



# Queens Civic Congress

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November 26, 2007

Dear Queens Civic Congress member,

What a story to read (see NY Post [article](#) below) on Thanksgiving! So City Hall proposes to gouge us some more. The exact hearing date and time - either Thursday, December 13 or Friday, December 14 is not available on the NYC.Gov website yet but please make plans to attend (I called DEP on Friday but did not get a call or email back with the hearing information and as of the time of sending this email, no details were posted.) This is the link to the public notice website for NYCDEP: [http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/public\\_notices/index.shtml](http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/public_notices/index.shtml)

This is the link to our October 22 Testimony to Joint hearing of City Council Finance Committee and Committee on Environmental Protection:

[2007-10-22 Queens Civic Congress Opposes \(18 percent\) Water and Sewer Tax Hike](#)

Thank you.

*Corey*

COREY BEARAK  
President

## Queens Civic Congress Members

Association of Old Forest Hills ♦ Auburndale Improvement Association ♦ Bayside Civic Database ♦ Bayside Clear-Spring Council ♦ Bayside Hills Civic Association ♦ Bayswater Civic Association ♦ Bay Terrace Community Alliance, Inc. ♦ Bellaire-BellVill Civic Association ♦ Belle Harbor Property Owners Association ♦ Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association ♦ Bellerose Hillside Civic Association ♦ Bell Park Manor Terrace Community Council ♦ Bowne Park Civic Association ♦ Briarwood Community Association ♦ Cambria Heights Civic Association ♦ Civic Association of Utopia Estates ♦ C.O.M.E.T. (Communities of Maspeth-Elmhurst Together) ♦ Concerned Citizens of Laurelton ♦ Cornucopia Society ♦ Creedmoor Civic Association ♦ Deerfield Area Association ♦ Doug-Bay Manor Civic Association ♦ Douglas Manor Association ♦ Douglaston Civic Association ♦ Dutch Kills Civic Assn. of Long Island City ♦ East Flushing Civic Association ♦ Federated Block Associations of Laurelton ♦ Federation of Civic Associations of Southeast Queens ♦ Floral Park Community Council ♦ Flushing Heights Civic Association ♦ Flushing on the Hill Taxpayers Association ♦ Forest Hills Chamber of Commerce ♦ Forest Hills Crescents Association ♦ Forest Hills-Van Court Association ♦ Fresh Meadows Homeowners Association ♦ Georgetown Mews ♦ Glendale Civic Association of Queens ♦ Glen Oaks Village Owners, Inc. ♦ Greater Astoria Historical Society ♦ Greater Whitestone Taxpayers Civic Association ♦ Harding Heights Civic Association ♦ Hillcrest Estates Civic Association ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #1 ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #2 ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #3 ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #4 ♦ Hollis 11423 Block Association ♦ Hollis Hills Civic Association ♦ Holliswood Civic Association ♦ Hollis Park Gardens Civic Association ♦ Holly Civic Association ♦ Hyde Park Gardens Cooperative ♦ Jackson Heights Beautification Group ♦ Jamaica Estates Association ♦ Jamaica Hill Community Association ♦ Juniper Park Civic Association ♦ Kew Gardens Civic Association ♦ Kew Gardens Hills Homeowners Association ♦ Kew Gardens Improvement Association ♦ Kissena Park Civic Association ♦ Little Neck Bay Civic Association ♦ Little Neck Pines ♦ Long Island City Alliance ♦ Malba Civic Association ♦ Meadowlark Gardens Owners ♦ Middle Village Property Owners Association ♦ Mitchell Linden Civic Association ♦ Neponsit Property Owners Association ♦ Newtown Civic Association ♦ North Bellerose Civic Association ♦ North Flushing Civic Association ♦ North Hills Estates Civic Association ♦ Northwest Clearview Homeowners Association ♦ Norwood Civic Association ♦ Oakland Terrace/ Gardens Community Council ♦ Off Broadway Homeowners Association ♦ Our Neighborhood Improvement Association ♦ Our Neighbors Association of Ozone Park, Inc. ♦ Parkway Village Historical Society ♦ Queensboro Hill Neighborhood Association ♦ Queens Colony Civic Association ♦ Queens Community Civic Corp. ♦ Queens Village Civic Association ♦ Ramblersville-Hawtree Civic Association ♦ Richmond Hill Historical Society ♦ Ridgewood Property Owners and Civic Association ♦ Rockaway Park Homeowners/ Residents ♦ Rocky Hill Civic Association ♦ Rosedale Civic Association ♦ Royal Ranch Association. ♦ Southeast Queens Concerned Neighbors ♦ South Ozone Park West Civic Association ♦ Springfield/Rosedale Community Action Association ♦ Station Road Civic Assoc. of Auburndale ♦ Sunnyside Gardens/Harrison Place Homeowners ♦ Surrey Estates Civic Association ♦ Union Turnpike Merchants Association ♦ United Forties Civic Association ♦ United Neighbors Civic Association ♦ Waldheim Neighborhood Association ♦ Wayanda Civic Association ♦ West Cunningham Park Civic Association ♦ Westmoreland Association ♦ Woodside Community Council

[http://www.nypost.com/seven/11222007/news/regionalnews/city\\_water\\_customers\\_about\\_to\\_get\\_hosed\\_281205.htm](http://www.nypost.com/seven/11222007/news/regionalnews/city_water_customers_about_to_get_hosed_281205.htm)

# CITY WATER CUSTOMERS ABOUT TO GET HOSED

By **DAVID SEIFMAN**, City Hall Bureau Chief

November 22, 2007 -- Property owners are about to get a nasty New Year's surprise from the city - a water rate hike of up to 18 percent.

Acting at the behest of Environmental Protection Commissioner Emily Lloyd, a gloomy Water Board voted unanimously yesterday to set the process in motion that would hike rates by 12 to 18 percent on Jan. 1, the middle of the fiscal year.

Water Board Chairman Jim Tripp indicated that property owners had better get ready to reach into their pockets again.

"We're going to approve a rate increase on Dec. 21 based on what we now know," he said.

The precise increase will be determined after required public hearings Dec. 13 and 14 in each borough.

The last rate increase of 11.5 percent took effect on July 1, less than five months ago.

"We're asking you to take what I know is a difficult step," Lloyd told the seven-member board.

Officials now estimate that even after cutbacks and other savings, water and sewer collections will come in \$40 million to \$120 million below the \$2.08 billion needed to fund the system.

Lloyd offered a glimmer of hope that a massive hike could be averted through enactment of a long-stalled bill before the City Council allowing the Department of Environmental Protection to sell liens on the properties of deadbeats.

As of Oct. 31, DEP was owed \$535.4 million.

"The [City Council] speaker has committed to the mayor to do everything in her power to get this legislation passed by the end of the year, and the administration has great confidence in her," said Lloyd.

Council members, led by James Gennaro (D-Queens) and David Weprin (D-Queens), have demanded that DEP clean up its billing system before they approve the lien sales.

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