My written public hearing testimony for the El Segundo Regular City Council Meeting on January 20, 2015 at 7:00 PM is in the attached PDF file. Please distribute it to the City Council and City Clerk for tonight’s City Council meeting.

Thank you.

Michael D. Robbins
MikerRobbins2@yahoo.com
Subject: Written public communications for January 20, 2015, 7:00 P.M. Regular City Council meeting
From: Mike Robbins (MikeRobbins2@yahoo.com)
To: AllCouncilAndClerks@ElSegundo.org; MShilling@ElSegundo.org;
Cc: MikeRobbins2@yahoo.com;
Date: Tuesday, January 20, 2015

*** VIA EMAIL ***

January 20, 2015

Re: Written Public Hearing Testimony and Written Public Communication for the El Segundo Regular City Council Meeting on January 20, 2015 at 7:00 PM.

To: El Segundo City Council, City Clerk, Deputy City Clerk, City Manager, City Attorney.

From: Michael D. Robbins, former El Segundo City Councilman and 30-year El Segundo resident.

Here is my written public hearing testimony and public communications for the January 20, 2015, 7:00 P.M. El Segundo Regular City Council meeting.

Please distribute it to the entire City Council and the City Clerk, City Manager, and City Attorney, and post it on the official City web site at ElSegundo.org on the City Council Agendas web page, http://www.ElSegundo.org/depts/elected/agendas.asp, as is customary.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Robbins
MikeRobbins2@yahoo.com

PublicSafetyProject.org
http://PublicSafetyProject.org/

YouTube.com/user/PublicSafetyProject
http://www.YouTube.com/user/PublicSafetyProject
This written public hearing testimony and public communication for the January 20, 2015 7:00 P.M. El Segundo Regular City Council meeting addresses the proposed water and sewer fee increase and the associated Proposition 218 Protest Ballot vote-by-mail election.

First, I request that all envelopes for Proposition 218 water fee and sewer fee rate increase Protest Ballots be opened, and all Protest Ballots be counted. Significantly more than half the required number of Water Fee and Sewer Fee Protest Ballots have been received (1,705 for water and 1,686 for sewer as of January 15, 2015, with 2,646 being required). Because two concurrent protest ballots are being voted by the same people, one for water fees and one for sewer fees, it is possible that some and possibly many envelopes contain both ballots in one envelope to save postage or for convenience.

The bottom half or smaller portion of Protest Ballots may have been cut off and inserted into the envelopes. Therefore, it is not reliable to determine what is in an envelope by its thickness or weight. It is even conceivable that three or four protest ballots can be in the same envelope for people who own or are listed on the water bill for more than one parcel, or who are sending in protest ballots for a relative, friend, or neighbor. Therefore, the only reliable method to determine if there are sufficient protest ballots is to open the envelopes and count them.

Second, there was an error in the mailing address information used to mail the second set of Proposition 218 Water and Sewer Rate Increase Protest Ballots. I discussed this error in a written Public Communication I submitted by email before the December 16, 2014 El Segundo City Council meeting, and also in person during the closing Public Communications period at the end of that same meeting.

However, City Attorney Mark Hensley incorrectly claimed he addressed that error in response to a question from resident Liz Garnholz during the opening Public Communications period of that same City Council meeting. A review of the City Council meeting video recording verified that Mr. Hensley did not address the error that I discussed nor its effect in possibly reducing participation in this Proposition 218 Protest Ballot election.

Also, as a side note, minutes 3 through 18 of the video recording for that meeting, which I downloaded using from the City video archive, have corrupted video. The video file should be replaced with a better quality file, and the cause should be identified and avoided in future meeting recordings.

Some of the subject Protest Ballots, the precise number being unknown to me at this time, were mailed with incorrect address information. The error, or omission in this case, is that only one name is printed in the name and address field displayed in the envelope window when in fact two (or more) names are in the title on the real estate parcel deed, and also in the property tax bill mailing address field.
This omission occurred on my Protest Ballots. I and my wife both have our names in the title on the deed to our home, and we both have our names in the mailing address for our property tax bills. However, only my name appears in the name and address field for the Protest Ballots.

It is likely that other El Segundo property owners, possibly many other owners, have experienced the same omission.

This omission can cause property owners to not open their Protest Ballot envelopes and/or to not vote their Protest Ballots that they would otherwise have voted if not for this omission. For example, the person named in the address field may be out of town on travel, and the spouse or other property owner at that address may not open mail addressed to someone else.

There are additional scenarios that may lead to confusion and unvoted Protest Ballots, but I will not list them all here.

I requested that new Protest Ballots be mailed out, at least to the affected recipients, and that the date to turn them in be extended, but that request was denied.

Third, it makes no sense to increase water and sewer fees when the City and its taxpayers are still paying police and firefighters total annual compensation from $150,000 to more than $345,000 as a result of the police and fire unions supporting the campaigns of City Council members who then negotiate their pay and pension increases in secret meetings behind closed doors.

There is an inherent and unavoidable conflict of interest when government employee unions support political campaigns to hire their own bosses whose votes determine their pay and pension increases and our tax increases.

That concludes my written testimony and written public communication for the January 20, 2015 7:00 PM El Segundo City Council meeting.
JANUARY 20, 2015

HAND-DELIVERED AND U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

CITY OF EL SEGUNDO
COUNCIL MEETING - 7:00 PM JANUARY 20, 2015
350 MAIN STREET
EL SEGUNDO CALIFORNIA 90245-2447

RE: 1. REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION (CITED ON PROTEST BALLOT) FOR MY PROPERTY OWNERSHIP (SINCE 1962) OF 925 MCCARTHY COURT, EL SEGUNDO 90245-2447.
2. WRITTEN PROTEST STATEMENT REQUESTED ON BALLOT

ATTENTION: CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

1. PLEASE ADVISE THE SPECIFIC AGENCY AND PHYSICAL ADDRESS LOCATION OF THE ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER RECORDS SO I CAN REVIEW THE HISTORY OF APN 4133-014-009, PER MY PROPERTY REFERENCED ABOVE.

2. THIS LETTER ALSO SERVES AS A WRITTEN PROTEST AGAINST PROPOSED PRICE HIKES FOR EL SEGUNDO CITY SEWER AND WATER UTILITIES.

OUR RECOMMENDATION: INCREASING CHEVRON'S TAXES WILL PROVIDE AMPLE FUNDS FOR EL SEGUNDO'S COMMUNITY NEEDS.

SINCERELY,

MRS. Della M. Leggett
925 McCarthy Court
El Segundo, California 90245-2447
Tel. 310.640.9856

Cynthia Leggett-Marin
925 McCarthy Court
El Segundo, California 90245-2447
Tel. 310.640.9856

FILE: CHARLES WILLIAM LEGGETT I, II, III
I fixed some typos and made a few other corrections to the wording of my original Public Communications for tonight's City Council meeting. Please print and distribute this one and post this one on the City website if possible, else use the original one. Thank you.

Written public communications for December 16, 2014, 7:00 P.M. Regular City Council meeting
From: Mike Robbins (MikeRobbins2@yahoo.com)
To: AllCouncilAndClerks@ElSegundo.org; CDomann@ElSegundo.org; MShilling@ElSegundo.org;
Cc: MikeRobbins2@yahoo.com;
Date: Tuesday, December 16, 2014

December 16, 2014

Re: Written Public Communications for the El Segundo Regular City Council Meeting on December 16, 2014 at 7:00 PM.

To: El Segundo City Council, City Clerk, Deputy City Clerk, City Manager, City Attorney.

From: Michael D. Robbins, former El Segundo City Councilman and 30-year El Segundo resident.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Robbins
MikeRobbins2@yahoo.com
This written public communication for the December 16, 2014 7:00 P.M. El Segundo Regular City Council meeting addresses an error in the mailing address information used to mail the second set of Proposition 218 Water and Sewer Rate Increase Protest Ballots.

Some of the subject Protest Ballots, the precise number being unknown to me at this time, were mailed with incorrect address information. The error, or omission in this case, is that only one name is printed in the name and address field displayed in the envelope window when in fact two (or more) names are in the title on the real estate parcel deed, and also in the property tax bill mailing address field.

This omission occurred on my Protest Ballots. I and my wife both have our names in the title on the deed to our home, and we both have our names in the mailing address for our property tax bills. However, only my name appears in the name and address field for the Protest Ballots.

It is likely that other El Segundo property owners, possibly many other owners, have experienced the same omission.

This omission can cause property owners to not open their Protest Ballot envelopes and/or to not vote their Protest Ballots that they would otherwise have voted if not for this omission. For example, the person named in the address field may be out of town on travel, and the spouse or other property owner at that address may not open mail addressed to someone else.

There are additional scenarios that may lead to confusion and unvoted Protest Ballots, but I will not list them all here.

I request that new Protest Ballots be mailed out, at least to the affected recipients, and that the date to turn them in be extended.

Also, what will be the criteria verifying and counting Protest Ballots? Must the name and signature match one of the printed names on the Protest Ballot? Based on the wording on the Protest Ballots before the signature line, I assume not, but I want an official statement to answer this question.

Also, can a property owner, water billing customer, or their representative, write, date, and sign a note or letter with the same information requested on each Protest Ballot and mail or deliver those to the City instead of the Protest Ballots if they did not receive, or if they lost or mistakenly discarded their Protest Ballots, and will those notes or letters be counted the same as completed Protest Ballots mailed from the City?

Thank you in advance for your timely consideration in this important matter.

That concludes my written communications for the December 15, 2014 7:00 PM El Segundo City Council meeting.
Subject: Written public communications for December 16, 2014, 7:00 P.M. Regular City Council meeting
From: Mike Robbins (MikeRobbins2@yahoo.com)
To: AllCouncilAndClerks@ElSegundo.org; CDornan@ElSegundo.org;
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That concludes my written communications for the December 15, 2014 7:00 PM El Segundo City Council meeting.
Written Public Communications for the El Segundo Regular City Council Meeting on December 16, 2014 at 7:00 PM.

From: Mike Robbins <mikerobbins2@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2014 5:29 PM
To: Weaver, Tracy (City Clerk); Domann, Cathy; Shilling, Mona; *ALL CITY COUNCIL; City Attorney Mark Hensley
Cc: Mike Robbins
Subject: Written public communications for December 16, 2014, 7:00 P.M. Regular City Council meeting

From: Mike Robbins (MikeRobbins2@yahoo.com)  
To: AllCouncilAndClerks@ElSegundo.org; CDomann@ElSegundo.org; MShilling@ElSegundo.org;  
Cc: MikeRobbins2@yahoo.com;  
Bcc:  
Date: Tuesday, December 16, 2014

December 16, 2014

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Thank you.

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Thank you for your consideration.

That concludes my written communications for the December 15, 2014 7:00 PM El Segundo City Council meeting.