

External Email – Confirm Sender and Beware of Links and Attachments



Public Comment

Written Public Comment Webform:	
First Name:	Sharon
Last Name:	Cannizzo
Group or Organization Affiliation:	
Address:	15308 SE Francis Ave
Contact Information:	971.255.1302
Written Comments:	<p>This increase will cause hardship for many in the community, those living on fixed incomes, retired seniors, and families with children. Seriously!! How do you justify this increase when workers are lucky to get a 5% yearly raise? This is greed! It disgusts me that I have to live in the Oak Lodge Water District. Start cutting costs in other ways, i.e. salaries, process improvements, and better management and budgeting, but do not push this kind of increase on your customers. UNBELIEVABLE!!</p>

Reply / Manage

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From: [Brandon C](#)
To: [Laural Casey](#)
Subject: Stop raising our water bill
Date: Sunday, June 18, 2023 6:30:30 PM

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I have a 6-month-old son. I work a full-time and a part-time job as does my partner.

We can't afford to pay you guys more for the same services.

Please strongly reconsider this increase. It's not the little bit extra you guys ask for It's the little bit extra that every utility service food vehicle service has been asking for combined that is killing us.



PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

The Oak Lodge Water Services District Board of Directors welcomes comment from members of the public. Please use this form to submit written comment.

Identifying Information

Name: Tea Godfrey Date: 06/15/2023

Group or Organization Affiliation: _____

Address: 4761 SE LaCour Ct Phone Number: 503.303.7544

Public Comment

HOW is it legal to raise our rates this much??!!

I just saw that my water bill is going to increase by more than a hundred dollars per month. ARE YOU KIDDING ME??

Look, I get that we need to pay for infrastructure. But we already pay twice as much as we used to since Oak Lodge Water merged with/took over from the previous entity.

You really need to find another way to make this work. Or people are going to FLEE to other areas.

I am seriously concerned about our family's budget already -- the student loans are going to be restarted soon, too. HOW CAN YOU LIVE WITH YOURSELVES?

The District Recorder requests written comments be submitted at least 48 hours prior to a regularly scheduled public meeting for distribution to the Board of Directors in advance of the meeting. Written comment may not be read out loud or addressed during the meeting, but all public comments will be entered into the record.

You may submit this form to the Oak Lodge Water Services District Recorder
in person, by email, or by postal mail.

Email: laural@olwsd.org

District Offices: 14496 SE River Road, Oak Grove, OR 97267



PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

The Oak Lodge Water Services District Board of Directors welcomes comment from members of the public. Please use this form to submit written comment.

Identifying Information

Name: _____ Date: _____

Group or Organization Affiliation: _____

Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

Public Comment

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Public Comment

Written Public Comment Webform:	
First Name:	John
Last Name:	Jurow
Group or Organization Affiliation:	
Address:	14907 SE Kronberg Ave
Contact Information:	jnjurow@gmail.com
Written Comments:	<p>It's shocking to see the proposed rate increase of \$25 a month. It would be bad enough if it was \$25 a year. \$25 a month is an increase of 33% from what we're paying currently for services. I'm lucky to have the small family residence used in the example. Homes with more children will be hit a lot harder by this. I think a rate hike of 33% is unacceptable for any reasons. We already had a rate hike last year that amounted to \$5 more a month. Are you going to ask for more next year? No need to answer that, we all know the answer already. If you go through with this \$25 (33%) rate hike, please remove "Keep Rates Affordable" from the "Our Commitment to Customers" section on your site. It is a bold-faced lie at this point.</p>

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Public Comment

Written Public Comment Webform:	
First Name:	Robin
Last Name:	Kellett
Group or Organization Affiliation:	
Address:	14296 SE Fair Oaks Ave
Contact Information:	robinkellett00@gmail.com
Written Comments:	<p>This rate increase is so deceptive and unfair. How has this merger been a benefit for our community? Your rates are part of the trend leading to houselessness. As a single person using the bare minimum of water and sewer consumption my bill fluctuates between \$165 - \$200+ and now you are tacking on an additional unknown amount that most people can't compute. Maybe it is time to have an audit of Oak Lodge Water Services and identify where the mismanagement lies.</p>

Reply / Manage

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PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

The Oak Lodge Water Services District Board of Directors welcomes comment from members of the public. Please use this form to submit written comment.

Identifying Information

Name: RONALD KRIENS Date: JUNE 17, 2023

Group or Organization Affiliation: CITIZEN

Address: 14980 SE LINDEN LN Phone Number: 503 659 2840

Public Comment

DEAR BOARD,

WHILE WE ALL CAN APPRECIATE THAT THE CURRENT INFLATIONARY ENVIRONMENT REQUIRES AN INCREASE IN OUR PUBLIC UTILITIES, I BELIEVE THAT THE CURRENT PROPOSAL IS EXCESSIVE.

JUST A FEW MONTHS AGO, MY WINTER TIME BILL WAS ABOUT \$155 PER TWO MONTHS. NOW IT'S USUALLY \$162. ADD TO THAT APPROXIMATELY \$50 PER TWO MONTHS FURTHER INCREASE, RESULTING IN OVER 36% INCREASE. THAT SOUNDS INSULTING TO THOSE OF US LIVING ON FIXED INCOMES.

PLEASE RECONSIDER THIS DECISION.
GIVE US RATES (AND INCREASES) WE CAN LIVE WITH.

SINCERELY,
RONALD KRIENS
OAK GROVE RESIDENT

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Email: laural@olwsd.org

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PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

The Oak Lodge Water Services District Board of Directors welcomes comment from members of the public. Please use this form to submit written comment.

Identifying Information

Name: Bill Mason Date: 6/15/2023

Group or Organization Affiliation: _____

Address: 13715 SE Fernridge Ave Phone Number: 503-659-5993

Public Comment

A raise of water rates of \$25+ is totally unacceptable. This is over a 50% increase in my water bill. Obviously there has been no acceptable planning by Oak Lodge Water Services if you now discovered a need to do this. This for me is even worse if any of these dollars are used for Sewage or Street water services as I do not receive any from Oak Lodge.

And the nerve to present this basically less than two weeks before the announced start date shows absolutely no care for your customers.

You need to totally re-think this.

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PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

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Identifying Information

Name: Deanna Mulder Date: 06/17/2023

Group or Organization Affiliation: _____

Address: 17453 SE Boardman Ct, Milwaukie OR 97267 Phone Number: 503-502-5540

Public Comment

I am NOT insupport of this rate increase. An increase of \$25 a month is HUGE! Those of us on a fixed income will have a HARD time absorbing this increase. What do you want us to give up to pay this increase? Right now our bill averages about \$170 for the two months. This increase would rais our bill to \$220. That is a huge increase. I implore you to reconsider this rate increase.

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Public Comment

Written Public Comment Webform:	
First Name:	Elizabeth
Last Name:	Neel
Group or Organization Affiliation:	
Address:	15307 SE Rupert Drive
Contact Information:	eneel78@yahoo.com
Written Comments:	<p>The residents of Oak Grove and Jennings Lodge were told the merger between out two districts would save 425,000/yr. A quote from the Clackamas Review by board president at the time Terry John Gibson: 'it should be an easy choice for voters to create efficiencies of scale that would save the districts at least \$425,000 annually. Although a merger wouldn't mean smaller bills, Gibson said that customers can expect any rate increases to remain constant with inflation, avoiding the large rate hikes of the past'. I would consider a 27% increase in my bill as a very substantial rate hike and much greater than the current rate of inflation. What happened to the savings were suppose to have? Why do the</p>

rate payers need to be burdened with such a large increase? I also understand that our infrastructure is aging and there is need for repairs/replacement. Do all of the proposed things need to happen now? Could the improvements be staggered to decrease the current rate increase? This is going to be an immense burden on those in our community that are already struggling and those that live on a fixed income. Are the qualifying monetary amounts for the low income utility relief program going to increase at the same rate as our current proposed rate increase?

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June 12, 2023

JUN 15 2023

*** RECEIVED ***

Michael G. Schmeer
14726 S.E. Oatfield Rd.
Milwaukie, OR 97267

Oak Lodge Water Services District
14496 S.E. River Rd.
Oak Grove, OR 97267

Re: Exorbitant cost of new water meter

OLWSD Board of Directors:

I own a house next door to me at **14804 S.E. Oatfield Rd.** Last winter I installed a new bathroom in the basement of this house. In order to do so it was obviously necessary to apply for permits from Clackamas County. In the process of doing so Clackamas County informed us that OLWSD had flagged it and I was required to fill out a "Meter Sizing" matrix to determine what the total of the Water Supply Fixture Units there would be with the additional bathroom fixtures. The outcome put us slightly over the allowable amount for the existing 5/8" meter, and I was informed that we would have to upgrade the meter to 3/4" in order to proceed with the project.

OLWSD charged me \$6,378 for this! It was either pay it or end the remodel project, which we had already done preliminary work on and made deposits on. I had no choice except to pony up the fee. **This price is absolutely outrageous.**

I've included with this letter a receipt I was sent for this fee. In the fee detail it describes "Water Meter SDC 5/8 *credit* to 3/4" for \$5,665.00, but it is added to the other fees. None of this makes any sense.

I would like to know, in writing, how OLWSD can justify such an exorbitant fee for a meter that probably costs OLWSD between \$300 and \$400 dollars, and took one employee less than 2 hours to install.

Sincerely,



Michael G. Schmeer



Oak Lodge Water Service District

14496 SE RIVER ROAD

Telephone: 503-654-7765

Receipt No.: **286**

Receipt Date: **11/30/2022**

RECEIPT

RECORD & PAYER INFORMATION

Record ID: UP2022-050
Record Type: Utility Permit
Property Address: 14804 SE Oatfield Rd, Milwaukie, OR 97267
Description of Work: I am installing a basement bath in my 1936 home, with a toilet, lavatory and shower.
Water: Existing meter 5/8. Required meter: 3/4 from Plumbing Fixture count. Upsize existing meter from 5/8 to 3/4.
Wastewater: No EDU change. No SDC assessed. No occupancy change, no installation. No Inspection.
Storm: No EC, no footprint change.
Payer: Michael G. Schmeer
Applicant: Michael G Schmeer
N/A
14804 S.E. Oatfield Rd.
Milwaukie, OR 97267

PAYMENT DETAIL

Date	Payment Method	Reference	Cashier	Comments	Amount
11/30/2022	Credit Card		PUBLICUSER376 518		\$6,378.00

FEE DETAIL

Fee Description	Invoice #	Quantity	Fee Amount	Current Paid
Water Meter SDC 5/8 credit to 3/4	587	1.00	\$5,665.00	\$5,665.00
Water Meter Installation 3/4-inch	587	1.00	\$513.00	\$513.00
Plan Review: Water_UP	587	1.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
			\$6,378.00	\$6,378.00

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Public Comment

Written Public Comment Webform:	
First Name:	Susan
Last Name:	Schmick
Group or Organization Affiliation:	
Address:	5357 SE Sierra Vista Dr
Contact Information:	Susan.j.schmick@gmail.com
Written Comments:	Funds having been mis-spent for years must be resolved with your customers in mind before you decide to give yourselves another raise. To make this decision unilaterally, give a "hearing" and then ram through your increase anyway just ten days later is unconscionable.

Reply / Manage

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Public Comment

Written Public Comment Webform:	
First Name:	Eugene
Last Name:	Whitley
Group or Organization Affiliation:	
Address:	5182 SE Hillwood Ave
Contact Information:	503-659-0766
Written Comments:	<p>To the board members and the staff of the authority. I spent more than 4 hours with Gail Stevens and at home for about another 4 hours going over these documents: 1. The details of the proposed budget. 2. The proposed budget message. 3. The questions from the budget committee. 4. The budget committee rate increase scenarios. 5. The budget policy. 6. Recently, I reviewed the revised budget The two sets of documents that convinced me were the budget policy and the budget committee scenarios. The policy documents illustrated the funding balance issues and the scenarios showed the need to better fund the operating and capital balances. I did not look at the Capital plans, as I support the</p>

capital improvement plans. I am concerned about the people of various ages and economic levels as this increase may put them in a very difficult position. I support the decision to change the name of the financial help. I am not really happy about the increase. However, based on my work experience, I am in full support of the \$25.03 increase. I believed the \$35 would have better to meet the short- and long-term financial goals. Is it enough to make OLWS healthy?

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