

Dear Councilwoman Perry,

I am a member of Sallal Water Association in North Bend. I am writing to ask you to repeal King County Ordinance 18403 and stop the County from charging rent (franchise fees) to utilities. This fee is effectively a tax on utility ratepayers. If Sallal is made to pay rent to the county for use of public right of way, it will increase water rates for all members. Sallal members are already feeling the effects of inflation and higher property taxes. Yet another tax is just not warranted. The public right of way is for the benefit of the public. Water mains installed in public rights of way not only provide potable water to homes and businesses but fire protection too. Please vote to put an end to this ill-advised effort to charge franchise fees.

Sincerely,

[Your Name}