

**Correspondence Received Regarding August 18, 2020**

**Board Item #7-1**

**Adopt resolution establishing the tax rate for FY 2020/21**

**From:** [Andrea Barrios](#)  
**To:** [DL-Board Support Team](#)  
**Subject:** No New Taxes to Pay for Tunnels  
**Date:** Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:18:36 PM

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Good Afternoon,

I am asking the committee to withhold a recommendation to continue the existing ad valorem tax rate of 0.0035. If the committee feels it must recommend the tax, it should be with the added instruction that the tax revenues may NOT be spent on the Delta Conveyance project in any form.

- If we need additional funding because of COVID and recession costs, that should be made clear to ratepayers. It should be made clear why the rate limitation is not suspended and what the money raised will be spent on.
- Do not submit the letter from MWD staff recommending to maintain the ad valorem property tax rate for FY 2021/22 without a solid plan that ensures water resourcing that takes into account climate change and emphasizes local jobs and regional resilience. We need a plan that ensures taxes won't be raised to further pay for wasteful, expensive, imported water projects like the Delta Tunnel.
- You are putting the cart before the horse, continuing raised property taxes in an economic crisis, when the Integrated Resources Plan is nowhere near ready.
- None of this tax money should be used for any aspect of a new Delta conveyance or tunnel. An environmental impact report for a proposed tunnel will not be ready until the end of the year, and then the project needs layers of permitting that may never occur.
- The board needs to make clearer what the money is funding--and disclose that to the public--before taking a vote to raise taxes.

Thank you,

Andrea Barrios

**From:** [Ann Dorsey](#)  
**To:** [DL-Board Support Team](#)  
**Subject:** Comment regarding the ad valorem property tax  
**Date:** Sunday, August 16, 2020 8:41:50 PM

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Ms. Castro,

Please forward my comments below to the MWD Board of Directors.

Thank you,

Ann Dorsey

MWD Board of Directors,

I am writing to urge the Board of Directors to not raise the ad valorem property tax rate for FY 2021/22. Water use has declined and is predicted to continue to do so. There is enough water stored now that with increased water efficiency and recycling it will be possible to meet future needs with stored water instead of imported water. This is the goal. It is imperative that water needs be met locally without the need for imported water. **Wasteful, expensive and environmentally damaging imported water projects like the Delta Tunnel** are unnecessary and should not be built. In fact, no further money should be spent on this or similar projects. Furthermore, not only is the tax increase unnecessary, to impose increased expenses when millions are struggling financially because of the COVID – 19 pandemic is unconscionable.

Sincerely,

Ann Dorsey  
Northridge, CA 91325

**From:** [Alice Neuhauser](#)  
**To:** [DL-Board Support Team](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: MWD Ad Valorm Tax Increase  
**Date:** Monday, August 17, 2020 9:22:30 AM

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

I called into the Finance & Insurance Committee Meeting this morning. I gave my comment but it wasn't clear that my comment was heard. The phone line was terrible.

I oppose the continuation of the ad valorem rate adopted last year as it is essentially a tax hike.

There is no clear, publicly transparent description of what the bill will pay for; there isn't even an existing resource plan.

No ad valorem rate continuation be recommended or adopted unless there is a stipulation that the funds cannot be spent on any aspect of a new Delta Conveyance.

Thank you,

Alice Neuhauser

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