

From: [linda gomez](#)
To: [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: Heartily support rate changes
Date: Friday, May 12, 2023 9:13:37 PM

I believe changes suggested are appropriate and necessary for Marin county.

Sincerely
Linda Gomez
Marin county resident since 1966

Sent from my iPhone

From: michaelfischer149@gmail.com
To: [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: Of COURSE you must raise the rates
Date: Saturday, May 13, 2023 2:48:15 PM

Dear Marin Water Board of Directors:

We are fully-retired long-time Marin residents, living on a modest fixed income. We live in Mill Valley in an (again) modest home that we could not afford at today's prices.

But we fully understand that the excellent water we depend on from your district doesn't come out of the tap for free. Also, we view our magnificent watershed lands as a treasure beyond measure.

Please count us a heartily endorsing and supporting whatever reasonable rate increase you must adopt to maintain the facilities and to prepare for an uncertain future.

Cordially,

Michael Fischer and Jane Rogers

From: [Ann Thomas](#)
To: [Board Comment](#)
Subject: Ordinance 464, May 16 agenda
Date: Monday, May 15, 2023 10:37:31 AM

I support adoption of Ordinance 464, the proposed increase in water rates, fees, and charges.

The repercussions from the District's historic practice of imprudently low rates, including antiquated infrastructure and difficult supply forecasting, are now compounded by climate change, inflation, and outdated technology. Addressing these heightened challenges requires a new paradigm for planning and operating.

If the task ahead to accomplish this critical public service were not adequately funded it would put at risk the health of the watershed, and the security and reliability of our water supply.

The proposed changes you are considering in Ordinance 464 are necessary and as fair as they can be, particularly in the overdue revision of the rate tiers, and should be approved.

Ann Thomas
District customer
Corte Madera

From: [Meg](#)
To: [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: Proposed Water Rate Increases (Problems with Tier 1 Allocations and Rates)
Date: Saturday, May 13, 2023 2:05:28 PM

Dear Marin Water Board,

I am generally in Support of raising rates and forcing conservation to permit capital improvements and longer term water security in the years to come. In fact, it is long overdue in my opinion. However, I think lowering the Tier 1 permitted water usage by approximately 50% and not giving extra water within that Tier for summer usage will cause the loss of some beautiful vegetation that requires Moderate water. We cannot transition to Low water plants except over many years and to lose established plants such as mature Camellias for lack of summer water would be a great shame. Where I live, and as former head of the Landscaping Committee of a multi-family residential complex, during the drought and before we have been in Tier 1 but that likely will not be possible when we don't get some extra water allocation in the summer. Moreover, over time we have been getting rid of some grass and have relandscaped, where relandscaping was necessary because of shrubs aging out, with plants requiring low water. We have been doing this for the past 8-10 years but have a large complex of 176 units and 7+acres.

Please rethink your approach of both (doubling the 2023 multi-family residential fee for Tier 1 AND lessening by half the allocated amount of water within Tier 1 especially for summer usage. If left as proposed, I fear we will be pushed into Tier 2 which would be a financial hardship for many here who are on more limited incomes.

Thank you for your consideration.

Margaret Fawcett
Sausalito, CA

From: [Sidney Tarlow](#)
To: [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: Rate Hikes
Date: Monday, May 15, 2023 12:21:52 PM

We are writing to voice our protest over the proposed rate increases and changes to the tier limits. Like many Tier 1 users, we have been cutting our water use over the years and are VERY careful about consumption, and yet the changes to the Tier 1 limits punish these conservation efforts. Tier 1 pricing would increase 62%, while decreasing CCFs will push Tier 1 consumers into Tier 2, 112% more than Tier 1. This rate increase and CCF reduction are not reasonable. In addition to the rate hikes and usage tier changes, eliminating the winter / summer tiers further punishes those of us that have summer vegetable gardens that put food on our plates. Many of us have removed (if we ever HAD!) water-thirsty plants, but still rely on fresh vegetables from our gardens. I would also like to voice my displeasure with the timeline in which the rate hike would take place (2 months), not nearly enough time to make any adjustments to minimize the financial impact. Finally, your policy of requiring written or in-person objections to the proposed hikes (as well as the required 50% of rate payers doing so in order for the board to change plans) is a way for MMWD to effectively silence any opposition.

Respectfully, Joyce Tarlow

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Sidney Tarlow
(415) 637-9342
Pilates by the Bay

From: [Carol Tarlow](#)
To: [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: Rates
Date: Saturday, May 13, 2023 12:32:46 PM

This is a difficult email for me to write because I am a (very) senior citizen on a fixed income. However, a friend who knows a lot more about all this than I do, explained how essential a rate hike is. So, I am writing to voice my support for the rate hikes and for responsible leadership in the future. Thank you, Carol Tarlow, 2 Willow Lane, Sausalito (415) 515-1025

Sent from my iPhone

From: [lilyburn](#)
To: [Terrie Gillen](#)
Subject: Support for Board of Directors to raise rates
Date: Sunday, May 14, 2023 4:24:01 PM

Dear Terrie Gillen

I appreciate so much having access to clean, good quality water in Marin. Our family is very mindful of conservation and uses comparatively little water, according to our bills.

As our Marin water resources are put at risk from under-investment, not to mention increasingly threatened by climate change, we are also very much aware of the vital importance of building a good and efficient water system for the present and the future, and fully support rate increases under consideration at the meeting on Tuesday May 16th.

Each day as I walk around my town of San Anselmo, I am reminded of the relative wealth of people living here. So, although many are feeling the financial pinch right now, and a rate increase will not be popular, it is the courageous and right thing to do to secure clean good quality water for Marin residents into the future, as uncertain as that is. I hope very much that changes in our water rates will ensure that, to avoid disproportionate impact on the lower-income people of Marin, rate increases are designed to protect them and also to encourage conservation of water by all.

Thank you to the Board of Directors for their hard work and dedication.

Sincerely,

Alison Double

From: alanfront.conservationspathways.net
To: [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: Support for rate increase proposal
Date: Saturday, May 13, 2023 4:37:32 PM

To whom it may concern,

My wife Maggie and I, long-time residents of Marin County, believe that MMWD's existing water rates, resilience planning, and deficit budgeting all represent a far less-than-ideal response to the fiscal, infrastructure, and future supply challenges the District faces. In that context, please know that we are strong supporters of the proposed rate structure detailed during your most recent meeting (3/14/23).

From our perspective, the facts are simple and the need for action urgent. Revenues have not kept pace with current and necessary expenses, leading to chronic, unsupportable deficits. Recently resurgent inflation has further eroded the District's ability to conduct already-planned water management activities including basic maintenance. And those budgeted activities do not begin to address the larger but no less urgent needs to chip away at the District's deferred maintenance backlog and to finance absolutely essential water security projects without which we will be wholly unprepared for future drought response, supply issues, and water demand.

Maintaining the funding status quo, and burying our collective heads in the sand, is not an answer. Please do all you can to advance the reasonable and indisputably necessary rate increase proposal before you at your next meeting.

Sincerely,

Alan Front
126 Floribel Ave.
San Anselmo, CA 94960

202-256-2157 (cell)