

To: City of Richmond Council Member
6911 No. 3 Rd.
Richmond, B.C.

From: Jackson Liou
8580 Saunders Rd.
Richmond, B.C.
V7A 2A5
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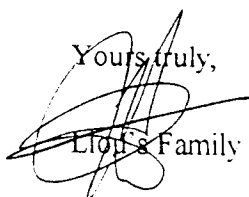
0930-03-0

Dear City council members:

I am writing to you to appeal the bylaw that has changed my sewer service and water service rate from \$178.44 and \$255.65 to \$304.39 and \$432.09 respectively. When we built this house, it was our intention to have more than one family living in the house, however, the plan has been altered and there is only one family residing in this house. Currently, my sister is away for school and my father is away on business overseas, therefore there are only two people residing in this house. After inquiring with the staff at city hall, I am troubled by the fact that the rate of the both services is determined by the number of fixtures in a house and not number of the residents.

I urge the council to look into this issue closely. I understand that we have a slightly larger house than average home, but we should not be penalized because we have more plumbing fixtures in the house as we are already paying higher premium on property tax. I am a firm believer that residents should pay for what they use especially with these two services (water and sewer). It is only common sense that more services are required when more people reside in a house, so it should not be based on the plumbing fixtures. The fact that we are being classified as a large family home does not, therefore, mean we use more water. According to the city staff, our charges are based on the "average" family home size, not on how many people are living in the home. This is not a fair way of distributing the costs, as my family is using less of your services than an average family of 4, since there are only two of us living here currently. How can the city simply assume that the larger the house is, the more services (water and sewer service) are being used. It should be based on the number of residents, which can be easily obtained from the census by the city on how many residents registered on a house. From what I understand, 4 or more plumbing fixtures, puts us in a larger house bracket. As a suggested solution, **I welcome the city to come to our house to seal one or more fixtures that we do not use in order for us to be registered in the small house bracket.** Also the city should have proposed to place a water meter in the house in order to justify the rate increase, and not based it on the average.

At the end, I would ask the opportunity to appear in front of the council to appeal this bylaw during the next council meeting on March 24, 2003.

Yours truly,

Liou's Family





City of Richmond

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March 19th, 2003
File: 0930-03-01

Mr. Jackson Liou
8580 Saunders Road
Richmond, BC V7A 2A5

Dear Mr. Liou:

Re: Water and Sewer Rates for property at 8580 Saunders Road

In response to your letter received March 18th, 2003, this is to confirm your appearance as a delegation to Council on the above matter at the Council Meeting scheduled for Monday, March 24th, 2003, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Richmond City Hall. Because this item is not on the agenda you will be heard at or near the end of the Council meeting.

As you are aware, Council procedures allow five minutes for you to make your presentation, not including any questions which Council members may ask. This five-minute limit is strictly enforced to ensure that all business for the meeting is dealt with.

Please conclude your presentation with a specific request on what you are seeking by appearing before Council as a delegation.

Yours truly,

David Weber
Acting City Clerk

fja