

Subject: Utility charges in the District have risen more than the cost of living index.

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A MESSAGE FROM ERNIE CRIST

According to Dr. Corrie Kost, the Utility charges in the District which includes sewer, water and garbage in 1990 was \$ 192 per household and has risen to \$ 640 in 2002 . This constitutes an increase of 7 % compounded for each and every year of those 12 years or an increase from \$ 192.70 to \$ 640 in 2002 or 232 %.

The significance of this information relates to the fact that unlike taxes which may be deferred by Seniors, Utility charges may not . This constitutes another potential hardship for Seniors especially those on fixed income.

Since this is but one strike of many against seniors the question arises when will seniors on the North Shore speak up?

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