## LADWP



Hearing: 3/15/16, Tuesday, 10AM, at Room 340, City Hall, 200 North Spring Street, LA, CA 90012 Re: DWP Water and Electricity Rate Increase

I urge the City Council to Vote **No** on the proposed rate increase. The current proposal is a **BLANK CHECK BRIDGE TO NOWHERE**.

The DWP desires to Substantially increase both water and electricity rates by

- 1. Creating New Tiers with smaller allotments.
- 2. Massive new debt borrowing, and
- Revenue decoupling or driving up rates in consequence of conservation to maintain ever growing target revenue without further public consent – That is <u>A BLANK CHECK BRIDGE TO NOWHERE</u>.

According to the DWP Mailer, the Multi-Family Water rate from January to April 2016 for Tier 1 will increase 19% and Tier 2 - 45%. Tying this to MY 10 Year history, My Tier 1 rates would have risen 154% (\$ 2.19 to \$ 5.55 per HCF) and Tier 2 - 324% (\$ 2.19 to \$ 9.27 per HCF).

We can do better than this Massive Inflation and Blank Check Bridge to Nowhere.

I Propose getting out of the Stone age and into the Driverless Car - and here is how,

## 1. Automated Smart Water Meters

-Gives consumers Real Time control over usage, conservation, leaks and waste.

- -Empowers the DWP to reduce its Carbon Footprint, customer service calls, improve accuracy of usage and billing, and frees up Water and CASH.
- -Houston, San Francisco and other Cities have installed automated water meters with great success. The utility industry is accelerating toward Smart Water Meters.
- 2. Direct Renter Billing of water and sewer usage.
  - -Supports conservation and efficiency from Renters who make up about 70% of water consumers. -Enables the DWP to spread its costs to more customers-keeping LA rates among the lowest in CA.
- 3. Automated Water Pipe Monitoring provides alerts before a Massive Break.
- 4. Hiring and Staffing of Technology Professionals, Not Outdated Engineers, at the DWP .

Only by rejecting this **Massive Inflation** and **Blank Check Bridge to Nowhere**, implementing smart meters, direct renter billing, automated water pipe monitoring, and embracing technology professionals, can we foster an innovative and greener DWP Culture, a stronger economy, rate payer Consent, and the Potential of LA.

Thank you.

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