

Alpine Springs County Water District
April 12, 2023

Marilyn Willis
Ron Scoglio
1330 Pine Trail
Lot 159
APN:095-400-035-000

We are opposed to the Proposed Rate Increases to water, sewer, and garbage as explained in this mailing. We have lived on Pine Trail in Alpine Meadows since November, 1989. We understand inflation and the need to upgrade infrastructure however we believe that this proposal is too much with little or no accountability. We are on a fixed income and we believe our water rates are comparable to and even more than Tahoe City. We believe this project needs a lot more work before it is adopted.

We are opposed to the manner in which this proposal was submitted to the public. The letter was mailed; however, there should have been a place to vote on this proposal, not just a requirement for the public to respond via mail to oppose these rate increases. Tahoe-Truckee Sanitation Agency mailed out their proposal on March 31, 2023 for a rate increase (see enclosed copy of their mailer) and we believe this is the fair and just way to get approval or rejection of this major increase. Many people have gotten this mailing and not realized that they must submit in writing their negative vote before the meeting on May 12, 2023 or the proposal will be approved.

1. Why is it a five year plan? Most corporations, i.e. the hospital, have a master plan. At the end of a fiscal year all departments submit their requests for major upgrades. These requests are prioritized and put into the budget for the upcoming year. The most critical issues are put on the top of the list and fixed first.

2. Who is going to manage and decide what gets done first? Where is the accountability for these extra funds? The Water district has approved projects and equipment without any input from the community. ie: the snow removal machine for the fire hydrants (\$150,000) when the neighborhoods have historically done this job for free? Today on my walk I witnessed the removal machine clearing the last hydrant and I observed a second employee shoveling around the hydrant after the machine was finished! Also how was CalPers approved for our small water district employees retirement plan? Why does Palisades not pay a fair amount for their water use (agricultural rate as opposed to the same rate we pay to water our gardens)? Why do we not require Palisades to pay for the extra wear and tear on our roads and the increased use of our sewer and garbage? Also why isn't there a prorated cost share for the Firehouse expenses coming from Palisades? Why are we paying a CPA for the few bills we generate? We would assume that a reliable office staff could be performing this along with generating a yearly budget into Quickbooks, which the current CPA seems to be using.

3. Why are you putting Whitewolf and Alpenglow projects on our 5 year plan? If our water infrastructure is overwhelmed, why were projects approved, who is controlling our home and environment?

4. Are all the Board members currently living Full time in Alpine Meadows? How did the district get so far behind in the management of our infrastructure?

5. We want an oversight committee that will report on where our money is going. All residents should vote on Major infrastructure repairs or replacements. What is the best way to communicate with the valley members?

6. We request that our water bills be able to be paid on a quarterly basis like other communities around the Tahoe Basin.

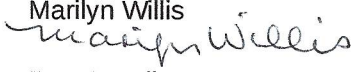
7. Are there other ways to generate capital for the infrastructure? Applying for a USDA loan or other Grant funding? Who is looking into this, ie, General Manager or Board President? Should there be more people on the Finance committee?

8. Finally when all upgrades are replaced or repaired in 2027 will our rates go back down?

Unfortunately, I will be out of the State for the month of May and I will not be able to attend the Public Hearing Meeting, however I would like answers to my questions. Who will address these for me?

Respectfully,

Marilyn Willis



Ron Scoglio

