

From: Ron Strasser <nitrousplus@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 2, 2025 8:41 AM
To: ZZ Council Members
Subject: La Crosse Stormwater Utility

Some people who received this message don't often get email from nitrousplus@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*** **CAUTION:** This email originated from an external sender. **DO NOT** click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. ***

I wish I could tell my employer or Social Security to over double my wages because of significant increases in expensives and project costs and then next year want another 22% increase. I think we need to have D.O.G.E.come to town and see what's going on !!!

The La Crosse Stormwater Utility has conducted a Rate Study which is proposing a rate increase effective July 1, 2025. This increase will be reflected on the quarterly billing statements beginning in October 2025 . The rate increase is needed due to significant increases in operating expenses and capital project costs over the past decade, and to ensure the financial health of the Stormwater Utility.

There are many things I would like to do and to upgrade my property but there is this thing called a budget that dictates what I can and cannot do. I must prioritize things into I have to have things, I must have, things I want, and things that would be nice to have or do, and these priorities are dictated by a budget! A taxpayer cannot adjust their budget to meet their spending like the government seems to think they can, we must adjust our spending according to our budget!

The proposed rate increase will be going to the F & P Committee meeting on June 5, 2025 and the Common Council on June 12, 2025.

The proposed fixed rate would increase from \$53.92 per year per ERU, to \$118.64 per year per ERU that = a 120.03% increase , or approximately \$9.89 per month. There is a proposal for an additional 22% increase on January 1, 2026 plus 3% for the next 3 years that comes out to an affective 184.79% increase over the next 4 years.

To put in perspective Social Security of \$2000.00 would increase to \$5695.80 at the same rate and time line of the storm water fee increase!

According to a May 2023 analysis by The Senior Citizens League (TSCL), the purchasing power of a Social Security dollar decreased by 36% between January 2000 and February 2023. A more recent TSCL analysis indicates a 20% loss in purchasing power for Social Security income between 2010 and July 2024.

Taxes and government fees should not be able to increase more than COLA, if government tells us we only need a 2.5% increase to survive, that should be all government needs and be allowed to raise taxes and or fees!!!

La Crosse Is not only driving people out of La Crosse because of ridiculously high property taxes and fees, but forcing senior citizens into poverty trying to keep their homes they have worked a lifetime to acquire. Today my property taxes alone cost more than my property tax, insurance, and payments did including interest, which at the time was over 10% in 1975 when I purchased my home!