



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Public Works  
Department No.: 054  
For Agenda Of: 09/1/09  
Placement: Administration  
Estimated Tme: 9/8/09 – 5 minutes  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Scott McGolpin x 3010  
Director(s) Public Works Director  
Contact Info: Mark A. Schleich x 3600  
Public Works Deputy Director  
**SUBJECT:** County Service Area 3 Streetlighting Benefit Assessment for Fiscal Year 2009-2010  
– 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Supervisorial Districts

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:**

As to form: N/A

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Adopt the attached resolution setting a public hearing on the departmental agenda for September 8, 2009 in connection with County Service Area 3,
- B. Receive and file a fixed Charge Fee Report for fiscal year 2009-2010 with the Clerk of the Board, which reports the proposed benefit assessment (no increases) for County Service Area 3,
- C. Approve Public Works Department Notice of Exemption pursuant to County California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (post),
- D. Adopt at the conclusion of the public hearing on September 8, 2009 the attached resolution establishing streetlighting charges for County Service Area 3 for fiscal year 2009-2010.

**Summary Text:**

County Service Area 3 (CSA 3) was formed July 23, 1962 by Resolution No. 22409. CSA 3 boundaries cover portions of the unincorporated, urbanized area of the Goleta Valley between the cities of Goleta and Santa Barbara. CSA 3 provides for 1,390 streetlights, parks (Goleta Beach County Park and Tucker's Grove County Park) and open space maintenance, as well as enhanced library services. The Department proposes no change to the existing benefit assessment in fiscal year 09/10. With this action, CSA 3 will continue to have a benefit assessment rate of \$8 per residential parcel, \$4 for undeveloped parcels and multiples of \$8 for commercial or multiple residential units. Traditionally, benefit assessments were used to fully fund streetlighting costs; however, the rate was reduced from \$24 per residential parcel to the current \$8 amount in 1994 in order to reduce reserves. Therefore, \$121,728 of the \$725,000 in CSA 3 property tax revenue will be used to supplement the \$66,472 in benefit assessment revenue to fully fund streetlighting services, which are estimated to cost \$188,200 next year.

Because revenue from benefit assessments remain fixed, electricity rate increases from Southern California Edison (SCE) requires the property tax contribution to increase. SCE rates have increased over 55% since 2006.

**Background:**

Streetlighting services are provided by the county in unincorporated territory identified as county service areas pursuant to the Government Code or streetlighting districts pursuant to the Streets and Highways Code. County service areas may also provide additional services. Streetlighting systems are installed by development as conditions of approval pursuant to Resolution 81-229 and County Engineering Design Standards. The poles and fixtures are generally owned and maintained by the electric company (PG& E in the north county and Edison in the south county). Revenue to fund electric and maintenance costs billed monthly by the electric companies is generated through property taxes and benefit assessments. A benefit assessment is a levy or charge by an agency upon real property that is based upon the special benefit conferred upon the real property by a public improvement or service that is imposed to pay the capital cost of the public improvement, the maintenance and operation expenses of the public improvement, or the cost of the service being provided. This action addresses the adoption of a benefit assessment to supplement revenue for streetlighting services.

**Performance Measure:**

No change in programs or service level if the benefit assessment rates are established for FY 2009-2010 for County Service Area 3. A drastic reduction in revenue would result if the rates were not established.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

There is no recommended increase to the existing benefit assessment rates for County Service Area 3. Property tax revenue will be used to supplement benefit assessment revenue in order to meet the anticipated streetlighting budget for FY 2009-2010. The remainder of the property tax revenue generated for CSA 3 will be used for services provided by other departments as authorized by LAFCO.

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<u>CSA 3 Service</u>	<u>Assessment Revenue</u>	<u>Property Tax Revenue</u>	<u>Street Lighting Costs</u>
Streetlighting	\$ 66,472.00	\$ 121,728.00	\$ 188,200.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 66,472.00</b>	<b>\$ 121,728.00</b>	<b>\$ 188,200.00</b>

**Staffing Impacts:**

No new staffing positions are proposed in this budget.

**Special Instructions:**

- A. Request the Clerk of the Board to publish notice of the meeting, as set forth below, in the Santa Barbara News Press on August 25, 2009 and September 1, 2009, as provided in Section 6066 of the Government Code:

“Publication of notice to this section shall be once a week for two successive weeks. Two publications in a newspaper published once a week or oftener, with at least five days intervening between the respective publication dates not counting such publications dates, are sufficient.”

- B. Notice to be published:

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING.

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California on September 8, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. or shortly thereafter, in the Board of Supervisors Hearing Room at the Betteravia Government Center, 511 East Lakeside Parkway in Santa Maria, to take public testimony on the written report for proposed charges for streetlighting for County Service Area 3, entitled “ *County Service Area 3 Fixed Charges Fee Report 2009-2010*”. Copy of the said written report with the proposed amount set out therein can be seen during business hours the Santa Barbara County Public Works Department, 620 West Foster Road, Santa Maria, California. The proposed amount of each parcel can be obtained during business hours by calling the County Public Works Department, Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division at (805) 739-8750.

The public hearing to be held on September 8, 2009 is for the purpose of considering all objections or protests to the adoption of the proposed benefit assessment charges as set forth in said report or as modified by the Board of Supervisors on September 1, 2009.

Any objections or protest to the adoption of the proposed benefit assessment charges may be filed with the Clerk of the Board Supervisors before the public hearing scheduled for 9:00 a.m., September 8, 2009. The address of the Clerk of the Board is 105 East Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara, California

93101. The objections or protest may also be filed at the hearing on September 8, 2009.

- C. Following Board approval, request Clerk of the Board to post the Notice of Exemption and forward a stamped copy to Resource Recovery and Waste Management, Attention: Joddi Leipner.
- D. Request the Clerk of the Board to forward a certified copy of the noticing resolution and the acceptance resolution to the Public Works Department, Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division, and Attention: Christy Angkahan.

**Attachments:**

Resolution setting public hearing  
Fixed Charge Fee Report for FY 2009-2010  
Notice of Exemption  
Resolution establishing streetlighting charges

**Authored by:**

Martin Wilder, Civil Engineer Manager, x 8750  
Christy Angkahan, Departmental Assistant, x 8757  
Public Works Dept, Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division

**cc:** Rochelle Camozzi, Public Works Department  
Mark Paul, Auditor-Controller's Office