

**CITY OF BELLEVUE
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMISSION
October 28, 2010**

Public Comments 2011-2012 Utilities Budget Hearing

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Chair Helland, Commissioners Roberts, Cowan, Mach, Wang, and Swenson

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Commissioner Mahon

OTHERS PRESENT: Wes Jorgenson, Anne Weigle, Bob Brookes, Mayor Davidson, Brian Ward, Pam Maloney, Kit Paulsen

MINUTES TAKER: Laurie Hugdahl

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Chair Helland *Opened the public hearing at 6:49 p.m.*

Mr. Plummer Good evening. I'm David Plummer. I reside in Bellevue.

The Commission and the staff, by accelerating this hearing to tonight, have precluded any reasonable probability of the public having any sensible input on the Utilities Budget and I totally and vociferously object to this accelerated process.

The budget includes excessive growth provisions. This should eliminate, not just delay investments in Bel-Red and the Mobility Improvements. The proposed budget results in excessive rate increases for water, stormwater and wastewater. The Commission should ask the staff to develop a budget that comes up with rate increases that are closer to the CPIU projections that you can find by the jillion on the internet. In other words, let's get the growth projections in our rates looking more like the CPIU projections.

This budget contemplates rate rebounds to resume the growth vector for the utilities. I object to this. This should be eliminated from any budget considerations and a budget ought to be forthcoming from the staff that shows a significantly reduced city growth plan. The staff's always saying we gotta have higher rates and more taxes in order to support the city's growth. Let's get the Commission to go forth to the Council and say, "How about looking at some alternate growth scenarios. Instead of saying we're

going to go straight up, let's take a look at the fact that the world is awash in debt and the next several decades are not going to be anything like the grand and glorious times of the past.

Thank you.

Chair Helland *Closed the public hearing at 6:53 p.m.*

The meeting concluded at 8:35 p.m.