

Steven Liang

From: Brooke Garcher <brooke.garcher.1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 1:30 PM
To: Steven Liang; WaterRateBoard
Subject: Public Comment - Rate Board Proposed Water Rates Increase

Categories: Blue Category

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Dear Mr. Steven Liang and the Water Rate Board,

I am a Water Department Customer living in 19107 zip code. I am contacting you today to strongly oppose Philadelphia Water Department's proposed changes in water, sewer, and stormwater rates. It is simply irresponsible to impose over 17.5% increase in water rates to residential customers, especially in a pandemic that has produced uneven and inequitable recovery in the workforce. This would impose an increased regressive charge on the poorest Philadelphians that already struggle to make ends meet.

As a working class Philadelphian, it is unclear what I will have to give up in order to afford an increased water rate. I realize that PWD has funding shortfalls from the pandemic but there must be a more equitable solution to recover those funds. There are plenty of rich Philadelphians that should bear a greater brunt of the costs instead of imposing it unilaterally on our residents.

If I must repeat myself, FIND ANOTHER WAY TO RECOVER THESE FUNDS. Low-income Philadelphians have their own finances to manage in order to survive, do not take advantage of the little income they have to cover your own costs.

Brooke Garcher

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What's a Green New Deal for Housing? [Check out this 1-pager](#)

What I'm Reading this Month: Caste: The Origins of our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson