

# COUNTY OF SAN MATEO Inter-Departmental Correspondence

### Department of Public Works

**DATE:** July 8, 2002

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** July 23, 2002

TO:

Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM:

Neil R. Cullen, Director of Public Works

SUBJECT:

Adoption of the 2002-2003 Water Pollution Control Service Charges

Report for Flood Control Zone Two - City of Pacifica

#### Recommendation

Acting as the governing board of the San Mateo County Flood Control District:

- I. Hold a public hearing on the 2002-2003 Water Pollution Control Service Charges Report for Flood Control Zone Two;
- II. Close the hearing and adopt a resolution:
  - a) adopting the 2002-2003 Water Pollution Control Service Charges Report for charges on property located within Zone Two; and
  - b) directing the Clerk of the Board to file the report with the County Controller.

#### **Previous Board Action**

- 1. Formed Flood Control Zone Two in 1994 at the request of City of Pacifica for the purpose of financing pollution control requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) within Pacifica's City limits. The boundaries of Zone Two are contiguous with those of the City of Pacifica.
- 2. Adopted as the Zone Two project the San Mateo County Storm Water Management Plan, 1998-2003.
- 3. Adopted Ordinance No. 03665 in 1995, at the request of Pacifica City Council, which established the charge rates for storm water pollution control services in Flood Control Zone Two.

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4. Set 9:00 a.m. on July 23, 2002, in your Chambers as the time and place of a public hearing on the 2002-2003 Water Pollution Control Service Charges Report for Flood Control Zone Two.

## **Key Facts**

- The San Mateo County Flood Control Act provides that service charges may be placed upon the tax roll.
- 2. The City of Pacifica has adopted a resolution requesting that the charges be collected on their behalf by the District and has also executed an agreement indemnifying the District for any amounts collected by the District on behalf of the City that may be required to be refunded in the future.

### Discussion

The ordinance adopted by your Board, established the following charges based on parcel use:

Vacant	\$ 7.00
Single Family / Townhouse / Church / Condominium	\$14.00
All Other	\$28.00

The fees in the report will be imposed upon every parcel on the assessor's roll except for parcels owned by local, state and federal governments, and public school districts. Separately taxed improvements, such as mobile homes and underground utility improvements, are also exempted.

The NPDES program is mandated by the Federal Clean Water Act. The overall goal of the Act is to eliminate the discharge of pollutants into the navigable waters of the United States. The policies of the Act provide that waste treatment management processes be developed and implemented to ensure adequate control of pollutants. Pacifica's program implements this goal and policy by implementing a waste treatment management process to reduce the amount of pollutants discharged from property in Pacifica into the municipal storm sewer system of the City. In this regard, the charge sought to be imposed to fund Pacifica's program is in the nature of a sewer service charge.

The purpose of the public hearing on this report is to allow your Board to hear and consider any and all objections or protests to the amount of the individual charges. After the close of the hearing, your Board may adopt the charges as presented or modify any charge in the report or overrule any or all objections.

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County Counsel has advised that the sending of individual notices to each individual property owner is not required. Therefore we are recommending that we give notice of the public hearing by publishing a notice twice in a newspaper of general circulation.

## Vision Alignment

We believe our recommendation is consistent with the Shared Commitment to "preserve and provide people with access to our environment" and Goal Number 14, "important natural resources are preserved and enhanced through environmental stewardship," as adopting the charges for Zone 2 will provide funds that will enable Pacifica to implement a program that protects the water quality for the benefit of aquatic life in streams.

#### **Fiscal Impact**

The charges will finance the City's Community Program in the amount of \$172,000. The City will reimburse the District for the costs associated with levying the charges including the \$0.30 per parcel charge levied by the Controller. There is no impact to the General Fund.

A form of resolution has been approved by County Counsel.

Neil R. Cullen

Director of Public Works

NRC:sdd

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cc: David Carmany, City Manager, Pacifica

Milt Mares, County Counsel

Brian C. Lee, P.E., Division Manager, Programs and Engineering Services

Walt Callahan, Flood Control and Utility Services Manager

Joe D'Angelo, Management Analyst, Flood Control and Utility Services

RECOMMENDED
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