

City of Culver City, California
City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: 5/26/09		Item Number: <u>A-5</u>	
AGENDA ITEM: Adoption of a Resolution Ordering the Preparation of the Engineer's Report, Declaring the Intention to Order the Annual Sewer User Service Charge, and Setting the Date, Time, and Place for the Public Hearing for the Sewer Users' Service Charge			
Contact Person: Mate Gaspar/PW		Phone Number: (310) 253-5602	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☐	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒ Attachments: ☒	
Public Notification: Master E-Mail Notification List (05/20/09); Published in the Culver City News on 05/21/09.			
Department Approval: Charles D. Herbertson (05/15/09)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (05/19/09)	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (by N. Kimball) (05/19/09)		City Manager Approval: Jerry B. Fulwood (05/20/09)	
<u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Staff recommends the City Council Adopt a Resolution: 1. Ordering the Preparation of the Engineer's Report for the Sewer User Service Charge for Fiscal Year 2009/2010; and, 2. Declaring its Intention to Order the Levy of Annual Sewer User Service Charge on property tax statements for Fiscal Year 2009/2010; and, 3. Setting the Public Hearing for June 22, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the Mike Balkman Council Chamber. Should the City Council adopt this Resolution, a public notice of the hearing will be published and posted, and the City Engineer will prepare a comprehensive report containing detailed information on the actual and estimated charges that are proposed. The report will be made available for public review ten (10) days before the Public Hearing at the City Clerk's office. <u>DISCUSSION:</u> Culver City obtains sewage treatment services at the City of Los Angeles' Hyperion Treatment Plant through an Amalgamated Agreement with the City of Los Angeles (Agreement). The Agreement requires Culver City to pay a proportionate share of the costs of conveyance, operation, maintenance, repair and capital improvements to upgrade and improve the Amalgamated Sewerage system.			

City of Culver City, California
City Council Agenda Item Report

Culver City owns and operates a separate sewage collection system, which is connected to the Amalgamated system.

Federal law requires that all agencies using the City of Los Angeles' Hyperion Treatment Plant adopt a system of charges to assure that each property served by a public sewer pay its fair share of costs for the operation, maintenance, repair and improvement of Hyperion Treatment Plant. The "fair share" of each property is based on its contribution to the system in terms of flow quantity and sewage quality (biochemical oxygen demand and suspended solids). This is in addition to the cost experienced by Culver City in the collection, operation, and improvement of our own sewage collection and conveyance system.

In addition to formulating and adopting a system of Sewer User's Service Charges, the City must also select a system for collecting these charges. In 1980, based on an engineering study and the City Engineer's recommendation, the City Council initiated a once-a-year billing procedure for Sewer Users' Service Charges that places each property owner's charges on their property tax bill. This method of collection has proven to be very efficient and provides the lowest cost billing and collection service for Culver City.

Based on preliminary evaluation, no increase to the sewer user service charge will be proposed at the Public Hearing on June 22, 2009. The existing sewer user service charges for fiscal 2008/09 are proposed to be the same for 2009/2010. However, the final recommendation will be based upon the Engineer's Report to be completed should the Council adopt the proposed resolution.

A Public Hearing will be held not earlier than 10 days after authorization by the City Council and advertisement of the hearing in the newspaper, with a proposed date of June 22, 2009. During the scheduled Public Hearing, the City will consider all protests against the proposed levy. At the Public Hearing, the City Council will review the Engineer's report, act upon the recommendation contained in the report, and then may order the levy and collection of the sewer user service charges.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

All of these costs are annually determined and presented to the City Council in the City Engineer's Report, in accordance with Section 5.02.035 of the Culver City Municipal Code. The proposed charges for Fiscal Year 2009/2010 will address estimated costs for providing complete operation, maintenance, and local capital improvements for the Culver City sewerage system and for the estimated payments due to the City of Los Angeles for Culver City's share of the Los Angeles Amalgamated System costs.

City of Culver City, California
City Council Agenda Item Report

ATTACHMENT:

1. Resolution of Intention

MOTION:

That the City Council:

Adopt a Resolution ordering the preparation of the Engineer's Report, declaring the intention to levy and collect the sewer user service charges for Fiscal Year 2009/2010 and setting a Public Hearing for June 22, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the Mike Balkman Council Chambers.