone owning a residence with a lot of more than 8,000 sq. ft. is paying outrageous amounts to water their landscaping, while W4-Commercial can use any amount of water they wish at the fixed rate of $4.946 per ccf. The break points seem totally arbitrary and unfavorable to Residential customers.

Water Service Charges
Residences and Commercial with meters between 5/8 inch and 2 inch have their service raised anywhere from 100% to 120%, while Commercial with meters between 3 inches and 10 inches have their rates raised on average only about 60%.

Commercial and Restaurant customers should bear their fair share of any rate increases, as opposed to receiving decreases at the expense of Residential customers. As with federal and state representatives, our local officials are elected to serve the most citizens, not to cater to the special interests.

Sincerely,

Irving S. and Lesley Rappaport
PROTESTING RATE INCREASES

I do not agree the proposed rate increase for water and wastewater that will be effective July 2, 2011.

Property owner name: ManKie Ng

Property address: 4250 El Camino Real #A303. Palo Alto, CA 94306

Parcel # 167-55-080-00

ManKie Ng

5/3/2011
Date: June 7, 2011

To: City of Palo Alto
   City Clerk
   250 Hamilton Ave.
   Palo Alto, CA 94301

From: Lily Ng
      1015 Embarcadero Rd.
      Palo Alto, CA 94303

Re: I'm writing to protest against the water and wastewater utility rate adjustment.

Lily Ng
May 3, 2011

City Clerk
250 Hamilton Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301

Dear City Clerk:

Your notice of water/wastewater rate increases arrived last week. We have some significant concerns, based on the information provided.

Wastewater: It appears from the chart that S1-Residential and S2-Commercial & Restaurant pay the same rates for wastewater services, and that a 13.2% rate increase is proposed. I do not think that it is fair that commercial and restaurants pay the same as residential for two reasons:

1) A large portion of residential water does not go back into the wastewater treatment system, but in fact is absorbed into the ground. Most homes use a lot of water on landscaping, where is it most unusual that restaurants and businesses have extensive landscaping.
2) Commercial & restaurants use more water that goes directly into the wastewater treatment system than residences.

For these reasons, I think that residential rates should be less for wastewater treatment.

Water: I think that increasing the base charge per month hurts individuals who are conserving water. Water rates should be based on the amount used, not for the fact that one has water in a home or business. I see no justification for raising the base service charge. If Palo Alto really wants people to conserve water, then raise the rate for the amount used.

If you need further thoughts or clarification, please contact us at the address below.

Sincerely,

Steve and Nancy Suddjian
703 Ensign Way
Palo Alto, CA 94303
June 1, 2011

Palo Alto City Council
c/o City Clerk
250 Hamilton Ave.
Palo Alto, CA 94301

Gentlemen,

In regard to a raise in the water rates, we strongly protest. Our very, very high utility bills are more than adequate to cover wastewater service and infrastructure costs. All that is needed is to give back to the general fund.

Please consider this as three (3) separate protests.

Christopher & Josephine Arnold

Parcel # 120-20-024 (3248 Waverly)
Parcel # 003-01-050 (357 Fulton Ave)
Parcel # 003-01-042 (710 Everett Ave)
Protest against Palo Alto Utility Rate Change

Current street address: 476 Fernando Ave. Palo Alto CA 94306

Protesting: Water and Wastewater rate change.

Reason: Palo Alto already has the highest water rate and waste water rate in bay area. I used to live in San Jose, the water rate there for the total monthly usage from 0 to 13 CCF is $2.5157.

<table>
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<td>$2.7663</td>
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<td>Palo Alto</td>
<td>$3.949</td>
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<td>$5.624</td>
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<td>Sewer Rate</td>
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Please see the attached rate comparison chart. The problem with Palo Alto is that we have a distributor: Palo Alto Utility Company. If city buys water directly from the water company, you can avoid the unnecessary expense for hiring a utility management company. They contracted out garbage service already, why we need to keep these staffing? San Jose does not have a centralized utility company, I used to get separate bills from water company, PG&E and Waste Recycle company.

We might end up with three bills from different utility vendors, but if this will dramatically reduce the transition cost, I do not mind paying three bills instead of one.

Sibing Wei
WASTEWATER

Wastewater Utility rates are imposed in order that the City may recover its costs of transporting and treating wastewater. All revenue derived from the proposed rates and charges will be used exclusively for the recovery of costs associated with providing wastewater service and to fund the capital improvement program required in order to maintain and periodically replace aging wastewater infrastructure. The Wastewater Utility's wastewater rates and charges are developed based on generally accepted cost of service principles. They are evaluated on an annual basis to determine if adequate revenues will be collected to pay for operations and maintenance costs and to provide funds for the capital improvement program. More information regarding the proposed wastewater rate changes can be found on the City's website at www.cityofpaloalto.org/rateincrease.

Proposed Wastewater Rate Increases:
The proposed wastewater rate structure for residential customers continues to have a monthly charge and no volumetric component. Rates for commercial customers continue to have a "volumetric" charge for each ccf of water consumed during the billing period, and a minimum monthly charge should the calculation for volumetric charges fall below that level. The qualifications for Large Dischargers have been modified placing customers formerly under that schedule on general applicable Commercial rates.

The following chart shows the current and proposed wastewater rate schedule components:

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June 1, 2011

Palo Alto City Council
C/o City Clerk
250 Hamilton Ave.
Palo Alto, CA 94301

Gentlemen,

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Please consider this as three (3) separate protests.

Christopher & Josephine Arnold

Parcel # 180-20-024 (248 Waverly)
Parcel # 003-01-050 (357 Fulton Ave)
Parcel # 003-01-0112 (776 Everett Ave)
Dear Ms. Grider,

I write to protest the increase in rates of the water service and the wastewater service.

I protest the proposed increase in water rate IT IS UNJUSTIFIED.

I protest the proposed increase in wastewater rate IT IS UNJUSTIFIED.

I most strongly object to inappropriately increasing utility costs to rate payers in order to make a profit center operation of the utility department.

Sincerely,

RICHARD A. RUNKEL
741 GARLAND DRIVE
PALO ALTO, CA 94303
650 327 7589
Written Protest

Hi, City of Palo Alto,

I'm writing to protest both water and wastewater rates increases. My address is

2360 Harvard Street
Palo Alto, CA 94306
APN# 137-05-084

Please do NOT increase the rates!

Sincerely,

WalterZen
(Walter Lee)
May 23, 2011, 2011

Account No: 30037474

3721 Heron Way
Palo Alto, CA 94303

Re: Utility rate change

I received a notice from the City of Palo Alto with regard to the Utility rate change.

This is my formal written to protest against all the proposed rate change in both Wastewater and Water.

Thank you.

Trinhthi Tran

3721 Heron Way
Palo Alto, CA 94303
May 9, 2011

Palo Alto City Council
250 Hamilton Avenue
Palo Alto, California 94301

Dear Council Members:

First, thank you for your service to our city.

Second, I wish to protest the proposed water and wastewater rate increases. Our utilities are operating at a profit, and last year's annual payment to the city was excessive. Public Utilities should not be operated with the same principles as for profit corporations.

Please, give us a break for once.

Sincerely,

Alma Silverthorn
To whom it may concern,

I am submitting this written protest against charges that will affect people like me with limited income. I am almost 62 years old woman who's living with a 92 years old mother.

I hate to protest this change, but facing an unknown future with an income hardly enough to pay for any thing, and base on my situation every Penny counts. Sorry, and thank you.

Yours,
Arnold Otter

Parcel number: 127-70-014-00
3759 Klamath Lane, PA, CA 949333
Utilities account 30006345
On June 13, 2011, the Palo Alto City Council will consider proposed changes to the City’s water, and wastewater collection services rates for the fiscal year that begins in July 2011. If approved, the revised rates will be effective starting July 1, 2011.

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May 10, 2011

City Clerk
250 Hamilton Ave.
Palo Alto, Ca. 94301

Dear Sir:

I wish to protest the raise in utility rates for water and wastewater. My parcel no. is 137-15-011-00. My address is 3691 Laguna Ave. and my account is 30012554.

Thank you,

Zabara Desicco
May 10, 2011

City Clerk
250 Hamilton Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301

We hereby protest the proposed water and wastewater rate increases as announced in your notice of April 25, 2011.

Jo Ann Fahnestock
736 Layne Court
Palo Alto, CA 94306
0-1-2011
City of Palo Alto
City Council - City Clerk

Regarding residential
monthly increases of waste
water and water service
charges proposed.

I protest these unnecessary
charges. Please do not
make these increases.

Times are best enough in
cost of living increases
everywhere. Food is
hard to find. Rent is
hard to grasp. Cuts in portions of
the more items yet cost increases
continue. No increase in
C.I.S. So how can
anyone pay such charges.

Mary Murphy
681 Soma Lane
Palo Alto, CA 94306

Pd. 9/30/1917
April 27, 2011

City Clerk
250 Hamilton Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301

I am protesting both the **residential water** and **wastewater** increases.

Both increases are too much.

Sincerely,

Janell Sumida, Account #30031855
2704 Louis Rd.
Palo Alto, CA 94303-3650
RE: PROTEST AGAINST UTILITY RATE CHANGE

April 30, 2011

City Clerk
250 Hamilton Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301

Dear Madam/Sir:

This letter is to protest against the proposed increase in wastewater and water meter service charges for the 2011 fiscal year. We urge the City of Palo Alto Utility Department to investigate and implement cost-saving measures of operation instead of increasing customer utility charges.

Sincerely,

Tetyana Obukhanych
May 2, 2011

City Clerk
City of Palo Alto
250 Hamilton Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301

Dear Sir,

I am writing this letter to protest the proposal the city council considered about raising the 5/8 inch meter water, and $1 wastewater collection services rates for the fiscal year that begins in July 2011.

We have always conserve water the best we can and been doing our best in our daily life to protect the environment. When we first moved in to the city, we have chosen to pay a much higher (property) price to live in a solar powered community in the Vantage of Palo Alto. 13.2% increase in wastewater charge and 100% increase in monthly water service charge are not acceptable, even though it means less than $10 a month for our household of six.

Please reconsider your proposal. Thank you.

Sincerely:

Kok Hoong Chan & Pei Yee Lee
Account No.: 30021250
Service Address: 935 Mallard Lane, Palo Alto, CA 94303
On June 13, 2011, the Palo Alto City Council will consider proposed changes to the City’s water, and wastewater collection services rates for the fiscal year that begins in July 2011. If approved, the revised rates will be effective starting July 1, 2011.

**WASTEWATER**

Wastewater Utility rates are imposed in order that the City may recover its costs of transporting and treating wastewater. All revenue derived from the proposed rates and charges will be used exclusively for the recovery of costs associated with providing wastewater service and to fund the capital improvement program required in order to maintain and periodically replace aging wastewater infrastructure. The Wastewater Utility’s wastewater rates and charges are developed based on generally accepted cost of service principles. They are evaluated on an annual basis to determine if adequate revenues will be collected to pay for operations and maintenance costs and to provide funds for the capital improvement program. More information regarding the proposed wastewater rate changes can be found on the City’s website at www.cityofpaloalto.org/rateincrease.

**Proposed Wastewater Rate Increases:**

The proposed wastewater rate structure for residential customers continues to have a monthly charge and no volumetric component. Rates for commercial customers continue to have a “volumetric” charge for each ccf of water consumed during the billing period, and a minimum monthly charge should the calculation for volumetric charges fall below that level. The qualifications for Large Dischargers have been modified placing customers formerly under that schedule on general applicable Commercial rates.

The following chart shows the current and proposed wastewater rate schedule components:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate Schedule</th>
<th>Charge Basis</th>
<th>Current Rates</th>
<th>Proposed Rates</th>
<th>Change ($)</th>
<th>Change (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S1 – Residential</td>
<td>Monthly Charge</td>
<td>$24.65</td>
<td>$27.91</td>
<td>$3.26</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S2 – Commercial &amp; Restaurant</td>
<td>Monthly Minimum</td>
<td>$24.65</td>
<td>$27.91</td>
<td>$3.26</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S2 – Commercial</td>
<td>Per ccf</td>
<td>$5.07</td>
<td>$4.75</td>
<td>-$0.32</td>
<td>-6.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S2 – Restaurant</td>
<td>Per ccf</td>
<td>$9.29</td>
<td>$8.31</td>
<td>-$0.98</td>
<td>-10.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WATER**

Water Utility rates are imposed in order that the City may recover its costs of buying and distributing water. All revenue derived from the proposed rates and charges will be used exclusively for the recovery of costs associated with providing water service and to fund the capital improvement program required in order to maintain and periodically replace aging water infrastructure. The Water Utility’s water rates and charges are developed based on generally accepted cost of service principles. They are evaluated on an annual basis to determine if adequate revenues will be collected to pay for operations and maintenance costs and to provide funds for the capital improvement program. More information regarding the proposed water rate changes can be found on the City’s website at www.cityofpaloalto.org/rateincrease.
Michael C. Gagliasso  
Catherine E. Murphy  
2064 Middlefield Road  
Palo Alto, CA 94301

May 17, 2011

City Clerk  
250 Hamilton Avenue  
Palo Alto, CA 94301

Re: Protest of Proposed Rate Increase – Water and Wastewater

Dear Council Members:

This letter is to lodge a formal protest of the proposed increase in water and wastewater rates beginning July 2011.

It is ludicrous to raise these, and other utility rates, at the same time that the city is using utility revenue transfers to pay for general fund expenditures. Figure out a way to reduce costs for the city and allow the residents of Palo Alto to benefit from a city-owned utility. If the utilities are simply being used as a funding source to pay city employees, the residents may as well simply get their utilities from PG&E and do away with the liabilities created by the extensive city work force.

We sincerely hope that the Council will deny the proposed rate hike at its June 13, 2010 meeting and instruct staff to present a plan to lower costs which will result in the utility revenue transfers being lowered and ultimately eliminated.

Respectfully,

Michael C. Gagliasso  
Catherine E. Murphy
April 28, 2011

City Clerk
250 Hamilton Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301

Re: Moreno Middlefield, LLC, 2605 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto, CA 94306
City of Palo Alto Utilities Account No: 30002093

Dear City Clerk:

As managing agents for the ownership of Moreno Middlefield, LLC, whose address is referenced above, please accept this as our formal protest of the proposed water and sewer rate increases effective July 2011.

During this dramatic economic climate, our property has seen its businesses struggling because they could not produce enough income to meet their expenses. In this instance, the property’s water and sewer fees are reimbursed by each business owner and any increase in expenses will create undue financial hardship.

Your consideration of this request is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Cassidy Turley PMSF, Inc.
as Agent for Moreno Middlefield, LLC

[Signature]

Susan E. Causey, CPM, CSM
Vice President
Agent for Owner
DRE License #00784073
City Clerk, 6/3/2011

We protest against the proposed water and wastewater rate change since our current rates are higher than other cities in the Santa Clara County.

We are the owner of house located in 1095 Moreno Ave, Palo Alto, CA 94303 (APN 127-02-042)
Utilities Act. #30049914

Hong Xu
Gectang Liu
April 27, 2011

City Clerk
250 Hamilton Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94303

I am protesting both the **residential water** and **wastewater** increases.

Both increases are too much.

Sincerely,

Masao Sumida
1040 Newell Rd.
Palo Alto, CA 94303-2930
3073 Price Court  
Palo Alto, CA 94303

City Clerk  
250 Hamilton Avenue  
Palo Alto, CA 94301

Reference: Assessor's Parcel Number 127-52-010-00

Gentlemen,

The purpose of this letter is to protest the proposed Fiscal Year 2012 utility rate adjustment for both water and wastewater rates.

Very truly yours,

Arthur Koolpe

Arthur Koolpe
City Council,

I protest the water & wastewater increase. Every year in June for the past several years the rates of utilities are raised. I am disabled & am on a fixed budget; it is a hardship for me to keep having my rates be raised each year. My parcel # is 12731-032-00 My address 3410 Ross Road Palo Alto, Calif. 94303

My Palo Alto Utilities account # is 30037039

Laura A. Ferrieta
May 1, 2011

Subject: Protest of water and wastewater rate adjustment

Address: 3021 Ross Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303

Dear City Clerk,

I am writing to officially protest the utility rate adjustments for wastewater and water.

Regards,

Seavan Sternheim

Homeowner: 3021 Ross Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303
To: City of Palo Alto
Re: Utility Rate Change

To Whom it may concern

11 May 18 PM 2:38

I received your “Notice of Utility Rate Change” dated April 25, 2011 wherein it specified I may submit a written protest. The following is my protest.

I have always and will always believe that a person should take care of themselves and pay their own way through life. I have no complaint with paying my fair share if the City needs more funds to pay for the services I receive. That’s only fair. What I strongly object to however is the same solution the Federal Government is using, asking middle class workers to bear the majority of the burden while giving special breaks to over-privileged people and big business.

A wastewater hookup in and of itself does not put any burden at all on a wastewater treatment plant. A burden is created only by actual waste that is sent to that plant. The more waste that is sent the larger the burden on the treatment plant. My modest single bathroom home sends down an extremely small amount of waste. A vast majority of that comes from the shower and kitchen sink, both of which need little or no treatment at all. That leaves a single toilet as my very modest burden on the wastewater treatment plant. Basic rates for Residential, Restaurants and Commercial customers have all been increased the same amount and that’s fair. The burden placed on the wastewater treatment plant by Restaurants and Commercial customers however can be, and usually is, enormously larger than what my home could possibly create so there is a tiered rate schedule for those customers. Those rates are going down and that is the opposite of fair. The waste from Restaurants and Commercial customers is the source of the vast majority of the burden on a treatment plant and yet they get a reduced rate? How do you justify that? (That’s a rhetorical question, of course you cannot justify it.)

I have the same issue with the water rates. I do not even water the lawns now to conserve water and I see my rates will decrease 8.8% for the first 6 Hundred Cubic Feet but then for the next two rate tiers they go up 8.1 and 35.8%!!!! respectively whereas Commercial rates go down 9.3% for 14 Hundred Cubic Feet and do not increase at all above that. Again that is the opposite of fair. Again the vast majority of the burden on the water system/supply is coming from the Commercial sector and yet they get a bigger break. If I for example were to use 50ccf of water it would cost $321.88 but a Commercial customer would only pay $178.42 for the same amount of water. In fact they could use 66.27ccf of water and still pay less than I would. Another way to describe their savings is they could get 1,627 Cubic Feet = 12,170.8 gallons of water for free. Well, free to them, not free for me, I and other middle class homeowners will be paying for their savings.

As I previously stated I am more than willing to cover my fair share but I urge you to require the same sacrifices from everyone, not put most of the burden on those who can afford it the least.

Thank you,
John Naber
To Mayor Espinosa and City Council Members:
Please vote NO on water and wastewater rate increases.

In your discussion on the proposed water and wastewater rate increases, I hope that you will consider the numerous senior residents of Palo Alto living on fixed incomes for whom these rate increases would constitute a significant hardship. I am an 87 year old widow on a fixed and limited income, supporting an unemployed son (24 years) in addition to myself. As you know, there have been no cost of living increases in Social Security payments for the past 2 years and no prospect of increases in the foreseeable future. I am hoping to remain in my home for the rest of my life; that will not be possible if my living expenses exceed my income.

In conclusion, I sincerely hope that you will give serious consideration to the effect these proposed rate increases will have on the lives of the elderly and other lower income residents of Palo Alto.

Sincerely,
Evelyn B. Carlson
Evelyn B. Carlson
3827 Ross Road
Palo Alto 94303
I protest against all of the proposed charges for water and wastewater.

Jonathan Silverman  
3345 South Court  
Palo Alto 94306  
Utilities acct # 30014614
May 3, 2011

Dear Sir/Madam:

Re: Notice of Proposed increases to water charges: public hearing June 13, 2011

Palo Alto Utilities account number: 30031160 – for Sanjay Patel

In response to your notice of utility rate changes letter dated 4/25, I duly submit this written protest to confirm my opposition to the proposed increases to the following specific charges:

1. Wastewater rates increases for S1 - Residential customers
2. Monthly water service charges for customers with 5/8” meter size [I wish my salary would increase by 100% in one fell swoop]

Can there be any justification for ripping off the proletariat? The city had its chance to put away plenty of money for the rainy-day piggy-bank during the heyday of dotcom and housing bubble – instead there appears to have been wanton profligacy without due consideration to potential future hardships.

Shame on the city for mismanagement of available funds during the “good times”.

A disgruntled, and fed-up with being nickel-and-dimed taxpayer,

Sanjay Patel
Honorable City Council
250 Hamilton Avenue
Palo Alto CA 94301

Dear Mayor Espinosa & Colleagues,

The resident owners of Waverley Park Condominiums respectfully protest proposed new wastewater and water rate schedules. It is high time the council resolved the unfair and inconsistent rates imposed on our type of multi-unit residential dwelling.

Our building contains ten (10) households with Assessor's Parcel Numbers 120-13-001 through 120-13-010. Our separate street addresses run from 258 to 296 Waverley Street. Our CPAU Account Number is 30015914.

Please note this key fact: over 12 months we average 4.2 ccf of water usage (even less wastewater due to evaporation from pool) per household per month.

Our wastewater is classified as S1 Residential. We pay ten times (10X) the monthly rate of $24.65, or $246.50/month. We face a 13.2% increase to $279.10. Please note S2 Commercial customers are about to enjoy a decrease of 6.3% to only $4.75/ccf. If we were classified Commercial, - AS WE ARE FOR OUR WATER USAGE - our monthly cost would be $159.50 (42x4.75). That would save us $120/month.

Our water is classified as W4 Commercial. We pay $4.946/ccf. W1 Residential customers using 0-6 ccf will pay $3.60/ccf. We ARE residential customers each one of whom uses 0-6 ccf/month. If we were classified Residential, our monthly cost would average $151 (42x3.60). That would save us $57/month vs. present average $208.

Under the status quo, we have the worst of both possible worlds. CPAU is, and has always, extracted the maximum income from small multi-unit residences such as ours.

Please decide once and for all if we are commercial or residential. If we MUST be some of each, then for mercy's sake let us be commercial for wastewater and residential for water!

Respectfully yours,

Joseph L. Baldwin
President, Waverley Park Condominiums
June 1, 2011

Palo Alto City Council
to City Clerk
250 Hamilton Ave.
Palo Alto, CA 94301

Gentlemen

In regard to a raise in
the water rates we strongly
protest. Our very very high
utility bills are more than
adequate to cover wastewater
service and infrastructure
costs. All that is needed is
to give less to the general
fund.

Please consider this as
Three (3) separate protests.

Christopher & Josephine Arnold

Parcel # 180-20-024 (248 Waverley)
Parcel # 003-01-050 (357 Fulton Ave)
Parcel # 003-01-042 (770 Everett Ave).
City Clerk  
250 Hamilton Ave  
Palo Alto, CA 94301  

Dear Sir,  

We’re responding to the “Notice of Utility Rate Change”. We object to the utility rate adjustment increases to both the water and waste water rates. We are against all of the proposed charges.  

Our assessor’s parcel number is, 132-56-019-00 and our utility account number is 300 22364.

Your truly,  

Marjorie and David Masters
To Whom It May Concern-

I am a resident of Palo Alto and I received the Notice Of Utility Rate Change in the mail. I am writing to oppose the proposal to raise wastewater. Not only do I believe the current charge of $24.65 is ridiculous for all residents to pay regardless of waste volume and/or number of residents, I absolutely don’t agree with the proposed rate change to $27.91. I am a single person who is rarely at my apartment, and when I am there, my wastewater is minimal; and in my opinion I should not be charged the same as a residence with multiple inhabitants in the first place let alone increase the current rate.

Thank you for your consideration,

Nicole Ventre
461 Wilton Ave.
Palo Alto, CA
TO: City of Palo Alto

FROM: Frank Kwong & Caly Chiu

RE: Written Protest AGAINST all of the proposed charges on water, wastewater and refuse

DATE: 5/2/2011

WRITTEN PROTEST AGAINST ALL OF THE PROPOSED CHARGES (WATER AND REFUSE).

Assessor’s Parcel Number: 086-18-003-00

Property address: 837 Wintergreen Way Palo Alto, CA 94303

City of Palo Alto Account Number: 119973-30315

We protest the rate increase on both water and refuse.

Thank you.

Signed:

Frank Kwong

Caly Chiu