

Michele King

From: Fran <fran.nelbach@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 12:10 PM
To: Board of Directors; Michele King; John Varela; Barbara Keegan; Richard Santos; Linda LeZotte; Nai Hsueh; Tony Estremera; Gary Kremen
Subject: Item 2.9 - NO on Water Rate Increases

Dear Valley Water Board of Directors,

Our names are Fran Nelbach and Susie Dang and we are residents of San Jose/California Oaks. We are writing to you today to urge you to vote against water rate increases for the upcoming fiscal year. Now is not the time to impose rate increases on ratepayers and families.

Residents and families have struggled to pay for groceries, rent, utility bills, and more -- increasing water rates by 10% over the next

10 years would put even more strain on low-income households that have suffered this past year from the COVID-19 pandemic. This 10% water rate increase would occur faster than any social security check increase would.

And the answer cannot always be "more money" without demonstrating what has been done to control and actually REDUCE costs. We have to stop this cycle of more money as an answer - there has to be demonstrated, objective and effective efforts by our elected and appointed administrators to mitigate the cost of providing goods and services. "More" often seems like just an easy way out for water, schools, roads, etc., and these costs add up and fall hard upon the residents.

This is why we are urging Valley Water's Board of Directors to stand up for residents & families by eliminating the proposed rate increases.

Thank you.

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