



Solid Waste Rates Written Protests

November 13, 2023

Total Count: 3
(as of November 8)

RECEIVED

OCT 10 2023

CITY OF SAN CARLOS
CITY CLERK'S DEPARTMENT

MATTHEW MICHIELS

October 5, 2023

Solid Waste Rates
City Clerk,
City of San Carlos
600 Elm St., San Carlos, CA 94070

Dear San Carlos City Clerk/ San Carlos Public Works Department

This letter is in response to a "Notice of Public Hearing, For Increases In Solid Waste Rates" received in or about late September 2023. Please consider this my objection to raising these rates any further than they already are.

Many people in San Carlos are on fixed incomes and many are retired. Rates are already substantially higher than they were even a few years ago and further increases will only create additional hardship for many San Carlos residents. Would it be worth considering reduced rates for seniors who tend to produce less in the way of disposal requirements?

I live and receive disposal services at [REDACTED] The assessor's parcel number (APN) for my property is [REDACTED]

Thank you for your kind consideration,

Matthew M Michiels

Dear San Carlos Policymakers,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my deep **concern** regarding the recent proposal to increase the waste collection fee in our city by 4.5% annually. While I understand the need for responsible governance and the challenges faced in maintaining essential services, I believe that this proposed rate of increase is not only unreasonable but also unjustifiable for the following reasons:

- 1. Excessive Increase above Inflation Rates:** The proposed annual increase of 4.5% is significantly higher than the normal inflation rate. Inflation is a standard economic indicator used to measure the rising cost of goods and services. In the United States, the average inflation rate has historically been around **2% to 3% per year**. A 4.5% annual increase in waste collection fees greatly exceeds the rate of inflation, which places an undue burden on residents and businesses. It is essential that any fee increase should be in line with economic realities and the financial capacity of the citizens.
- 2. Lack of Transparency and Accountability:** The proposal lacks transparency and sufficient information regarding how the increased funds will be utilized to improve waste collection services. Citizens have the right to know how their hard-earned money will be spent and what improvements can be expected as a result. We need a clear understanding of how the increased fees will translate into better waste management practices and services.
- 3. Utilize Multi-Vendor Approach to Lower Costs:** To mitigate the financial impact on the residents, I strongly urge the city to explore a multi-vendor approach for waste collection. This strategy can foster healthy competition among vendors and ultimately lead to reduced costs. Multiple vendors vying for contracts can help keep prices competitive and drive efficiency in the provision of services.
- 4. Vendor Technology Improvement and Transparency:** City vendors should be encouraged to continually improve their waste collection technology to reduce costs. The vendors should also be required to share their plans and innovations with the city administration and the public. This transparency will ensure that we are all working together to find cost-effective solutions.
- 5. Incentivize Energy Efficiency:** To encourage an energy-efficient lifestyle, the proposed fee increases should not be applied to smaller waste carts. Encouraging the use of smaller carts for residents who generate less waste can contribute to reduced costs and promotes a greener, more sustainable environment. This aligns with our shared goal of preserving our community's resources and reducing our environmental impact.

I kindly request that the city council reconsider this proposal and explore alternative means of addressing budgetary concerns without placing an undue burden on the taxpayers. It is crucial that public policies reflect fairness, equity, and fiscal responsibility.

I propose that the city should conduct a comprehensive review of its waste management budget and seek out cost-saving measures that can be implemented without compromising the quality of waste collection services. Additionally, the city should explore ways to promote recycling and reduce waste generation, which can have a positive impact on long-term waste management costs.

I am willing to collaborate with the city and my fellow residents to find viable solutions that can ease the financial burden on our citizens while ensuring efficient waste collection services.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I trust that you will consider the concerns raised by the residents when making a decision on this matter. Our city's prosperity and well-being depend on responsible decision-making and equitable policies.

Sincerely,
Lisa and Evan

Property address: [REDACTED]
Owner: Yifan (Evan) Deng , Qinghua (Lisa) Zhao
Owner Signature: [REDACTED]

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OCT 25 2023

CITY OF SAN CARLOS
CITY CLERK'S DEPARTMENT

Catherine Zammit



To:
Solid Waste Rates, City Clerk
City of San Carlos
600 Elm Street
San Carlos, CA 94070

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OCT 25 2023

CITY OF SAN CARLOS
CITY CLERK'S DEPARTMENT

Re: Protest of Solid Waste Rate Increase for 2024

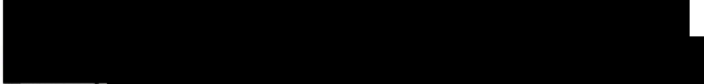
In accordance with the Notice of Public Hearing for Increases in Solid Waste Rates, this letter is my formal protest against proposed rate increases to be discussed at Public Hearing on November 13, 2023.

Property: 

Owner: Catherine M. Zammit

Signature: 

I oppose the the proposed solid waste rate increases for 2024.

Sincerely, 
Catherine Zammit 