

July 9, 2002

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**PROPOSITION 218 ASSESSMENT BALLOTS - CITY OF LOS ANGELES
FIGUEROA CORRIDOR PROPERTY AND BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
(BID)
(FIRST AND SECOND) (3 VOTES)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Support the assessments on County-owned properties within the boundaries of the City of Los Angeles Figueroa Corridor Property and Business Improvement District for various improvements and activities, including public safety, maintenance, marketing, and economic development programs within the district at an annual cost of \$9,364, and direct the Chief Administrative Office (CAO) to cast the ballots in support of the assessments for the properties.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the proposed Business Improvement District will provide County participation in new improvements in public area maintenance, public space management, communication/development and special projects above and beyond those currently being provided by the City in the area within the proposed district. Located in the assessment district are the former Department of Public Social Services' (DPSS) Exposition Park office, Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 5037-024-900, and Military and Veterans Affairs' (MVA) Patriotic Hall and Parking Lot 66, APN's 5126-009-900, 901, 902 and 903. While the County maintains these properties, the public areas (such as sidewalks, street lighting, etc.) are currently solely a city responsibility. It is hoped the creation of the BID will improve conditions in the area.

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IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs that we invest in public infrastructure, in order to strengthen the County's fiscal capacity. Support for the benefit assessments levied against the County properties to facilitate servicing and maintenance of public common areas and street frontage fills an identified need and supports this strategy by complying with the Strategic Asset Management Principles (Goal 4, Strategy 4, Objective 2).

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The proposed district's total assessment amount of \$905,749 is for public space management, communications development, special projects, and advocacy administration for Calendar Year 2003. The total assessment to be levied on the subject County properties in 2003 is \$9,365. Thereafter the annual assessments may be adjusted for any increases in the Consumer Price Index, not to exceed five percent, normal Southern California Edison Company energy increases, or by a re-balloting of property owners.

We propose to charge the assessments to the departments which have proprietorship over the assessed parcels. Based on your Board's approval of other Proposition 218 assessments, this is in keeping with the current policy and practice.

The financial cost of paying this increased assessment on the budgets of DPSS and MVA can be absorbed within the departments' 2002-03 budget appropriations.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

As a result of the passage of Proposition 218, property owned by government agencies, including Los Angeles County, became subject to assessment by various County and non-County assessment districts on July 1, 1997. The County, like other property owners, is able to cast ballots supporting or opposing the assessments and its ballots will be weighted to reflect its proportionate share of the total assessment. Publicly owned properties are not exempt from the assessment unless the parcels receive no special benefit. The agency cannot increase an assessment or impose a new assessment if a majority of the ballots returned oppose the proposed assessment.

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The method of assessment for this assessment district is determined by Street Front Footage. This reflects the fact that services delivered to the property corridor will have the greatest benefit to parcels in relation to their exposure on the streets. Because of a differing need for services and different level of use of the streets within the district, the streets have been classified in three tiers. Each tier receives a different level of services and has a different level of assessment.

DPSS and MVA have determined that the services to be financed by the assessment district will be of sufficient benefit to warrant the Board's support. Accordingly, we are recommending that your ballots be completed as supporting the assessments.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of this benefit assessment will help ensure the maintenance and public safety of the streets and highways within the assessment district.

CONCLUSION

It is requested that the Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors, return the adopted stamped Board letter to the CAO, Real Estate Division, 222 South Hill Street, 4th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

DEJ:SNY
CWW:RC:pb

Attachment

c: County Counsel
Auditor-Controller
Department of Public Social Services
Military and Veterans Affairs