




Agenda Date: July 17, 2018

Agenda Item: 3g

Approved: 

Gary A. Napper
City Manager

STAFF REPORT

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

FROM: SCOTT D. ALMAN, P.E., CITY ENGINEER

DATE: JULY 17, 2018

SUBJECT: APPROVE THE ENGINEER'S REPORT AND PROPOSED ASSESSMENTS FOR THE OPERATION & MAINTENANCE OF STREET LIGHTS IN THE STREET LIGHTING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT, FY 2018-19

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the attached Resolution.

BACKGROUND

The Engineer's Report submitted by the City Engineer recommends the annual assessments for the Street Lighting Assessment District ("District") remain the same as last year. In addition, to satisfy the requirements of the Streets and Highways Code, the "Fund Balance" for the District has been re-designated as the "Streetlight Replacement Fund". The Fund is used to pay the District's obligations until the City receives the first tax installment for the District in December. The public hearing tonight is to receive any comments from the public on the proposed unchanged assessments.

The City Council and public may wonder why the City is not required to mail property owner notices nor hold a public hearing on this particular assessment. In reviewing assessment proceedings, the City Attorney previously noted that, since the City staff is not proposing any increase in assessments, Proposition 218 does not apply. Under this status quo circumstance, the City is now able to return to the original requirements of the Streets and Highways Code which only requires the legislative body's approval of the annual levy.

There are also no provisions allowing for a "majority protest" to eliminate the base assessments similar to our other assessment districts such as the Oak Street and High Street Permanent Road Divisions.

Subject: Street Light Assessment District – Confirmation of Assessments

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FISCAL IMPACT

If this \$125,991.08 annual assessment and Resolution are not approved, the City Council must decide whether to fund all street lighting costs on our residential streets from another source, such as Gas Tax funds or the General Fund of the City, or turn off the street lights.

As noted in the approved FY 2018-19 City Budget Message, the working equity (fund balance) is starting to erode as this neighborhood street light benefit assessment has not been increased in 21 years. Within the next several years, the City will need to examine and submit to the voters an assessment increase to sustain the operations and maintenance of these street lights since power costs have risen along with expenses to replace burned-out street lamps.

CONCLUSION

Staff recommends the City Council adopt this Resolution approving the Engineer's Report and confirming the levy of assessments within the Street Lighting Assessment District for FY 2018-19.

Attachments: Resolution confirming Assessments [4 pp.]
Engineer's Report