



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: May 21, 2013
Placement: Departmental
Estimated Time: 15 Minutes
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date form:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Scott McGolpin, P.E., x3010
Director(s) Public Works Director

Contact Info: Mark A. Schleich, P.E., x3600
Deputy Public Works Director

SUBJECT: Establishing Benefit Assessments for County Service Areas 3, 31, and the North County Lighting District for Fiscal Year 2013-2014, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Supervisorial Districts

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Community Services Dept.

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. At the hearing consider the following recommendations:
 - a. Receive and file reports entitled *Benefit Assessment Reports for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 for CSA 3 and CSA 31* (Attachments A and B) with the Clerk of the Board;
 - b. Adopt resolutions establishing streetlighting charges for County Service Areas 3 and 31 for fiscal year 2013-2014.
 - c. Do not establish a benefits assessment in portion of the North County Lighting District for fiscal year 2013-2014.
 - d. Adopt the findings in the attached Notice of Exemption that the proposed action is for the establishment of benefit assessment rates for services provided by County Service Areas 3 and 31, that no expansion of services or facilities will result, and that any increased revenues will be

used for meeting operating expenses and financial reserve needs and requirements, and that the action is therefore exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to 14 CCR Section 15273. Approve and direct staff to file and post the Notice of Exemption on that basis.

Summary Text:

These actions set the benefit assessment rates for streetlighting in County Service Area 3 (unincorporated Goleta and Santa Barbara), County Service Area 31 (Isla Vista), and North County Lighting District (Los Alamos, Casmalia, Orcutt, unincorporated Lompoc and unincorporated Santa Maria) service areas. There are no changes proposed in the rates from last fiscal year.

Background:

County Service Area 3 (CSA 3)

CSA 3 currently provides for 1,389 streetlights (Public Works), the management of developed and undeveloped park land (Community Services), and supports library services in the unincorporated Goleta and Santa Barbara areas. The library benefit assessment will be presented to the board by separate action. Total revenues for next year (not including library benefit assessments) are expected to be \$967,827 with \$194,808 from benefit assessments, \$772,227 from property taxes and \$792 from interest. Total expenses for next year (not including library services) are expected to be \$982,802 with streetlighting costs accounting for \$199,500. Overall expenditures exceed revenues by \$14,975 in fiscal year 2013-2014; however the overall fund balance appears adequate for the next five years. Additionally, \$4,692 in property tax distributions will support streetlighting costs. The current streetlighting benefit assessment rate of \$24.00 per residential parcel (factored amounts for other development types) is proposed to remain unchanged for next fiscal year. The rate was restored to this amount in fiscal year 2012-2013, allowing property taxes to fund road median improvements and maintenance, additional street tree trimming around streetlights and various capital improvements and equipment purchases for park activities all within CSA 3.

County Service Area 31 (CSA 31)

CSA 31 currently provides for 337 streetlights as well as other services (repair and maintenance of curb, gutters and sidewalks; and the planting and maintenance of streetscape landscaping) in Isla Vista. Total revenues for next year are expected to be \$82,533 with \$33,850 from benefit assessments, \$48,315 from property taxes and \$368 from interest. Property tax revenues increased this fiscal year with the dissolution of the RDA. Total expenses for next year are expected to be \$68,868 with streetlighting costs accounting for \$49,350. Overall revenues exceed expenditures by \$13,665; the addition of property tax revenues from the RDA has improved the health of the fund balance. Additionally, \$15,500 in property tax distributions will support streetlighting costs. The current streetlighting benefit assessment rate of \$12.93 per residential parcel (factored amounts for other development types) is proposed to remain unchanged for next fiscal year. The adequacy of streetlighting has been a concern expressed by the Isla Vista community and a project to upgrade lighting has been approved for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding to retrofit streetlights in the vicinity of Del Playa Drive, Sabado Tarde Road and Trigo Road. This is expected to add approximately \$5,000 in annual operational costs and sufficient revenue is available.

North County Lighting District (NCLD)

NCLD currently provides for 2,819 streetlights in the Los Alamos, Casmalia, Orcutt, unincorporated Santa Maria, and unincorporated Lompoc areas. Total revenues are expected to be \$397,664 with \$397,184 from property taxes and \$480 from interest. Total expenses for next year are expected to be \$406,287. Overall expenditures exceed revenues by \$8,623 in fiscal year 2013-2014; however the overall fund balance appears adequate for the next five years. Within NCLD, certain unincorporated Santa Maria residents (CSA 5) could be assessed a benefit assessment of up to \$14.73 per parcel, which could generate as much as \$140,000 annually. The fund balance is sufficient and therefore staff is recommending that the assessment be set at zero for fiscal year 2013-2014.

Performance Measure:

No changes to the streetlighting benefit assessment rates in County Service Area 3, County Service Area 31, or the North County Lighting District are currently anticipated or proposed.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

No fiscal changes are proposed to the County Service Area 3, County Service Area 31, or the North County Lighting District benefit assessment rates. The revenues and streetlighting costs are summarized in the table below.

<u>CSA, District or Zone</u>	<u>Benefit Assessment Revenue</u>	<u>Apportioned Property Tax Revenue</u>	<u>Fund Reserve</u>	<u>Streetlighting Service Costs</u>
CSA 3	\$194,808	\$4,692	\$0	\$199,500
CSA 31	\$33,850	\$15,500	\$0	\$49,350
NCLD (CSA 5 and zones)	\$0	\$397,664	\$8,623	\$406,287
Total	\$228,658	\$417,856	\$8,623	\$655,137

Staffing Impacts:

No new staffing positions are proposed in this budget.

Special Instructions:

- A. Following Board approval, request Clerk of the Board to post the Notice of Exemption (Attachment D) and forward a stamped copy to the Public Works Dept., Santa Maria, Attention: Christy Angkahan.
- B. Request the Clerk of the Board to forward a certified copy of the acceptance resolution to:
 - Christy Angkahan, Public Works Dept., Santa Maria
 - Shannon Barcelona, Public Works Dept., RRWM, Santa Barbara

Attachments:

Benefit Assessment Reports for CSA 3 (Attachment A), CSA 31 (Attachment B) and NCLD (Attachment C), Resolutions establishing streetlighting benefit assessments for CSA 3 (Attachment E) and CSA 31 (Attachment F), CEQA Notice of Exemption (Attachment D)

Authored by:

Martin Wilder, Utilities Manager, x 8750

Copy: Mark Paul, Deputy Public Works Director of Finance and Administration

Mark Schleich, Deputy Public Works Director, Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division