

# Summary of themes of Protest Letters received

## Most Frequently Cited Protest Themes (P01–P27)

Theme	Mentions
Excessive/unjustified rate increases	Very Common
Fixed-income / senior hardship	Very Common
Salary increases for staff/board	Common
Transparency/governance concerns	Common
Request to halt or revise increases	Common
Base charge impact on low users	Common
Financial strain from overall inflation	Common
Small business / rental housing impact	Occasional
Emotional and livelihood fears	Occasional
Water quality issues	Rare
Equity with developers	Rare
Billing structure confusion	Rare

### ◆ Overview

As of the preparation of this report (4/23/2025), the District has received **27 formal written protests** (designated P01–P27) submitted by property owners and customers in response to the Proposition 218 notice mailed in March 2025. The majority of these letters express **opposition to the proposed rate structure**, particularly the **multi-year increase in both volumetric and fixed charges**.

These themes were similar to those provided in the AB 2257 Challenge Letters.

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### ◆ Summary of Protest Themes

#### 1. Perceived Excessiveness of Rate Increases

- Many letters describe the increases as “exorbitant” or “unreasonable,” especially given the cumulative effect over five years.
- Concerns were expressed about bi-monthly bills **doubling or more** when combining base charges with SCE and SWP pass-throughs.

#### 2. Impact on Seniors and Fixed-Income Households

- The most prevalent concern.
- Writers express fear of **not affording medication, groceries, or housing costs** due to rising water bills.
- Residents cite **Social Security** as their only income, making increases difficult to absorb.

### 3. Disproportionate Effect on Low-Use Customers

- Several customers who conserve water expressed frustration that increased **fixed charges** penalize them despite low usage.

### 4. General Inflation and Financial Pressure

- Writers note that the proposed rate hikes come amid elevated costs for **housing, food, gasoline, electricity, and HOA fees**, compounding the hardship.

### 5. Allegations of Salary Increases for Management and Board

- Letters reference alleged **40–60% salary raises** approved in prior years.
- Perception that these increases were excessive and poorly timed given economic conditions.

### 6. Lack of Transparency and Public Involvement

- The community was **not adequately consulted**
- Financial decisions appear to be **predetermined**
- Details regarding rate calculation and expenditures are **not easily accessible**

### 7. Calls for Delay or Alternatives

- **Pausing the rate increases**
- Performing an **independent audit**
- Exploring **grants or state/federal funding**
- Assessing whether **new developments** are contributing fairly

### 8. Water Quality Complaints

- One protest cited **hard water** damaging pipes and appliances, questioning the justification for increasing rates when **service quality is perceived as low**.

### 9. Business and Rental Property Concerns

- Small business owners and landlords expressed concern that increased utility costs will:
  - Be passed on to tenants
  - Undermine profitability
  - Threaten business sustainability

### 10. Billing Structure Confusion

- One letter challenged the complexity of the current tiered billing system and recent changes to how usage is calculated.

### 11. Emotional and Human Impact

- Some letters describe the impact in personal terms:
  - “Will I have to choose between water and my heart medicine?”
  - “How can a senior on \$1,300/month afford this?”

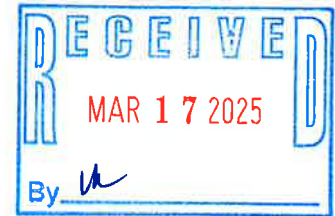
### 12. General Disapproval Without Detail

- Several protests fulfilled the legal requirements under Proposition 218 but offered minimal explanation beyond expressing objection.

**Formal Written Protest Against Proposed Water Rate Increases**

Resident's Full Name: Stacie Ott  
 Resident's Street Address: 1565 Poppy Ct  
 City, State, ZIP Code: Beaumont, CA 92223  
 Date: 3/14/2025

Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District  
 560 Magnolia Ave, Beaumont, CA 92223



*Rec'd in drop box*

**Subject: Formal Written Protest Against Proposed Water Rate Increases**

To Whom It May Concern,

I, Stacie Ott, a resident of 1565 Poppy Ct, Beaumont, CA 92223  
 hereby submit this formal written protest against the proposed new water rates by the Beaumont Cherry  
 Valley Water District (BCVWD).

The proposed rate increases would significantly raise my cost for water service, placing an undue financial  
 burden on myself and my household. I strongly oppose these increases and urge the District to reconsider its  
 approach to rate adjustments.

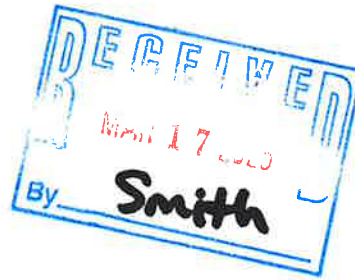
I request that my protest be duly recorded and considered in accordance with Proposition 218 and all  
 applicable regulations.

Sincerely,  
 Resident's Printed Name: Stacie Ott  
 Signature: *Stacie Ott*

March 11, 2025

1741 Desert Almond Way  
Beaumont, CA 92223-8611-

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District  
Attn: Executive Assistant  
560 Magnolia Ave  
Beaumont, CA 92223



Dear Sir/Madam:

So another proposed rate adjustment is in the works.

'The law does not legally allow profit for not-for-profit organization' is a universal and very common misleading statement. Salary, wages and other depreciable accounts are some of the funeral places.

Before, for a long period of time, billing was done differently and now with tier system BCVWD is raking more money. Then on Dec 2022, another change was made making it more difficult for consumers to figure out units per tier.

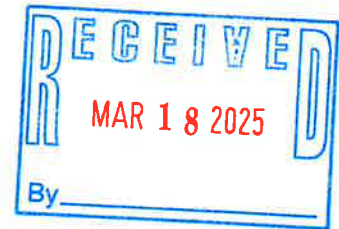
I am speaking on behalf of those who are on fixed income and those who shop at membership clubs to make ends meet. At Costco, almost three months ago, eggs, for example, 24 pcs cost a little over \$4, now they are almost \$10. Have you checked the prices of seafoods and meat lately? And the list goes on!

It is interesting to note that in the last 5 years, every bimonthly, BCVWD get \$2 for 5/8 flat and tier system. Do you know how much increase social security recipients got for 2025? Truly, it is more & more difficult for seniors with fixed income to make ends meet.

Sincerely,

Rodolfo N. Velasco

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District  
560 Magnolia Avenue  
Beaumont, CA 92223



I, Kevin Clark, submit this **PROTEST** letter to oppose the proposed 2025-2029 rate increase and changes by BCVWD on behalf of the following property:

11257 Littler Ln,  
Beaumont, CA 92223

**Kevin Clark**

*K-Clark* 3/18/25

PAGE 4

Mission Inn  
A National Historic Landmark Hotel

THIS DOCUMENT IS A  
FROM  
BERRY - DARRLENE - TODD  
STEEL

~~THE~~ 11168 SUNNYSIDE  
CHERRY VALLEY, CA 92223  
TO WATER BOARD

I BURN ONE ACRE IN  
CHERRY VALLEY. I USED  
TO HAVE 4 LAWS TO WATER  
2 YEARS AGO I PUT D.G. ON  
2 LAWS AT GREAT EXPENSE  
I DO NOT WATER THOSE 2  
ANY MORE. I HAVE 3 PEOPLE  
LIVING IN MY HOUSE. I  
WATER 2 LAWS ROAD OF ROSE  
BUSHES + POTTED PLANTS  
SHOWERS - DISHES (WATER  
DISH WASHER)

PAGE

II

Mission Inn  
A National Historic Landmark Hotel

I AM TOO OLD TO MOVE.  
LIVED HERE 47 YEARS.

YOU ARE CREATING A  
HARDSHIP ON PEOPLE

IF YOU WOULD INCREASE THE  
AMOUNT OF WATER PER TIER  
I COULD WORK WITH IT.  
I TRY TO CONSERVE, BUT I  
ALWAYS GO INTO THE 2ND  
TIER. ON MY ACRE 60% OF  
IT IS GRAVEL + MAINTENANCE  
WITH ~~ROAD~~ ROUND-UP  
FUEL + ALL UTILITIES ARE  
VERY HARD TO PAY. I PROTEST  
RISING RATES

THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
CONSIDERATION

Barbara



# Formal Written Protest Against Proposed Water Rate Increases

Resident's Full Name: PHILIPP GOEBELS  
 Resident's Street Address: 38365 VINELAND ST.  
 City, State, ZIP Code: Beaumont, CA CV  
 Date: 3/20/25



Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District  
 560 Magnolia Ave, Beaumont, CA 92223

**Subject: Formal Written Protest Against Proposed Water Rate Increases**

To Whom It May Concern,

I, PHILIPP GOEBELS, a resident of CHERRY VALLEY, Beaumont, CA 92223  
 hereby submit this formal written protest against the proposed new water rates by the Beaumont Cherry  
 Valley Water District (BCVWD).

The proposed rate increases would significantly raise my cost for water service, placing an undue financial  
 burden on myself and my household. I strongly oppose these increases and urge the District to reconsider its  
 approach to rate adjustments.

I request that my protest be duly recorded and considered in accordance with Proposition 218 and all  
 applicable regulations.

Sincerely,

Resident's Printed Name: PHILIPP GOEBELS

Signature: Goebels

3/20/25

**Agnes Morant**  
34595 Crenshaw St  
Beaumont, Ca. 92223  
[Morant914@gmail.com](mailto:Morant914@gmail.com)  
(909) 255-2089



**Date: March 23, 2025**

Board of Directors  
Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District  
560 Magnolia Ave]  
Beaumont, Ca. 92223

**Subject: Protest Against Proposed Water Rate Adjustments and Service Charges**

Dear Members of the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District Board,

I am writing to formally protest the proposed adjustments to the water rates and service charges being considered by the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District. As a concerned customer and property owner in the district, I believe that these changes may place an undue financial burden on the residents of our community, especially during a time when many are already facing economic challenges.

While I recognize the importance of ensuring the continued delivery of reliable and high-quality water service, I urge the board to reconsider the proposed increases and explore alternative solutions that do not place such a significant financial strain on local residents. Transparency and community involvement are crucial during this process, and I strongly encourage the board to consider all available options to maintain both affordability and service quality.

I respectfully request that my protest be considered during the upcoming Public Hearing, where I hope the board will carefully review the potential impact of these proposed changes on our community.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Agnes Morant





March 26,2025

Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District

I'm protesting the proposed rate increases by the BCVWD. I don't feel that this is the best time to be increasing rates for customers of BCVWD.

Also, as a senior on a fixed income, any increase in water rates would be a huge hardship on me as well as others in our community.

Again, I would NOT support any rate increases for the BCVWD.

PLEASE DO NOT INCREASE WATER RATES FOR CUSTOMERS OF THE BCVWD.

  
Stuart Grimstad  
Account 034916-001  
921 Avenal Way  
Beaumont, CA 92223

To whom it may concern,

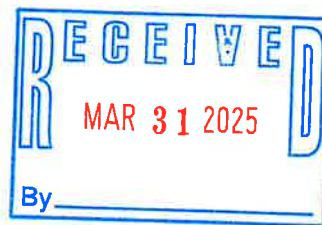
I, Gerald Coronado, oppose the water rate increase measure due to being on a fixed income. Rate hikes for people in retirement are a massive detriment to our lives making the sustainability of what we had saved and hoped would provide for the rest of our lives questionable.

These hikes bring up questions such as, "Will I be able to afford my heart medicine next month? Will I be able to buy groceries? Do I want to not pay my electric or gas bill so I can have water?"

Before considering forcing rate hikes on the citizens of the city, consider an audit for the department and the city. Cut waste away and use that money to supplement the costs.

Thank you for your time,  
Gerald Coronado

*10913 Delicious Ln.  
Cherry Valley, Ca-92223*





GAIL S. NEWMAN ← PRINTED NAME

38520 Cherry Valley Blvd  
Cherry Valley, CA  
92223-4208

← RESIDENCE



3/27/2025

P9

BCVWD  
560 Magnolia Ave,  
Beaumont, CA 92223

THIS IS A

RE: RATE INCREASES

PROTEST LETTER

Please do NOT approve the new rates, as they are exorbitant.

① Based on the table, it will be a 15% increase on meter service by May 2025!

② Based on the table, it will be ~100% by 2029!

This is untenable. Please consider a lower rate of increase... 5% by May & 50% by 2029. I understand rate increases are necessary, but your proposals are exorbitant.

Additionally, as a Cherry Valley resident, it is concerning that we have to pay this when it is likely that ALL THE DEVELOPMENT IN BEAUMONT is driving the need.

Thank you for your help.

GAIL S. NEWMAN

SIGNATURE:

Gail S. Newman

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District

Name Keith Sloan

Property 750 E First St Beaumont Ca 92223

Opposition to Proposition 218



Executive Assistant/To whom it may concern,

I am writing you today in opposition to the proposed rate increase. While I understand the need for maintaining and improving our water infrastructure, the substantial rate hikes outlined in this proposal will impose significant financial strain on our community, residents, and local businesses. Water is a fundamental resource, and its accessibility should not come at the expense of the financial stability of our community. Many residents, particularly those on fixed incomes, and small businesses like ourselves already face a rise of living cost and business operational challenges. This proposed increase in water rates will exacerbate these hardships.

Our community deserves a water management strategy that reflects a commitment to improving the water infrastructure and economic fairness. I strongly encourage the board of directors to turn down this proposed rate increase and develop a more balanced approach that supports sustainable water at an affordable price.

Thank you for taking the time and I trust that the board will act in the best interests of the entire community and work to protect both our water supply and our livelihoods.

Sincerely,

Keith Sloan small business owner

Phyllis Kates  
264 White Sands  
Beaumont, CA 92223

3/30/25

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District  
560 Magnolia Avenue Beaumont, CA 92223



**P11**

Dear Members of the Board,  
Re:Protest Against Recent Water Rate Increases and Management Salary Hikes

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District's recent increases in water rates and meter service charges by 15% to 20% over the past couple of years. Additionally, it has come to the attention of residents that approximately two years ago, the Board of Directors and management approved salary raises ranging from 40% to 60% without seeking input or consensus from the community you serve.

The burden of these decisions falls disproportionately on city residents who are already grappling with high property taxes, escalating city sewer fees, waste management costs, and the relentless impact of inflation. These additional increases in utility expenses make it exceedingly difficult for families and individuals to manage their financial obligations.

Transparency, accountability, and community engagement are fundamental principles that public service entities must adhere to. It is deeply troubling that substantial salary increases for the Board of Directors and management were authorized without sufficient consideration of their financial impact on residents. Moreover, implementing successive rate hikes within a short timeframe exacerbates the financial strain on the very people your organization is tasked with serving.

I respectfully urge the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District to take immediate steps to:

1. Halt further increases in water rates and meter service charges until a thorough review and justification process, involving public consultations, is conducted.
2. Reassess the recent salary raises for the Board of Directors and management to ensure they align with the district's financial position and community expectations.
3. Prioritize transparent communication with residents to rebuild trust and foster a collaborative approach to addressing the district's financial challenges.

As a concerned citizen of Beaumont, I believe these measures are essential to restore confidence in the district's governance and to mitigate the undue financial burden currently imposed on residents. I kindly request a prompt response regarding the steps the district plans to take in light of these concerns.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

# PROTEST



APRIL 1, 2025

Ronda Dinkins  
10756 Nancy Ave  
Cherry Valley, Ca  
92223  
951-533-8161

DEAR BGVWD

This letter is a formal protest about raising the water rates for Beaumont and Cherry Valley properties. I own 2 homes in the area and raising the rates again causes hardship for families already struggling.

Sincerely,

Ronda Dinkins

Ronda Dinkins



# PROTEST

APRIL 1, 2025

Ronda Dinkins  
1255 Edgar Ave  
Beaumont, Ca  
92223  
951-533-8161

DEAR BGVWD

This letter is a formal protest about raising the water rates for Beaumont and Cherry Valley properties. I own 2 homes in the area and raising the rates again causes hardship for families already struggling.

Sincerely,

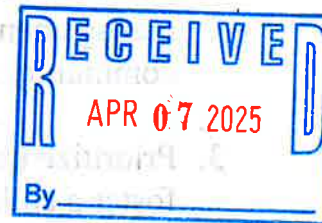
Ronda Dinkins

Ronda Dinkins



April 2, 2025

Carlos G. Martinez & Pilar R Martinez  
37260 Amateur Way  
Beaumont, CA 92223



Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District  
560 Magnolia Avenue  
Beaumont, CA. 92223

Subject: Protest against recent water rate increases and management salary hikes.

Dear Members of the Board,

We are writing to express our deep concerns regarding the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District's recent increases in water rates and meter service charges by 15 to 20% over the last couple of years. Additionally, it has come to our attention that approximately two years ago, the Board of Directors and management approved salary raises ranging from 40 to 60% without seeking input or consensus from the community it serves.

The burden of these decisions falls disproportionately on city residents who are already grappling with higher property taxes, escalating city service fees, waste management costs, and the relentless impact of inflation. These additional increases in utility expenses make it exceedingly difficult for families and individuals to manage their financial obligations.

Transparency, accountability, and community engagement are fundamental principles that public service entities must adhere to. It is deeply troubling that substantial salary increases for the Board of Directors and management were authorized without sufficient consideration of their financial impact on residents. Moreover, implementing successive rate hikes within a short time frame exacerbates the financial strain on the very people your organization is tasked with serving.



We respectfully urge the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District to take immediate steps to:

1. Halt further increases in water rates and meter service charges until a thorough review and justification process, involving public consultations, is conducted.

2. Reassess the recent salary raises for the Board of Directors and management to ensure they align with the district's financial position and community expectations.
3. Prioritize transparent communication with residents to rebuilt trust and foster a collaborative approach to address the district's financial challenges.

As a concerned citizen of Beaumont, I believe these measures are essential to restore confidence in the district's governance and to mitigate the undue financial burden currently imposed on residents. We kindly request a prompt response regarding the steps the district plans to take in light of these concerns.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

March 31, 2025

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District  
560 Magnolia Avenue  
Beaumont, CA 92223



Dear Members of the Board,

Subject: Protest Against Recent Water Rate Increases and Management Salary Hikes

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District's recent increases in water rates and meter service charges by 15% to 20% over the past couple of years. Additionally, it has come to the attention of residents that approximately two years ago, the Board of Directors and management approved salary raises ranging from 40% to 60% without seeking input or consensus from the community you serve.

The burden of these decisions falls disproportionately on city residents who are already grappling with high property taxes, escalating city sewer fees, waste management costs, and the relentless impact of inflation. These additional increases in utility expenses make it exceedingly difficult for families and individuals to manage their financial obligations.

Transparency, accountability, and community engagement are fundamental principles that public service entities must adhere to. It is deeply troubling that substantial salary increases for the Board of Directors and management were authorized without sufficient consideration of their financial impact on residents. Moreover, implementing successive rate hikes within a short timeframe exacerbates the financial strain on the very people your organization is tasked with serving.

I respectfully urge the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District to take immediate steps to:

- Halt further increases in water rates and meter service charges until a thorough review and justification process, involving public consultations, is conducted.
- Reassess the recent salary raises for the Board of Directors and management to ensure they align with the district's financial position and community expectations.
- Prioritize transparent communication with residents to rebuild trust and foster a collaborative approach to addressing the district's financial challenges.

As a concerned citizen of Beaumont, I believe these measures are essential to restore confidence in the district's governance and to mitigate the undue financial burden currently imposed on residents. I kindly request a prompt response regarding the steps the district plans to take in light of these concerns.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

Ronnie Zacker  
1013 Riviera Ct.  
Beaumont, CA 92223-8535

Cesar Trelles  
1765 Tioga Trail  
Beaumont CA 92223  
3.31.2015

Dear Members of the Board, Subject: Protest Recent Water Rate Increases and Management Salary Hikes I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District's recent increases in water rates and meter service charges by 15% to 20% over the past couple of years. Additionally, it has come to the attention of residents that approximately two years ago, the Board of Directors and management approved salary raises ranging from 40% to 60% without seeking input or consensus from the community you serve. The burden of these decisions falls disproportionately on city residents who are already grappling with high property taxes, escalating city sewer fees, waste management costs, and the relentless impact of inflation. These additional increases in utility expenses make it exceedingly difficult for families and individuals to manage their financial obligations. Transparency, accountability, and community engagement are fundamental principles that public service entities must adhere to. It is deeply troubling that substantial salary increases for the Board of Directors and management were authorized without sufficient consideration of their financial impact on residents. Moreover, implementing successive rate hikes within a short timeframe exacerbates the financial strain on the very people your organization is tasked with serving. I respectfully urge the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District to take immediate steps to: 1. Halt further increases in water rates and meter service charges until a thorough review and justification process, involving public consultations, is conducted. 2. Reassess the recent salary raises for the Board of Directors and management to ensure they align with the district's financial position and community expectations. 3. Prioritize transparent communication with residents to rebuild trust and foster a collaborative approach to addressing the district's financial challenges. As a concerned citizen of Beaumont, I believe these measures are essential to restore confidence in the district's governance and to mitigate the undue financial burden currently imposed on residents. I kindly request a prompt response regarding the steps the district plans to take considering these concerns. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Sincerely,  
Cesar Trelles



**Jeremy Martin**

36645 Sevilla Way

Beaumont, CA 92223

03/12/2025

**Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District**

560 Magnolia Ave

Beaumont, CA 92223

**Subject: Formal Written Protest Against Proposed Water Rate Increases**

To Whom It May Concern,

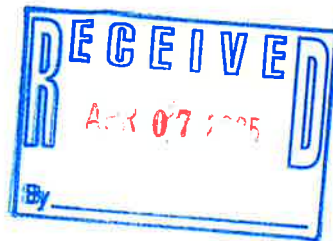
I, **Jeremy Martin**, a resident of **36645 Sevilla Way, Beaumont, CA 92223**, hereby submit this formal **written protest** against the proposed new water rates by the Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District (BCVWD).

The proposed rate increases would significantly raise my cost for water service, placing an undue financial burden on myself and my household. I strongly oppose these increases and urge the District to reconsider its approach to rate adjustments.

I request that my protest be duly recorded and considered in accordance with Proposition 218 and all applicable regulations.

**Sincerely,**

**Jeremy Martin**





March 25, 2025

To,

BCVWD District office  
560 Magnolia Ave  
Beaumont, CA 92223

**Re: PROTEST TO PROPOSED WATER RATE INCREASE**

Gentlepersons

Please treat this letter as our PROTEST to your proposed water rate increase.  
Please count it so.

Thank you

Pramod Puri (Owner of following residence address)  
Suhsma Puri (Owner of following residence address)

*Pramod Puri*  
*Suhsma Puri*

1608 Woodlands Rd  
Beaumont, CA 92223



April 2, 2025



Linda Stratton  
195 Kettle Creek  
Beaumont, CA 92223

Subject: PROTEST AGAINST WATER RATE INCREASES

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District  
560 Magnolia Avenue  
Beaumont, CA 92223

Dear Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District's proposed increases in water rates and meter service charges.

The burden of these decisions falls disproportionately on city residents who are already grappling with high property taxes, escalating city sewer fees, waste management costs, and the relentless impact of inflation.

These additional increases in utility expenses make it exceedingly difficult for families and individuals to manage their financial obligations. Transparency, accountability, and community engagement are fundamental principles that public service entities must adhere to.

I respectfully urge the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District to take immediate steps to Halt further increases in water rates and meter service charges until a thorough review and justification process, involving public consultations, is conducted.

I kindly request a prompt response. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Linda Stratton  
Linda3117@verizon.net

1781 Desert Poppy Lane  
 Beaumont, CA 92223  
 April 7, 2025



*Hana delivered*

Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District  
 540 Magnolia Avenue  
 Beaumont, CA 92223

My name is Doris Foreman. I reside at 1781 Desert Poppy Lane in Beaumont. I wish to Protest the proposed rate height. I live on my Social Security check which I hope I continue to receive. I live on a fixed income. I try to keep my water bill down and take many measures to prevent the loss of water.

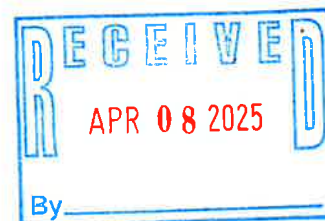
The thought that no matter how I try to save water, my bill will be going from a base of \$29.63 to \$59.63 in five years is anxiety producing. With the addition of Tier I, SWP and SCE charges, I am paying \$59.83 for a meter usage of 160. This means that I will be paying close to \$100 for water. The base rate more than doubles in five years. This amount must have been considered a meager amount to you, but it will make a difference in my budget. This is a 30 dollar increase over a five-year period.

Too much!!! I am sure that there are other seniors who live alone and perceive this as an Unwelcomed Burden. The base rate is more than doubled. Base rate times 2 is \$59.26. In five years, the base rate is above that at \$59.63. It is likely that a new rate proposal will be introduced at that time to continue the rate increases. This proposal should be reconsidered. This customer raises a voice against its implementation.

Thank you,

*Doris Foreman*  
 Doris Foreman

Noel Gutierrez  
35181 Vidalia Ln  
Beaumont, ca 92223  
April 3, 2025



Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District  
560 Magnolia Avenue  
Beaumont, CA 92223

Dear Members of the Board,

**Subject: Protest Against Recent Water Rate Increases and Management Salary Hikes**

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District's recent increases in water rates and meter service charges by 15% to 20% over the past couple of years. Additionally, it has come to the attention of residents that approximately two years ago, the Board of Directors and management approved salary raises ranging from 40% to 60% without seeking input or consensus from the community you serve.

The burden of these decisions falls disproportionately on city residents who are already grappling with high property taxes, escalating city sewer fees, waste management costs, and the relentless impact of inflation. These additional increases in utility expenses make it exceedingly difficult for families and individuals to manage their financial obligations.

Transparency, accountability, and community engagement are fundamental principles that public service entities must adhere to. It is deeply troubling that substantial salary increases for the Board of Directors and management were authorized without sufficient consideration of their financial impact on residents. Moreover, implementing successive rate hikes within a short timeframe exacerbates the financial strain on the very people your organization is tasked with serving.

Also, the water supplied is noticeably hard and of poor quality, which not only affects everyday usage but also damages house plumbing over time. This ongoing issue is causing significant wear and tear on pipes and appliances. Furthermore, it is unreasonable for residents to have to install expensive water purifiers just to ensure they have access to decent-quality water.

I respectfully urge the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District to take immediate steps to:

1. Halt further increases in water rates and meter service charges until a thorough review and justification process, involving public consultations, is conducted.
2. Reassess the recent salary raises for the Board of Directors and management to ensure they align with the district's financial position and community expectations.
3. Prioritize transparent communication with residents to rebuild trust and foster a collaborative approach to addressing the district's financial challenges.

4. Take immediate action to address the poor water quality and hardness, ensuring safe and reliable water for all residents.

As a concerned citizen of Beaumont, I believe these measures are essential to restore confidence in the district's governance and to mitigate the undue financial burden currently imposed on residents. I kindly request a prompt response regarding the steps the district plans to take in light of these concerns.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Noel Gutierrez

4/3/25

**P22**

This Letter is in protest of the Water Rate Hike and more Management Salary hikes

We are shock at the rate hikes in the last few years and now another including Salary increase to management and board! This is outrageous!

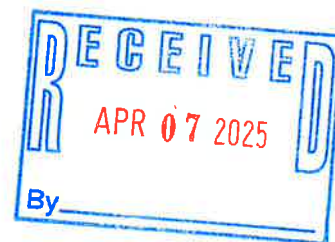
City residents, especially seniors can not afford this! This puts an incredible undue burden.

While poor decisions and many without transparency.

We are asking the Beaumont- Cherry Valley Water District to stop this.

Respectfully,

*Mrs. Christine Journey*  
Mr. And Mrs. Journey *Henry Journey*  
315 Shining Rock  
Beaumont, Ca 92223  
cjourney2002@yahoo.com





# PROTEST LETTER

**P23**

**Steve Gyani**

138 Boston Avenue

Beaumont, CA 92223

04/07/2025



**Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District** 560 Magnolia Avenue Beaumont, CA 92223

Dear Members of the Board,

**Subject: Protest Against Recent Water Rate Increases and Management Salary Hikes**

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District's recent increases in water rates and meter service charges by 15% to 20% over the past couple of years. Additionally, it has come to the attention of residents that approximately two years ago, the Board of Directors and management approved salary raises ranging from 40% to 60% without seeking input or consensus from the community you serve.

The burden of these decisions falls disproportionately on city residents who are already grappling with high property taxes, escalating city sewer fees, waste management costs, and the relentless impact of inflation. These additional increases in utility expenses make it exceedingly difficult for families and individuals to manage their financial obligations.

Transparency, accountability, and community engagement are fundamental principles that public service entities must adhere to. It is deeply troubling that substantial salary increases for the Board of Directors and management were authorized without sufficient consideration of their financial impact on residents. Moreover, implementing successive rate hikes within a short timeframe exacerbates the financial strain on the very people your organization is tasked with serving.

I respectfully urge the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District to take immediate steps to:

1. Halt further increases in water rates and meter service charges until a thorough review and justification process, involving public consultations, is conducted.
2. Reassess the recent salary raises for the Board of Directors and management to ensure they align with the district's financial position and community expectations.
3. Prioritize transparent communication with residents to rebuild trust and foster a collaborative approach to addressing the district's financial challenges.

As a concerned citizen of Beaumont, I believe these measures are essential to restore confidence in the district's governance and to mitigate the undue financial burden currently imposed on residents. I kindly request a prompt response regarding the steps the district plans to take in light of these concerns.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

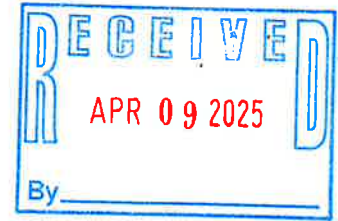
A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Steve Gyani". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Steve Gyani

THE COUNTRY HAS ENTERED A PERIOD OF OBVIOUS HIGHER INFLATION WHERE MOST EVERY PRODUCT IS A HIGHER PRICE AND NOW WILL BE EVEN HIGHER. YOU CERTAINLY MUST REALIZE THIS IS EXTREMELY TROUBLING FOR LARGE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE ON FIXED INCOMES. YOUR MOVE TO ADDING HIGHER WATER RATES OF COURSE WILL ADD TO OUR PROBLEM WHERE IT IS ALREADY DIFFICULT TO PAY THE EXPENSES TO SURVIVE. REALIZING IT IS SOMEWHAT NECESSARY TO RAISE RATES, BUT YOUR DOUBLING JUST THE SERVICE CHARGE 100% IN 4 YRS. IS ENTIRELY OUT OF LINE AND NOT AT ALL AFFORDABLE. NOBODY DOUBLES ANY RATE THAT MUCH ON ANY BILL. IT IS ALL I CAN DO TO PAY BILLS AS IT IS. I HAVE TO COLLECT RAIN WATER TO USE IN MY YARD AND EVEN TO FLUSH MY TOILET SO I AM ABLE TO PAY THE CURRENT BILL. RAISING WATER CHARGES IS BAD ENOUGH BUT YOU HAVE TO CALM DOWN ON THE AMOUNT OF THE SERVICE CHARGES. IF YOU DO NOT DO THIS, IN THE SUMMER I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO WATER EITHER ANY FOLIAGE OR MY FRUIT TREES WHICH WILL END UP DYING DUE TO ME NOT BEING ABLE TO AFFORD THE BILL. OF COURSE, I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE IN THIS POSITION. WE CANNOT PRINT \$\$ WE DO NOT HAVE. RETHINK THESE COSTS AND BRING DOWN THE AMOUNTS YOU ARE PLANNING TO CHARGE.

Patrick W. Doherty 10145 Nancy Cherry Valley

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District, Board of Directors  
560 Magnolia Ave, Beaumont, CA 92223



**Subject: Urgent Protest Against Proposed Water Rate Increases**

Dear Members of the Board of Directors,

I am writing to express my profound concern and strong opposition to the proposed water rate increases, which I understand will effectively double the cost of water over the next five years. As a resident/representative of Beaumont [1595 Milky Way, Beaumont, CA], I believe this dramatic escalation in rates is unsustainable, unjustified, and will place an undue burden on individuals, senior citizens, families, and businesses within our service area.

The prospect of our water bills doubling within such a short timeframe is deeply alarming. While I understand that operational costs and infrastructure maintenance are necessary considerations for the water board, an increase of this magnitude demands a far more transparent and justifiable explanation than has been provided to date.

A rate increase of this proportion will have significant negative consequences for our community. It will:

- Strain household budgets, forcing difficult choices between essential expenses.
- Negatively impact local businesses, potentially leading to increased costs for consumers or even business closures.
- Undermine the affordability of living in our community.

We, the residents and ratepayers of Beaumont-Cherry Valley, deserve a water system that is both reliable and affordable. While we acknowledge the need for responsible financial management, we firmly believe that a doubling of rates over five years is an excessive and poorly justified approach.

I urge the Board of Directors to reconsider this proposed rate increase and to engage in a more transparent and collaborative dialogue with the community.

We look forward to a prompt and comprehensive response to the concerns outlined in this letter and a commitment to finding a more equitable and sustainable solution for our community's water needs.

Sincerely,

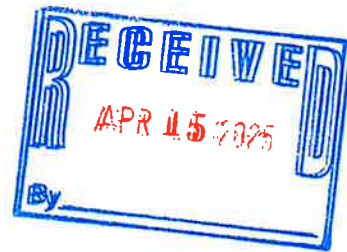
*Bryan Mills*

Bryan Mills  
1595 Milky Way  
Beaumont, CA 92223

*April 9, 2025*

April 11, 2025

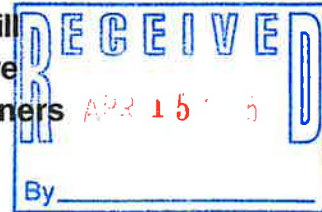
Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District  
560 Magnolia Avenue  
Beaumont, CA 92223



**PROTEST: Proposed Changes to Water Rates and Service Charges**

This is to Protest the pending subject changes to be heard at the upcoming Public Hearing scheduled for April 24, 2025.

The proposed increases are way in excess of any reasonable ongoing amount in residential water billings, more than DOUBLING in 5 years. While the sixth page of the Notice of Public Hearing recently distributed seeks to characterize the proposed increases as minimal, citing a \$15.97 increase in the first year, this is a 17% increase over the cited "Estimated Bill" of \$93.17 in the Notice. Further, this "Estimated Bill" over a two-month period seems unreasonably low. Our last two bills have averaged \$168 during the winter, meaning our first year bi-monthly bill increase will be nearly \$29. While it is not immediately clear from the information provided, as to the exact components of the \$15.97 first year increase, the resulting 17% change, if compounded over the proposed 5 year period, will increase our average winter bill by 119%, or to \$368. In addition, even more increased costs will need to be passed through to us by added cHomeowners Association fees for their increased water costs.



By any measure, the proposed increases are exorbitant, to say the least. Our country's Federal Reserve has been struggling for months to bring the national inflation rate from nearly 3% down to 2%. It is increases like the proposed that militate against their efforts to keep our cost-of-living from spiraling out-of-control. Who among us has income that is increasing by 17% annually? Especially in a community like Four Seasons, where many are retired, and some on relatively fixed incomes?

The Notice attempts to allay our concerns on the third page by stating that BCVWD is not legally allowed to make a "profit". All this limit does for governmental agencies is to provide a strong incentive to spend every dollar taken in to avoid such a profit. In the same page, it states that any excess revenues realized over those expended will be added to BCVWD's reserves, instead of used to reduce their billing rates to their users.



-2-

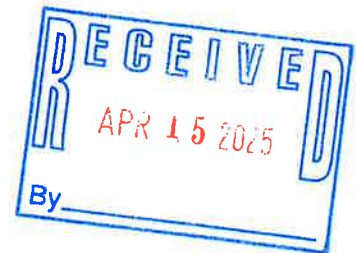
Accordingly, I hereby strongly protest the proposed rate increases and encourage the BCVWD to reconsider them in lieu of something much more reasonable.

Sincerely,

  
Gary W. Wells  
463 Yellowstone Park  
Beaumont, CA 92223

GWW:

c: Four Seasons Beaumont Board of Directors





Gary Amundson  
1742 Dalea Way  
Beaumont, CA 92223

April 3, 2025

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District  
560 Magnolia Avenue  
Beaumont, CA 92223



Dear Members of the Board,

Subject: Protest Against Recent Water Rate Increases and Management Salary Hikes

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District's recent increases in water rates and meter service charges by 15% to 20% over the past couple of years. Additionally, it has come to the attention of residents that approximately two years ago, the Board of Directors and management approved salary raises ranging from 40% to 60% without seeking input or consensus from the community you serve. The burden of these decisions falls disproportionately on city residents who are already grappling with high property taxes, escalating city sewer fees, waste management costs, and the relentless impact of inflation. These additional increases in utility expenses make it exceedingly difficult for families and individuals to manage their financial obligations. Transparency, accountability, and community engagement are fundamental principles that public service entities must adhere to. It is deeply troubling that substantial salary increases for the Board of Directors and management were authorized without sufficient consideration of their financial impact on residents. Moreover, implementing successive rate hikes within a short timeframe exacerbates the financial strain on the very people your organization is tasked with serving.

I respectfully urge the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District to take immediate steps to:

1. Halt further increases in water rates and meter service charges until a thorough review and justification process, involving public consultations, is conducted.
2. Reassess the recent salary raises for the Board of Directors and management to ensure they align with the district's financial position and community expectations.
3. Prioritize transparent communication with residents to rebuild trust and foster a collaborative approach to addressing the district's financial challenges.

As a concerned citizen of Beaumont, I believe these measures are essential to restore confidence in the district's governance and to mitigate the undue financial burden currently imposed on residents. I kindly request a prompt response regarding the steps the district plans to take in light of these concerns.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,  
Gary D. Amundson

# Invalid Protests

*Two (2) letters were received that did not meet the criteria for counting as a Protest.*

X01 and X02 are included here, and the Recording Secretary will accept them as valid protests in the final tally.

Protests must:

1. Be in written form
2. State name
3. State address or APN
4. Clearly state that the writing is a protest
5. One protest per parcel
6. Be returned via US Mail or hand-delivered

**From:**

**Subject:** FW: \*EXTERNAL\*RATE INCREASE PLEASE PASS ON TO MANAGERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**Date:** Monday, March 24, 2025 1:30:21 PM

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**From:** Paul Goymerac  
**Sent:** Friday, March 21, 2025 5:43 PM  
**To:** Info @ BCVWD <info@bcvwd.gov>  
**Subject:** \*EXTERNAL\*RATE INCREASE PLEASE PASS ON TO MANAGERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**CAUTION:** Exercise caution with external emails. Verify sender authenticity before interacting, clicking links, or opening attachments. Forward suspicious emails to BCVWD internal spam check for verification.

03/21/2025

Paul L Goymerac

465 Madera Creek

Beaumont CA 92223

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District

560 Magnolia Avenue

Beaumont, CA 92223

Dear Members of the Board,

Subject: Protest Against Recent Water Rate Increases and Management Salary Hikes

I am writing to express my concern about the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District's recent water rate and meter service charge increases of 15% to 20% over the past couple

of years. Additionally, residents have noted that about two years ago, the Board of Directors and management approved salary increases of 40% to 60% without community input.

These decisions disproportionately affect city residents already facing high property taxes, rising sewer fees, waste management costs, and inflation. The additional utility expenses make it challenging for families to manage their finances.

Public service entities must adhere to transparency, accountability, and community engagement. It is troubling that significant salary increases were authorized without considering their impact on residents. Furthermore, consecutive rate hikes within a short period increase the financial strain on those you serve.

I urge the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District to:

1. Stop further increases in water rates and meter service charges until a review with public consultations is conducted.
2. Reassess the recent salary increases for the Board of Directors and management to ensure they reflect the district's financial position and community expectations.
3. Prioritize transparent communication with residents to rebuild trust and collaboratively address financial challenges.

As a concerned citizen of Beaumont, I believe these measures are vital to restoring confidence in the district's governance and alleviating the financial burden on residents. I kindly request a prompt response regarding the district's plans to address these concerns.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

**X02**  
**No address**

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District

560 Magnolia Avenue  
Beaumont, CA 92223

Members of the Board,

Subject: Protest Against Recent and Proposed Water Rate Increases.

I am writing to express concern on behalf of myself and my neighbors regarding the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District's recent and proposed water rate hikes of approximately 20% per year for the next 5 years. These increases are significant and unwarranted.

Recently, salary raises, ranging from 40% to 60%, and your expensive equipment purchases were approved without community input, imposing substantial financial burdens on our city and businesses. With high property taxes and increasing utility costs, the proposed rate hike will add to these expenses already overwhelming our city.

The recycled water system has proven costly and may not be feasible. It is suggested that the multimillion-dollar water treatment system be reconsidered, and you should send excess water down the Santa River line untreated to reduce costs.

Your District must cut costs by retiring dozens of wells, implementing a hiring freeze, reduce staffing levels, and stop water storage for other districts. Aquifers are nearly impossible to manage, and there is no reason for the district's ratepayers to bear this burden.

You need to sell off excess property and deed some to the Park district, reducing property tax burdens.

In summary, cut costs, buy water only from the State's water project, maintain tanks and related infrastructure, build more water tanks, shut down wells, and cut your budget or face the public's wrath in the next election.

Ronald and Diane Huffman  
Beaumont, CA

