

Attachment 5

From: Byron Pope [<mailto:bpoppe@beverlyhills.org>]
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2015 3:04 PM
To: Daniel Curran
Subject: RE: to Mr. Pope

Dear Mr. Curran:

I am in receipt of your email and will forward it to the City Council, Interim City Manager, City Attorney and Public Works Services Department Director.

Best regards,

Byron

BYRON POPE, MMC City Clerk
City of Beverly Hills
455 North Rexford Drive, Suite 290
Beverly Hills, CA 90210
☎: 310.285.2400 | 📠: 310.385.0862
✉: bpoppe@beverlyhills.org



City Clerks Association of California (CCAC)
League of California Cities – City Clerk Department
President
2015

From: Daniel Curran []
Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2015 8:40 PM
To: Byron Pope
Subject: to Mr. Pope

To BH City Clerk

City Hall

BH CA 90210

Re: Water Rate Increase Protest, Parcel @ 8970 Cynthia, WH, CA 90069

7/26/15

To the Clerk and Council:

We understand the need to raise rates, but suggest that you raise them only on BH residents north of Santa Monica Blvd., since they are in the best position to afford them. Additionally, we think a 40% decrease for all West Hollywood residents is in order since we already pay 20% more than BH, and all of us are not able to foot the bills like the above are. Have some compassion for those less financially lucky in society.

It's time for this taxation without representation to end.

Please confirm receipt.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel Curran". The script is cursive and fluid.

Daniel Curran

MS studies, Environmental & Civil Engineering, USC

Phone:

Fax:

The City keeps a copy of all E-mails sent and received for a minimum of 2 years. All retained E-mails will be treated as a Public Record per the California Public Records Act, and may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the terms, and subject to the exemptions, of that Act.

RICHARD E. SCHREIBER
157 SOUTH CRESCENT DRIVE
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90212

December 22, 2015

City Council
City of Beverly Hills
455 North Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

RECEIVED
CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
2015 DEC 23 A 9 56
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Members of the City Council:

OBJECTION TO PROPOSED WATER RATE INCREASE

My wife and I own the three unit residential building located at 157 South Crescent Drive (Assessor's ID number – _____). We occupy one of the three units.

Based on our most recent utility service bill, our water usage was 38 HCF. I asked Ms. Caroline Barton, a City Senior Customer Service Representative, to calculate the cost of this water using current rates and proposed rates. The cost of 38 billable units would be \$203.05 under the current rate and \$319.74 under the proposed rate, an increase of 57.6%. The major reason for this increase, as well as the reason for my objection, is the proposed compression of tier rates for multi-family residential properties.

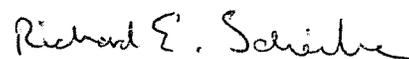
The City currently has two pricing structures for billing residential water usage: 1) Single-Family Residential (applicable to one and two unit residences) and 2) Multi-Family Residential (applicable to three or more unit residences). This distinction seems arbitrary.

The Federal government's housing policy favors residential properties of four units or less. For example, the Federal Housing Finance Agency's conforming loan limit in Los Angeles County is \$625,500 for a single family residence, \$800,775 for a two unit residence, \$967,950 for a three unit residence and \$1,202,925 for a four unit residence. Information from Fannie Mae's website is enclosed.

To fairly address my objection and to be consistent with Federal housing policy, the application of the Single-Family Residential pricing structure should be expanded from one and two unit residences to one, two, three and four unit residences.

I appreciate your favorable consideration of my suggested modification.

Sincerely,



Richard E. Schreiber

Enclosure – As above

The Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) publishes annual conforming loan limits that apply to all conventional mortgages delivered to Fannie Mae, including general loan limits and the high-cost area loan limits. High-cost area loan limits vary by geographic location.

General Loan Limits for 2016

The general loan limits for 2016 are unchanged from 2015 (e.g., \$417,000 for a 1-unit property in the continental U.S.) and apply to loans delivered to Fannie Mae in 2016 (even if originated prior to 1/1/2016). Refer to Lender Letter LL-2015-07 for specific requirements.

Maximum Original Principal Balance for 2016

Units	Contiguous States, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico	Alaska, Guam, Hawaii, and the U.S. Virgin Islands
1	\$417,000	\$625,500
2	\$533,850	\$800,775
3	\$645,300	\$967,950
4	\$801,950	\$1,202,925

***Maximum Loan Limits for High-Cost Areas for Mortgages Acquired in Calendar Year 2016**

2016 high-cost area loan limits have increased for 39 counties due to a high-cost area adjustment or the county being newly assigned to a high-cost area.

*Amounts shown below are maximum limits allowed by the provisions of the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008. The specific high-cost area loan limits are established for each county (or equivalent) by FHFA. Lenders are responsible for ensuring that the original loan amount of each mortgage loan does not exceed the applicable maximum loan limit for the specific area in which the property is located.

Units	Contiguous States, District of Columbia+ Alaska, Guam, Hawaii, and the U.S. Virgin Islands
1	\$625,500
2	\$800,775
3	\$967,950
4	\$1,202,925

+Puerto Rico and a number of other states do not have any high-cost areas in 2016.

Note that the loan limits apply based on the original loan amount, rather than the unpaid principal balance (UPB).

Source: <https://www.fanniemae.com/singlefamily/loan-limits>

MICKIE BERG
525 Evelyn Place
Beverly Hills CA 90210-1824
(Voice)

**Do Not Raise Water Rates In Beverly Hills. I Can Barely Afford To Pay My Bill
Now! Find Another Way To Make Up The Shortfall.**

Parcel - 525 Evelyn Place Tract # Lot

Customer - Marilyn R. Berg [aka Mickie Berg]

Signature

Marilyn R. Berg

**Marilyn R. Berg
Mickie Berg**

RECEIVED
CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
2015 DEC - 2 P 3:33
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Nov 30, 2015

Dear Beverly Hills City Council; regarding the proposed water service rate increase.

I am writing to PROTEST against the water service rate increase.

My Husband and I are the owner of the property.
345 S Swall Dr.
Beverly Hills, CA 90211
Tract #
Lot

The water account is under my name; Vilayvanh Shah

Sincerely,
Vilayvanh Shah
Ash
Vilayvanh Shah
Aamir Shah

RECEIVED
CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
2015 DEC - 2 P 3:33
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

December 3, 2015

Beverly Hills City Clerk
City Hall
455 N. Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

RECEIVED
CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
2015 DEC -7 P 2:50
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Subject: Water Rate increase protest

Dear Sir:

I want to protest the proposed water service rate increase.

My info is as follows:

1. My address is 253 S. Maple Drive, Beverly Hills, Ca 90212 (Assessor's ID=)
2. I am the owner of the property and the water customer. (Name = Gary Lau)



Dec. 5 .2015

RECEIVED
CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
2015 DEC -7 P 2:50
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

from: Payman Simoni
622 Trenton Drive
Beverly Hills CA 90210
Lot BIK

I protest the water increase. There is
no reason for residence to pay more
for water when we are complying with
rules to use less water.

Please don't increase our water rate.

Payman Simoni

PROTEST FOR PROPOSED WATER SERVICE
INCREASE

302 N. ELM DR.
BEVERLY HILLS CA 90210

ROCHELLE BERKOWITZ (Shelly)

Rochelle Berkowitz

RECEIVED
CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
2015 DEC - 1 P 2:50
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

PROTEST FOR PROPOSED WATER SERVICE
INCREASE

408 S. DOHENY
BEVERLY HILLS CA 90211

SIMON, ALEXANDER
C/O ROCHELLE BERKOWITZ

Rochelle Berkowitz

RECEIVED
CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
2015 DEC - 7 P 2:50
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Submitted
w/level 1
Appeal

Addendum (I am using this addendum as your form is too small.)

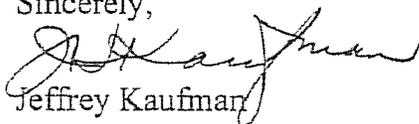
I retired in 2009 and since then, I have been vigilant in water conservation. I used to shower daily and since retirement I only shower and shave once or at most twice a week (using cool to lukewarm water as I don't wait for the water to become hot). I keep a bucket in the shower to collect water to use at a later time for watering plants or flushing toilets. I was told to be hygienically accurate, one should sing the "Happy Birthday" song at least once when properly washing his hands. Now, I sing only five syllables. We flush the toilets before going to bed and after defecation. In addition, I suffer from Benign Prostate Hyperplasia (BPH) and urinate often. I have an appointment with my urologist on December 4, 2015 and can obtain a letter at that time if needed. Our bathrooms smell like the restrooms at Dodger Stadium! I planted drought tolerant plants and no grass is being watered. I have a rain barrel and collect the water condensation from the air conditioner to water my plants. My fountain has not seen water in years. We wear our clothing more than once and only launder them as needed. We refrain from using the dishwasher and use paper plates and plastic wear. I'm not happy doing this as I know it is not good for the environment. This indeed is a "Catch 22!"

Our daughter has started her own business and uses our house as her home office. Although I have cautioned her regarding water usage, I suspect, on occasion, she uses the bathroom.

Please check our water usage prior to 2009. I know we have reduced our usage more than 30% since then. We are long-time residents of Beverly Hills and are being unjustly penalized for having our present water usage compared to our 2013 usage. Furthermore, according to our recent water bill, our usage is down 22% for the same time last year in 2014. Water usage should be based on the number of occupants in a residence and penalties should be based on flagrant misuse.

Please reverse all penalty surcharges that have been and may be applied. Senior citizens should not be discriminated against because of their continual respect for our environment as well as their continual water conservation efforts.

Sincerely,


Jeffrey Kaufman

RECEIVED
CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
2015 DEC 23 A 11: 05
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Submitted
w/level 2
Appeal

Addendum

With my previous water bill, I enclosed an appeal which, per Ramin, you received on November 24th. (By the way, Ramin was very kind and informative.) I received a response on Monday, December 14, 2015. Thank you for granting our first appeal and reducing our conservation target from 30% to 20%. And of course, thank you for crediting us the hefty amount of \$5.51. I am including a second appeal with additional facts and circumstances which entitle us to have all penalty surcharges reversed and credited to our account as well as to another reduction and/or elimination of our conservation target.

We purchased our house in 1978. We raised our three children here. I am now retired since 2009 after working over 30 years for the Los Angeles Unified School District.

We have further reduced our water consumption by removing four trees in front of our house and the entire bougainvillea on the side of our house. I do not water any plants using city water. I only use the water I collect from my 50 gallon water barrel, which due to the recent rain is now full. I no longer add water to my scotch and drink it neat. I no longer use Metamucil to help regulate my bowel movements as one must add water to the powder. I now purchase prunes. By the way, Costco has delicious prunes. We no longer drink eight glasses of water daily (thus negatively impacting our health). However if we die, we will no doubt use less water. And as a bonus, although I am probably dehydrated, I am not urinating as much. Our bathing has been reduced to once weekly and, as you can imagine, our social life has been reduced as well. It literally stinks! But, on the plus side, not having guests over further reduces the total water consumption in our house as our toilets and sinks are not being used by guests. Furthermore, my wife is from France and has resorted to not shaving her armpits and legs. "Viva La France!"

We are contemplating moving out of Beverly Hills, however, not only do we conserve water, we also conserve gasoline as we walk as much as possible thus avoiding fuel consumption while helping to keep the environment cleaner.

When the Beverly Hills water consumption policy was about to be implemented, I called the City of Beverly Hills and spoke to a woman in the water department. She reviewed my bill and she told me it would be near to impossible to reduce our water usage any further. She told me to wait and see and that there would be an appeal process.

The penalty surcharge policy is unfair and discriminatory. I am contemplating a class action lawsuit. The policy punishes those who had already been continually conserving for the betterment of our planet. Allowable water usage and water surcharge penalties should be based on the number of household occupants and lot size. That is fairer and treats every household equally. The average two family household uses 8,000 gallons of water per month. Therefore our water consumption should average 16,000 gallons over two months. Due to our continued diligent water conservation efforts, we only used 13,495 gallons of water during the period from September 2 - November 2, 2015.

12/13/15

I do not want a rate increase, we are getting hit at both ends and were doing a good job of conserving water also. Think about the affect this has on your budget..

I know you are also facing the same situation. Everything is going up but not your salary.

We also face stiff fines if we do not conserve enough water. Come on if you increase the water costs then lower the fines. And cut somewhere else.

I know most of the water bill is extra charges perhaps if the cost of water goes up, then you will be able to cut some of the extra costs.. such as Hillside refuse costs or stop the ROLL_OUT service which is not necessary, I do it myself anyway. If you cut the roll out fees alone you could save enough to fund some of your costs.

Thanks

Ilene Samson
1499 carla ridge
beverly hills.l
90210



RECEIVED
CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
2015 DEC 23 A 11:05
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

city clerk at city Hall
455 N. Rexford Dr.
B.H., CA 90210

To Whom This May Concern,

This is my written testimony against the proposed changes to the water rates and structure to the City's Water Enterprise of Beverly Hills starting February 19, 2016.

As a property owner in the City of Beverly Hills water utility service area, and as a Beverly Hills water customer for the past 43 years I do not support the proposed water rate increase.

Considering the decrease in water use and recent water conservation, we should not be penalized financially for our efforts. The records have shown Beverly Hills has been successful in conserving water usage and this sudden revenue shortfall should not be rectified with a water rate increase. There can be another option and I request that The City's Water Enterprise finds another solution.

Thank you,
Elaine Joyce

- 1) _____ Parcel of Property
- 2) Customer/ Owner Elaine Joyce
724 North Roxbury Drive LLC

3) Elaine Joyce OWNER

RECEIVED
CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
2015 DEC 24 P 2:43
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

12/17/15