



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: 4/01/2014
Placement: Set Hearing
Estimated Tme: 5/6/2014 -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 2014-2015, 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:

1. Adopt a resolution setting a public hearing on May 6, 2014 to establish benefit assessments for County Service Area 3 and 31 and for the North County Lighting District.
2. At the hearing consider the following recommendations:
 - a. Receive and file reports entitled *Benefit Assessment Reports for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 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 2014-2015.
 - c. Do not establish the benefit assessment in those portions of the North County Lighting District authorized to do so for fiscal year 2014-2015.
 - 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, that 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, 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:

In total, the County of Santa Barbara operates five streetlighting district or service areas. Three of them, County Service Area 3, County Service Area 31, and portions of the North County Lighting District generate revenue from benefit assessments along with property tax distributions to provide for this service. Establishing the benefit assessment is required annually pursuant to the Government Code and the Streets and Highways Code.

County Service Area 3 (CSA 3) - 2nd and 3rd Supervisorial Districts

CSA 3 currently provides for 1,322 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 by the Community Services Department. Total revenues for next year (not including library benefit assessments) are expected to be \$1,015,963 with \$200,496 from benefit assessments, \$814,302 from property taxes and \$1,165 from interest. Administrative and streetlighting expenses for next year are expected to be \$209,578 (does not include expenses for other services). Overall, revenues are expected to exceed expenditures by \$35,449 in fiscal year 2014-2015. 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) - 3rd Supervisorial District

CSA 31 currently provides for 330 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 \$89,477 with \$37,697 from benefit assessments, \$51,136 from property taxes and \$644 from interest. Administrative and streetlighting expenses for next year are expected to be \$60,456 (does not include expenses for other services). Overall, revenues are expected to exceed expenditures by \$13,021 in fiscal year 2014-2015. 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.

Streetlighting improvements have begun involving the conversion of the existing high pressure sodium vapor (HPSV) lamps to light emitting diode (LED) lamps. These improvements are being funded by Community Development Block Grants (CDBG). To date, 180 streetlights have been funded with CDBG funds. Another grant application has been submitted to retrofit the remaining streetlight locations. The initial area completed last year focused on the vicinity of Del Playa Drive, Sabado Tarde Road and Trigo Road. The remainder of the older lights are expected to be completed by the end this

year. Increased operational costs can be funded based on existing revenues but are not expected to be significant.

North County Lighting District (NCLD) - 3rd and 4th Supervisorial Districts

NCLD currently provides for 2,855 streetlights in the Los Alamos, Casmalia, Orcutt, unincorporated Santa Maria, and unincorporated Lompoc areas. Total revenues are expected to be \$415,131 with \$413,869 from property taxes and \$1,262 from interest. Administrative and streetlighting Total expenses for next year are expected to be \$397,382. Revenues are expected to exceed expenditures by \$17,749 in fiscal year 2014-2015. Benefit assessments may be assessed in the unincorporated Santa Maria (CSA 5) benefit zone up to \$14.73 per residential parcel (factored amounts for other development types), which could generate as much as \$140,000 annually. Because the fund balance is sufficient and because property tax revenues alone are sufficient to cover the costs, staff is recommending that the assessment remain at zero for fiscal year 2014-2015.

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</u>	<u>Administrative and</u>		
	<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Property Tax</u>	<u>Fund Reserve</u>	<u>Streetlighting</u>
	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Revenue</u>		<u>Service Costs</u>
CSA 3	\$200,496	\$9,082	\$0	\$209,578
CSA 31	\$37,697	\$22,759	\$0	\$60,456
NCLD (CSA 5 and zones)	\$0	\$397,382	\$0	\$397,382
Total	\$238,193	\$429,223	\$0	\$667,416

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 in the enclosed notice. Recommended dates are April, 22 and April 27, 2014.
- B. Request the Clerk of the Board to forward a certified minute copy of the resolution setting the hearing to the Public Works Dept., Santa Maria, Attention: Christy Angkahan.
- C. After the hearing, request the Clerk of the Board to post the Notice of Exemption and forward a stamped copy to the Public Works Dept., Santa Maria, Attention: Christy Angkahan.
- D. After the hearing, request the Clerk of the Board to forward a certified copy of the rate resolutions (CSA 3 and CSA 31) to the Public Works Dept., Santa Maria, Attention: Christy Angkahan.

Attachments:

Resolution to set public hearing

Public hearing notice

Benefit Assessment Report for CSA 3

Benefit Assessment Report for CSA 31

Benefit Assessment Report for NCLD

Resolution establishing streetlighting benefit assessments for CSA 3

Resolution establishing streetlighting benefit assessments for CSA 31
CEQA Notice of Exemption

Authored by:

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Copy:

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Mark Paul, Deputy Public Works Director of Finance and Administration

Bill Hanrahan, Accounting