



Angela D. Alsobrooks
County Executive

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

October 21, 2022

The Honorable Calvin S. Hawkins, II, Chair
Prince George's County Council
County Administration Building
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772

Dear Chair Hawkins:

The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission has proposed a rate increase of 8% for FY 2024 for both water and sewer services. We believe the proposed increase is reasonable under the circumstances.

The Commission notes the continued decline in revenue in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the continued influence of the Fitch bond rating agency's change of the Commission's financial outlook from stable to negative. Moreover, the Commission expects that water usage will continue to decline during FY 2024, and that its total water and sewer revenue will continue to decline as well (even with the proposed rate increase).

The bi-county Spending Affordability Working group has reviewed the proposal and supports the increase. Additionally, I have been in discussions with Montgomery County officials, and they agree that the proposed rate increase is within the range of reasonableness.

Sincerely,

Tara H. Jackson
Chief Administrative Officer

cc: Members, Prince George's County Council
Fausto R. Bayonet, Chair, WSSC (Montgomery County)
Regina Y. Speed-Bost, Vice-Chair, WSSC (Prince George's County)
Howard A. Denis, Commissioner, WSSC (Montgomery County)
Lynnette D. Espy-Williams, Commissioner, WSSC (Prince George's County)
T. Eloise Foster, Commissioner, WSSC (Montgomery County)
Carla A. Reid, General Manager/Chief Executive Officer, WSSC
Joy A. Russell, Chief of Staff, Office of the County Executive
Robert L. Williams, Council Administrator, Prince George's County Council
Jared M. McCarthy, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Government Operations
Stanley A. Earley, Director, Office of Management and Budget